



Mary Anne Cruthirds

April 8, 1945 - September 21, 2023

The world lost an angel, and Heaven gained one with the passing of Mary Anne Bartlett Cruthirds, age 78, on Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

If Wynne “The City with a Smile” had an ambassador, it would have been Mary Anne. She was proud of her southern roots and her hometown and was known for her generosity and kindness. Always the ‘southern lady’ she was equally at home having dinner with the hunters at Bartlett Duck Club or working to save and restore downtown Wynne with the Downtown Revitalization group.

Mary Anne was born April 8, 1945, in Cross County Arkansas. She attended Wynne High School, followed by Arkansas State University where she earned a Master of Science in Ed., and was a member of Phi Mu Sorority. On June 11, 1966, she married her soulmate, Norris Patten Cruthirds at Wynne First United Methodist Church. She worked in Special Ed at Cross County School, and afterwards, shared her high school twirling talents when she opened “Mary Anne’s Majorette’s.”

She was a lifelong lover of animals whether it was her beloved show horse Trigger, working with dog rescues, or just painting the hummingbirds outside her window. Other organizations she devoted her time to through the years were the City Arts Council, Garden Club, Progressive Club, Rotary, Gay Kittrell’s Art Class, The Eastern Star, The Wynne Animal Shelter, and as a Sparc Leader at Wynne Intermediate School. She was an avid golfer and worked on the FedEx Golf Tournament every year. More recently, Mary Anne

helped to deliver lunches to school children during Covid and volunteered at the Tornado Distribution Center. She was a member of Central Methodist where she played the piano and was church secretary.

Mary Anne is survived by her husband of 57 years, Norris Cruthirds; and cousin, Rusty Hathcock and wife Jackie. She was Godparent to their children Brock Hathcock and Blake Hathcock Baker; she is survived by other family members, a multitude of friends, and her walking companion, rescue dog Dots, who walked with her every day. She was preceded in death by parents Jack and Marie (Owen) Bartlett, and half-brother Jack Bartlett Jr.

Mary Anne was a rare jewel who was born to make others feel special and she was an inspiration to many. She will be remembered for this special quality, always lifting others up, or just putting a smile on someone's face with her 'quirky' sense of humor. And she will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be on Friday, September 22, at 10:00 am at Kernodle Funeral Home, followed by a service at 11:00 am with Rev. Terrie Lee Bunnell officiating. Burial is at Crosslawn Cemetery. The family requests that memorials be directed to Central United Methodist Church care of Glenda Futrell 208 CR 237 Cherry Valley AR 72324 and The Wynne Animal Shelter.

Cemetery Details

Crosslawn Cemetery

2950 Hwy 1
Wynne, AR

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Kernodle Funeral Home
315-325 E. Union Avenue
Wynne, AR 72396
(870) 238-2323
kernodlefuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.kernodlefh.com/>

Funeral service

SEP **22**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Kernodle Funeral Home
315-325 E. Union Avenue
Wynne, AR 72396
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Interment

SEP **22** (CT)

Crosslawn Cemetery
Wynne, AR

Tribute Wall

JW

“ Words cannot express how great the loss of our Mary Anne. She married my first cousin, Norris. She was such a loving, caring, humorous person. So special to so many! A Christian who loved her little church. I am so sad she’s no longer with the love of her life Norris. She served her community in uncountable ways. Now she is one of God’s angels. I’m honored she was a member of our family. Special hardly describes her because she was an abundant joy to everyone.

Jan Warriner - December 26, 2023 at 05:24 PM

BW

*Mary Anne was
The City with a Smile.
My classmate and I loved her dearly*

Betty Willis - August 22, 2024 at 06:00 PM

CJ

“ *Mary Anne was a light of kindness. Her goodness was evident in the life she led. God bless those she left behind.*

Cynthia Pierron Janney - October 02, 2023 at 10:59 AM

LH

“ I met Mary Anne a couple of years ago at a church bake sale while visiting my Aunt Bridget. Several years ago my dad donated our organ to the church. For years I watched my mom play that organ, I played 'with it', and then my children played with it. I never knew what happened to it, then there it was at the church. Mary Anne let me sit with it and took pictures for me. She was such a nice and caring person. My aunt often spoke very fondly of her as well. I am so sorry for your loss and I wish your family well.

Lil Herman

Lil Herman - September 24, 2023 at 09:51 AM

MP

“ I met Mary Anne when my husband was appointed pastor to Central UMC & Ellis Chapel. Then was very blessed to have her as a dear friend. She taught our daughter twirling when she was in early elementary school. Kathryn adored her as did all that knew her. She brought such fun to her girls in that group & such love to all parents. She loved her church greater than any other. Oh, how I loved her! Heartbroken to read of this loss. Prayers for Norris & each family member.

Mary Powell - September 23, 2023 at 12:18 AM

LR

“ Always a lovely lady, lovely smile, lovely friend. One of the kindest and most genuine souls on planet earth. We were privileged to have her in our lives in our community. She was loved, will be missed, and will always be remembered.

LaMar Rolland - September 22, 2023 at 01:30 PM

MB

“ *Mary Anne was a light to many. She will be greatly missed. My sincerest condolences to the family!*



Marice Boardman - September 22, 2023 at 12:10 PM

GV

“ *TO MARY ANNE'S FAMILY:AND FRIENDS:
I only knew Mary Anne from a distance but I can say she lived up to every word of this beautiful obituary. Anyone who ever had the pleasure of meeting her immediately knew they were experiencing the highlight of their day. Today Heaven is a Brighter Place while a lot of the folks in Wynne are feeling a huge loss. Peace and Love to all those she leaves behind.*

George H. Vance

George Vance - September 22, 2023 at 10:42 AM

SS

“ Mary Anne was a lifelong friend since we grew up together in Central community with Central Methodist Church as our "hub". Mary Anne's grandmother , Nannie Owens, was our Sunday School teacher and helped raise all of us. Mary Anne's favorite Bible verse she memorized for Vacation Bible School was "Jesus Wept". Always a sense of humor! She was kind even as a teenager - We remember her loaning Sandra one of her prettiest formal party dresses to wear to National 4-H Congress in Chicago. Sandra was so happy to see Mary Anne and Norris arrive as the first guests at her daughter's wedding in Fayetteville 5 years ago, saying the 5 hour drive to get there was not trouble at all. We are so sorry we did not see the notice about her service this morning in time to get there. We will definitely be thinking of you Norris and remembering what a joy she was to all her have known her. We miss her already!
Love you! Sandra Smith and Brenda Kay Kennett

Sandra Smith - September 22, 2023 at 09:05 AM

LC

“ We have definitely lost a jewel and heaven gained an angel .she always had a smile or kind word every time you saw her .Love to her family The Carwells Linda,David and carrol

Linda carwell - September 21, 2023 at 05:54 PM

LB

“ I am just devastated to hear of the loss of Mary Anne. She was one of the kindest people I have ever known. I have so many fond memories of her playing golf over the years. The obituary says it all - she was truly an angel and will always be missed. Love and prayers to Norris and the family.

Libby Byrd - September 21, 2023 at 05:23 PM

MW

“*Mary Anne has been a friend for so many years. My sister, Penny, was the flower girl at Mary Anne's wedding at the FUMC in Wynne. I remember Mary Anne as the drum majorette for the Wynne band back in the 60's. Most of our most recent meetings have been at The Ridges Golf Course. She has been a steady supporter out there and she was always good to visit with. She will be missed by so many of various groups. Marion White*

Marion Glenn White - September 21, 2023 at 05:05 PM