



Josephine Mae Runningcrane

September 17, 1953 - August 20, 2026

Billings, Montana

Josephine Mae Runningcrane died in Billings on August 20, 2026. She was 72. Born on September 17, 1953, raised among Crow Nation manners that never needed a speech. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She greeted patients by name and kinship when forms failed. A beaded lanyard held her badge; she translated bureaucracy into care without making a speech of it. Colleagues still mention a beaded lanyard for her badge.

She married Daniel in 1979. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a daughter through public schools and ordinary weather. After Daniel died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember coffee offered before questions. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Billings, among streets she never needed to explain. The radio is still tuned to the station that played while work got done.

Services

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

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