



Evelyn Rose Hargrove

December 5, 1946 - September 4, 2026

Charlotte, North Carolina

Evelyn Rose Hargrove died in Charlotte on September 4, 2026. She was seventy-nine. Born there on December 5, 1946, she grew up knowing the mills as a clock and a weather report. She learned a loom alley before she learned a highway. A correct count, she said, is a form of respect.

She spent twenty years in textiles, then another sixteen running a church daycare that had to catch children who arrived late from a pickup that had already been working since dark. She kept extra crackers without making a speech about it. When a storm closed the buses she still opened the room, because weather is not an excuse to skip a morning. She taught younger aides that a government commodity can be seasoned, and that a child who will not eat is not a problem of character.

She married Rafael Hargrove in 1968. They raised a daughter and a son in a bungalow with a pecan that dropped more work than shade. Rafael drove a delivery van. Evelyn packed lunches that could survive humidity. After he died in 2013 she kept his chair for a year and then gave it to a grandson who needed a place to do homework.

Neighbors remember a woman who brought extra clothes to the night shift without staying for thanks, who knew which intern needed a second explanation, and who could hear a rice pot without looking. She loved a late-summer tomato, a clean map of the nap mats, and the particular quiet after the last child was gone. She died in Charlotte, in the heat she had always preferred to a clean cold. The room is still opening. Someone else will count the crackers.

Services

A gathering in Charlotte in the evening. A gift to a daycare supply fund or a mill-town pantry suits her.

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