



Lovie Fay Ogle

January 15, 1950 - September 2, 2026

Knoxville, Tennessee

Lovie Fay Ogle died in Knoxville on September 2, 2026, at seventy-six. She was born in Sevier County on January 15, 1950, and grew up knowing marble as a rumor that paid and a river as a weekday neighbor. She learned a steam table before she learned a highway.

She spent fourteen years in a mill that smelled of dust and coffee, then another sixteen running a diner that treated gravy as a weather report. She started washing pans that never quite came clean. She ended as the woman who could tell, from the sound of a hood, whether the hash would hold through a late shift change. She kept extra toast for the night-shift kid who arrived after the count. She would not let a vendor invent a portion that made the register a liar.

She married Floyd Ogle in 1971. They raised a son and a daughter in a bungalow that needed storm windows. After Floyd died in 2014 she still opened on Sundays, moving slower, doing the same honest work.

Regulars remember a woman who would stay past closing for a person who had taken two buses, who hated a messy ticket wheel, and who said you're fine in a way that meant the plate would arrive. She liked the river early, before the heat made a speech of itself. She died in Knoxville, among hills she had never needed to explain. The grill is someone else's now.

Services

A funeral in Knoxville, then a hall with coffee. A gift to a diner-workers' fund is welcome.

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