



Betty Sue Brinkhoff

April 24, 1945 - November 15, 2024

Fort Smith, Arkansas

Friends in Fort Smith remember Betty Sue Brinkhoff, who died on November 15, 2024 at 79. Born April 24, 1945 in Fort Smith, carrying Polish-American stories that arrived without footnotes. Early on, she decided that a paycheck and a handshake should weigh the same.

She kept sheets that turned seed into wages without inventing weights. A gin seed house ticket spindle ended arguments more gently than speeches. Colleagues still mention a gin seed house ticket spindle.

She married Earl in 1970. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two sons and a daughter through public schools and ordinary weather. After Earl died in 2017, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a wave from the driveway that meant you were seen. Mornings were her favorite shift at home. She died in Fort Smith, on streets that already knew her pace. The tools are still hung where a hand can find them in the dark.

Services

A memorial gathering in Fort Smith with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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