

Carolyn Jeannette Ray
August 3, 1941 - November 26, 2025



Carolyn Jeannette Ray, beloved wife, mother, sister, and friend, departed this world on November 26, 2025, at the age of 84, in Sundance, where she spent the last chapter of her life.

Born on August 3, 1941, in Odin, Illinois, to James Clifford Buchanan and Glenda Marie Vinzant. Carolyn was a beacon of warmth and love to everyone fortunate enough to know her. As a dedicated professional, she served as the assistant Museum Director, managed the Upton Golf Course, and touched the lives of many in various cafes. Her career was marked not

just by her work ethic but also by her passion for community and connection, which she cultivated at every turn.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Carolyn was a collector of antiques, finding joy in the stories they held and the history they represented. Her love for cooking brought family and friends together around the table, where laughter and love flowed as freely as her culinary creations. In quieter moments, Carolyn found fulfillment in crocheting, crafting beautiful pieces that were a testament to her patience and creativity. She took great pride in the organizations that she was part of including the VFW, Eastern Star, and Daughter of the Nile. Carolyn was extremely selfless and spent time volunteering at the Upton Food Bank to help those around her.

Cherished for her nurturing spirit, she is survived by her sons, Ed (Raelene) Ray and Tony (Susan) Ray, who carry her gentleness and strength in their hearts as well as her two grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Her sister, Shirley Jones, remains a steadfast presence in the fabric of their family, sharing countless memories and shared experiences.

Though she has been reunited with the loved ones who passed before her, including her dear husband John Ray, her devoted father, James Buchanan, and her loving mother, Glenda Vinzant. Carolyn's legacy lives on through and brother, Carolyn's spirit continues to envelop those who remain. She leaves behind an enduring legacy of love, connection, and community that will be felt for generations to come.

Carolyn's light may have dimmed, but it will never be extinguished. The richness of her life will be celebrated at a memorial service held on December 5, 2025, at 1st United Methodist Church-Upton, beginning at 10:00 a.m.. Friends and family are invited to honor the beautiful life of a woman who loved fiercely and lived fully. Condolences may be sent to the family in care of Meridian Mortuary, 111 S. Railway Ave, Newcastle, WY 82701 or expressions of sympathy may also be made online at meridianmortuary.com