



JoAnne Emily Burgess

August 16, 1942 - March 16, 2026

JoAnne Emily Burgess, 83, of Crawfordville, Florida, passed away peacefully on March 16, 2026 with her daughters by her side. A devoted resident of the community for the past 58 years, JoAnne dedicated her life to serving others with compassion and kindness. She worked for Disability Rights Florida, formerly known as the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, where she was a strong advocate for Floridians with mental health challenges and individuals in state facilities. JoAnne's warmth, empathy, and unwavering sense of kindness touched countless lives. Even after retirement, she continued her public ministry with care and encouragement, always lending a listening ear and open heart. JoAnne was one of Jehovah's Witnesses, and she found joy in studying the Bible and teaching others about it. She loved to spend time at the beach with her loved ones and travel the world. She cherished spending time with her beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donnie Burgess; her mother, Thelma Ingrid Preziosi; brothers, Donald and Dennie Ladd; and sister, Juanita Oliver. She is lovingly remembered by her children, Erin Stembridge (Greg) and JoAnna McCown (Tim); stepchildren, Greg Burgess (Tanya) and Kristina Burgess; brother, Richard (Dick) Ladd; seven grandchildren, Kelsea Hatcher (Alan), Jacob McCown, Jesse Stembridge (Teddy), Summer Baker (Andrew), Carleigh Burgess, Drew Burgess and Andrew Burgess; and five great-grandchildren, Braeden, Deklynn, Harper, Gabriel, and Reme. A memorial service honoring JoAnne's life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2026, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Crawfordville. Skip and Trey Young, along with Paula, Heather, and Amanda, are assisting the family. Arrangements are under the care of Young Family Funeral Home, Crawfordville (850-926-5919).

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 4. 2:00 PM (est)

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
1298 Shadeville Road
Crawfordville, FL 32327

Tribute Wall

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“ Disability Rights Florida purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of JoAnne Emily Burgess.



Disability Rights Florida - April 01 at 02:54 PM

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“ Disability Rights Florida planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JoAnne Emily Burgess.

Disability Rights Florida - April 01 at 02:54 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of JoAnne Emily Burgess.



March 23 at 05:23 PM