



Beatrice Joy Keenan

April 14, 1930 - March 24, 2026

Flagstaff, Arizona

Beatrice Joy Keenan died in Flagstaff on March 24, 2026. She was 95. Born in Flagstaff on April 14, 1930; Haitian-American cooking and payday thrift set the tone of the house. She grew up believing that showing up was the first craft.

She read bids that decided ownership without needing a speech. An auction paddle chalk stub with frank notes rebuilt more trust than lawyers. Colleagues still mention an auction paddle chalk stub.

In 1956 she married Edward. The marriage was not a speech; it was groceries, repairs, and four children walked to school in weather that did not care. When Edward died in 2019, she kept what still worked: the early walk, the small garden, the call on Sundays.

Neighbors remember coffee offered before questions. She preferred the hour before a town fully wakes. Flagstaff was home enough that she never rehearsed an introduction. The garden will come up next spring without being told.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. Her life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

Services in Flagstaff will be simple: stories, coffee, and the names of people who showed up. Flowers optional; support for a local clinic or trade scholarship preferred.

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