



## Brynda Joyce Cayton Merritt

May 29, 1947 - November 28, 2023

Brynda Joyce Cayton Merritt, 76, of Blacksburg, passed away on November 28 with her loving husband by her bedside. Brynda was born on May 29, 1947, to the late Howard and Evelyn Cayton. She was predeceased by two brothers, Hayward and Leslie Cayton.

Brynda graduated from Cave Spring High School, Averett College, and later from Mary Baldwin University. After college Brynda worked in her father's company in Roanoke until 1984 when she followed Lu to Blacksburg. Here she began a thirty-year career at Virginia Tech culminating in the Registrar's Office where she scheduled all of the classrooms on campus. She received a framed resolution from the Board of Visitors commending her on thirty years of outstanding service to the University.

Brynda is survived by her husband of 54 years, Lucius M. Merritt, Jr., a daughter, Jennifer Merritt; two grandsons, Reagan and Riley Cole; and a sister, Betty Ziringer (Ed). Brynda is also survived by numerous brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Brynda enjoyed being around her family, especially during the holiday seasons and special occasions. Family was of utmost importance to her, and she prioritized family matters before all other demands.

Brynda and Lu spent many summer weekends at her family's cottage at Smith

Mountain Lake as well as summer beach trips to North and South Carolina, the last thirty-five years in Hilton Head Island. She loved walking on the beach every day!

The family wishes to thank the nurses, CNA's and all of the staff at the Kroontje Health Care Center at Warm Hearth Village for their loving and personal care of Brynda during the past year. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be considered, to the Warm Hearth Foundation.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, December 17 from 3 to 5 pm at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg. Her funeral service will be private.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 17. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home  
150 Country Club Dr. S.W.  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
(540) 552-3211  
[mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net](mailto:mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net)  
<https://mccoyfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

PB

“ Lu - Kate and I send our heartfelt condolences. You and Brynda have been part of the backbone of Blacksburg and Virginia Tech for as long as we can remember. We always valued the kindness, friendship and welcoming arms that the two of you offered everyone around you. God be with each of you.  
*Phil and Kate Buchanan*



Phillip Buchanan - December 17, 2023 at 09:28 AM

KB

“ Lu, Keith Brown is so sorry of your family's loss.. my prayers are with you.

Keith brown - December 06, 2023 at 10:35 PM



“ Lu, so sorry to hear about the passing of your wife. Know that Susie and I are sending our thoughts and prayers your way. Dale and Susie Oakey

Dale Oakey - December 05, 2023 at 04:48 PM

AM

“ Lu and Family, I was saddened to hear of Brynda's illness and passing. She was a wonderful person and I know you will all miss her. I hope you can find comfort in all the love and care she gave each of you. All the best, Anna Buchanan Martin

Anna Buchanan Martin - December 04, 2023 at 10:47 AM

MC

“ *Lu: Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time.  
Take care. Mark Carr*

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**Mark Carr** - December 02, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Brynda Joyce Cayton Merritt.*



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December 01, 2023 at 09:05 PM