



Deena Arlene Flinchum

February 20, 1947 - September 21, 2025

The New River Valley (NRV) lost a great public servant with the sad passing of Deena Flinchum on September 21, 2025. She provided extraordinary volunteer service to the NRV Area Agency on Aging; Volunteer Montgomery; Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Montgomery County & Radford; Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program; Literacy Volunteers of America; Humane Society of Montgomery County, Women's Resource Center, 100+ Women Who Care NRV, – and more. She gave her full-time attention to volunteering. She was a friend to all who knew her. She was an avid reader and a great storyteller.

Deena was born on February 20, 1947, in Wytheville, VA to William Oliver Flinchum and Ethel Whitaker Flinchum. She is survived by a brother, Oscar (Bud) Flinchum, nieces, Deana and Civa and nephew, Stephen all of Niagara Falls, New York. She graduated as valedictorian from George Wythe High School in 1965. She moved to the Washington, D.C. area and attended college for two years. She went to work in information technology for the FBI, then the Washington Post. She then worked for the AFL-CIO for 25 years as their chief officer in charge of elections data. She retired on April 30, 2002 and relocated to Blacksburg, VA. In March 2002, she married her longtime companion James Oliver Glanville, a Chemistry Professor at Virginia Tech. They built a new home together in Blacksburg where she lived until after Jim's death in 2019. She moved to her recent home in Christiansburg in 2022.

Deena began volunteering shortly after she moved to Blacksburg. She began with the Humane Society of Montgomery County working in a concession booth at VA Tech football and basketball games. After becoming a volunteer with RSVP of Montgomery County & Radford she became involved in assisting numerous organizations, but her primary focus was working with the NRV Agency on Aging's Virginia Insurance Counseling & Assistance Program (VICAP). She was a dedicated advocate in helping save millions of dollars for NRV residents through informed decision making with Medicare. Her tireless volunteer efforts made a significant difference for residents in the New River Valley and beyond.

There will be a gathering of friends to remember Deena and celebrate her life on Sunday, November 9 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Clubhouse of The Villas of Peppers Ferry at 30 Patriot Way, Christiansburg, VA. Memorial contributions may be made to one of the charities Deena supported.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV 9. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Clubhouse of The Villas of Peppers Ferry
30 Patriot Way
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Tribute Wall

BP

“ Deena and I were roommates when we both worked in Washington, DC. We were very close friends and she was my maid of honor when I got married. We kept in touch through the years but I did not know that she had passed. I loved her and will always cherish our wonderful times together. My sincere condolences to her brother and his family. Bernadette Olsavsky Palko

bernadette Olsavsky Palko - January 09 at 07:20 AM

LJ

“ Deena was such a cheerful, reliable and helpful presence in the Literacy NRV office as a volunteer for many years. Her dedication to supporting our mission to change lives through literacy was so inspirational. Her long-term service had a huge impact on organization operations as her consistency and knowledge helped us through times of transition and helped us to grow. We are so very thankful for her and miss her greatly.

Linda Jilk - November 09, 2025 at 09:51 AM

MD

“ Mary Ann Dowdy lit a candle in memory of Deena Arlene Flinchum



Mary Ann Dowdy - November 07, 2025 at 12:26 PM

JN

“ Deena was a great help to me when she advised me to get a medicare supplement policy when I had to take disability in 2009. The policy is so good that it is no longer sold nowadays and yet she knew all those years ago what I needed. She spent countless hours every year so she could keep current on any changes, thus she was able to give the best advice. I am grateful to have known her and I extend my sympathy to her family and friends. Sincerely, J. A. Nester



Joy Nester - October 19, 2025 at 04:52 PM

TW

“ Deena was the sweetest lady i ever meet she always helped me with Mom and dad's Medicare and mine and my husband's. She tried to get me to volunteer at Agency of Aging everytime I seen her said I was perfect for it but I couldn't do it . She loved helping people so much and she will be missed by so many RIP my sweet friend
❤️

Teresa Woolwine - September 26, 2025 at 09:25 PM