



Mary Ellen Standridge

October 26, 1951 - August 19, 2026

Missoula, Montana

Mary Ellen Standridge died in Missoula on August 19, 2026. She was 74. Born in Missoula on October 26, 1951, into a Cherokee household that treated work as a language. 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. Colleagues still mention a beaded lanyard for her badge.

She married Daniel in 1975. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a son and 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 quiet help with a stuck mailbox or a heavy trash can. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Missoula, among streets she never needed to explain. The extra coffee is still in the thermos.

Services

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

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