



Cindy Bartlett Junk

February 22, 1956 - December 8, 2025

Cindy Bartlett Junk, 69 of Fort Smith, Arkansas passed away, Monday, December 8, 2025 in Fort Smith, due to an unexpected heart attack. She was born February 22, 1956 in Elizabethtown, Kentucky to Albert Long Bartlett III and Jane Robinson LaForce. Cindy lived a life filled with love, laughter, and unwavering faith. She was a fabulous woman, lovingly known as Mami.

Cindy's kind and generous spirit touched everyone fortunate enough to know her. She poured her heart into the lives of her daughter and her grandchildren. Whether during festive celebrations or quiet afternoons, Cindy had a special gift for making every moment feel magical. Her warmth and humor lit up every room—especially the kitchen, where she was known for her delicious meals (with the occasional burnt garlic bread).

Her deep Christian faith was the foundation of her life. Cindy loved Jesus and couldn't wait to be home with him. She cherished scripture and possessed an extraordinary knowledge of the Bible. Her spiritual wisdom served as a guiding light not only for herself but also for those around her.

She is preceded in death by her father, Albert Long Bartlett III and her stepfather, Andrew Hudson LaForce II.

Cindy is survived by her mother, Jane LaForce; one daughter, Jane Taylor Dodson; four precious grandchildren, Scarlett Elizabeth, Harrison Lewis,

Harper Grace, and Eleanor Belle; three siblings, Blair Bartlett, Hudson LaForce, and Reneé Harkins; nieces and nephews, Alexandra Harkins, Ana Mae Morrow, John Harkins, Hudson LaForce, Kayden LaForce and Graham LaForce; and her godchild, whom she cared very much for, Lori Ham.

A memorial visitation will be 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., Friday, December 19, 2025 at Shaffer Funeral Home, 2315 West Commercial Street in Ozark. Cremation arrangement were made under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home in Ozark.

A celebration of life will follow at a later date in February 2026.

Cindy's legacy is one of resilience, kindness, generosity and joy. Even in life's smallest moments she created memories that will forever be cherished. May her memory bring comfort to all who knew and loved her. She will be sincerely missed.

To leave an online memorial visit www.shafferfuneralhomeweb.com

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

DEC 19. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

There will be a Celebration of Life coming up in February 2026

Tribute Wall

AM

“ *In Loving Memory of Cindy*

Cindy touched everyone around her with her kindness, compassion, and positivity. She brightened every room she entered, and her laughter and humor will be deeply missed. I will always cherish the memories we shared.

Above all, Cindy's love for God, her daughter Taylor, and her grandchildren defined her life.

Remembering Cindy means celebrating a life that inspired others to be more caring and generous. Her legacy lives on in the many lives she touched, and she will always be remembered with love and gratitude.

Until we meet again, my dear friend...

Annie McCutcheon

Anne McCutcheon - December 19, 2025 at 12:49 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Cindy Bartlett Junk.*



December 18, 2025 at 09:18 PM

SF

“ *Strang Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cindy Bartlett Junk.*

Strang Family - December 18, 2025 at 09:18 PM

MG

“ *Cindy was such a beautiful lady with an amazing fun and loving personality. She had such a huge heart and she touched so many lives. I love our memories from BP days and as young adults. I'm so blessed and grateful to have known her. So many thoughts and prayers to her family for peace and comfort during this very difficult time. We all loved her very much and will miss her tremendously.*



Michelle Gambino - December 17, 2025 at 03:19 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cindy Bartlett Junk.*



December 17, 2025 at 10:52 AM



“ I will never forget the time I told Mami about the ‘Cinnamon Challenge’, which is where you eat an entire spoon of pure cinnamon and try to swallow it.

I explained to Mami that no one could do it, which she didn’t believe. The look of determination she gave me as she said she could do it made me second guess the physical impossibilities.

We talked about it for a minute or two and then she was ready to give it a shot, we just so happened to have some cinnamon around and I loaded up a tablespoon full of it and handed it to her.

She quickly grabbed it and took the whole spoonful. I thought I had just witnessed the impossible, but a few seconds later her mouth puffed up and a cloud of cinnamon dust burst into the kitchen.

I was laughing so hard and despite her experience she was also on the floor laughing. It was one of my favorite memories in my life not just with her.

Apparently, this determination is genetic because I convinced Taylor to do it two weeks later, same outcome haha!

Even after all of these years (more than 10) of mami not being my mother in law, her loss impacted me deeply. That’s the kind of person she was, she was a meteor.

Any life she entered she impacted it in big ways and left her mark on every life she touched. She loved my children more than I think most people can love at all. I know she loved all of the children the same way and because her grandchildren experienced her love, I think they’ll actually know how to give it to other people.

That’s such a rare thing in this world and I am so proud and grateful to have gotten to know Cindy (Mami), and for her to have left such an impact on me has been a blessing from God, with who I know

she is now with.

Josh Hohenstein - December 16, 2025 at 06:09 PM

FH

“ *From J Hohenstein purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Cindy Bartlett Junk.*



From J Hohenstein - December 16, 2025 at 05:54 PM

MM

“ *Michelle Gambino & Annie McCutcheon purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Cindy Bartlett Junk.*



Michelle Gambino & Annie McCutcheon - December 16, 2025 at 02:28 PM