



Carolyn Deborah "Debbie" Hayes

February 14, 1953 - May 10, 2023

Carolyn Deborah "Debbie" Hayes, age 70, of Ozark, Arkansas, passed away peacefully, Wednesday, May 10, 2023, in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She was born February 14, 1953, in Baltimore, Maryland to Dorothea Regina Hickman Porter. After leaving Baltimore for the Ozarks at age 22, building a home and a family, Debbie courageously went back to school to become a registered nurse at the age of 35. During her 32-year nursing career, she helped many in her community and had a natural gift for serving others. She was very conscientious in serving her patients with dignity, respect, and true compassion.

She and her family enjoyed traveling, taking many trips over the years to Montana, Oregon, Maryland, and many more. She was a lover of the great outdoors, enjoyed caring for her charm of hummingbirds, tending to and getting stung by her honeybees, spotting bears with her dogs, flower gardening, hiking, and visiting the ocean. Her greatest joy in life came from admiring her three beautiful children and three grandchildren. She was loving and compassionate, and her warm personality will be deeply missed. Debbie will forever live on in our hearts, our stories, and our memories.

Debbie is preceded in death by her mother; her grandparents, Laurence Livingstone Hickman and Dorothy Marie Hennig Hickman.

Debbie is survived by her loving husband of 48 years, Harold Elmer “Bo” Hayes Jr. and their children, Jason Hayes (Melissa), Megan Tedford (Chris), and Jeremy Hayes (Anna). She was affectionately known as “MiMi” by her three grandchildren, Drew Tedford, Dane Tedford, and Jackson Hayes. She also leaves behind her stepfather of 53 years, Albert Porter, as well as four sisters, Heidi Pope and husband Bruce, Kimmy Young, Laurie Sedghi, and Pat Nile; and one sister-in-law, Belinda Giordano all of Baltimore; multiple nieces of nephews; and countless friends who she meant so much to.

Memorial services will be 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at Shaffer Funeral Home 2315 West Commercial Street in Ozark, with Deacon Brian Lachowsky officiating. Cremation arrangements were made under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, a Debbie Hayes Memorial Nursing Scholarship has been established in her honor and gifts may be made at Bank OZK (at: “Debbie’s Memorial Account” ending in 2540) or via Paypal @debbiehayesmemorial. Memoriam gifts may also be made in her name to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, an organization she loved dearly.

“A Mother holds her children’s hands for a while...their hearts forever.”

To leave an online memorial visit www.shafferfuneralhomeweb.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 16. 2:00 PM (CT)

Shaffer Funeral Home
2315 West Commercial Street
PO Box 680
Ozark, AR 72949
(479) 667-4147
shafferfuneralhome@gmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Slideshow



Shaffer Home - May 18, 2023 at 03:14 PM

LS

*I
Miss u so much*

Laurie K Sedghi - May 23, 2023 at 04:31 PM

CD

“ I AM HEARTBROKEN...I LOVED THIS LADY.. WE WORKED TOGETHER FOR A LONG TIME AT TURNER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ((MERCY))!!!! TO SAY THAT I ADMIRED AND RESPECTED HER IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT..I WOULD BE THERE IF I COULD BE..BUT I AM HOOKED UP TO AN EEG AND CONFINED TO MY HOME. SO VERY SORRY TO HEAR OF THIS HEARTBREAKING NEWS . THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS AND HUGS AND LOVE SENT TO ALL OF HER FAMILY !!!! 🥹🥹



Cathy Darter - May 16, 2023 at 01:14 PM

BE

“ God needed an Angel so he chose the best!



Bernie - May 16, 2023 at 09:03 AM

LJ

“ Debbie was a dear friend of mine and Larry’s. We enjoyed spending time on their beloved mountain and trips and concerts with them. Most recently fishing at Lake Ouachita. She has left a huge hole in our hearts and others. Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone touched by her

Larry and Tara John’son - May 15, 2023 at 07:54 PM

DL

“ Deborah was in the ER when Fr Hugh OSB was brought in. Fr Hugh was saying things that no one understood and thought he was babbling. Fr. Hugh was praying in Latin and Deborah recognized it, told others he was praying and prayed with him. Deborah will always have a special place in my heart for her tender care of Fr. Hugh.

Dc Brian Lachowsky

Dc Brian Lachowsky - May 15, 2023 at 07:33 PM

BM

“ When I had a heart attack, she was one of two nurses that took great care of me. I was in good hands and will always remember her as one that helped save my life. Bill Molder

Billy E Molder - May 14, 2023 at 05:10 PM

CW

“ I’m so sorry to hear about this more shocked than anything but I’m dealing with my husband in Hospice now I hope he might turn around but don’t look for him too my thoughts and prayers are with your family I loved her so much Charlotte Waits

charlotte waits - May 13, 2023 at 05:06 PM

JB

“ I worked with Debbie at Mercy Hospital a few years back. Both of us being from Maryland, we had lots of good talks about “home”. Debbie was a very loving and caring person. She will be remembered by many. My condolences to the family.

jacquie brooks - May 13, 2023 at 02:36 PM

VW

“ Debbie was such a caring nurse to me. I was in the ER several times and her voice was the first I heard and it brought me comfort. She knew me by my first name because she remembered who I was! I felt at ease when she was on call knowing that my care would be the best possible. I will miss her and I know the Ozark Mercy ER will definitely have a hard time replacing her. Thank you Debbie for always being so kind and making me feel at ease. God be with you and God be with the loved ones you leave behind.



Vicki Waldon - May 13, 2023 at 02:34 PM

AR

“ *AR lit a candle in memory of Carolyn Hayes*



AR - May 13, 2023 at 11:47 AM


Barbara
Smith

“ *Barbara Smith lit a candle in memory of Carolyn Hayes*



Barbara Smith - May 13, 2023 at 04:32 AM


Barbara
Smith

“ *Go rest high beautiful Debbie! Love and prayers to all the Hayes family!*

Barbara Smith - May 13, 2023 at 04:28 AM