



## Bunny Norris Richardson

December 1, 1938 - June 26, 2025

Elsie Frances “Bunny” Norris Richardson, born on December 1, 1938, in Knoxville, Tennessee, passed from this life on June 26, 2025, in Athens, Alabama. She was the beloved daughter of Billy and Leila Norris.

Bunny, as she was affectionately known for her entire life, was a shining light in the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her journey on this earth was one marked by love, compassion, and unwavering faith in God. Her passing has left a void in the hearts of family, friends, and many more whose lives were touched.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Jackie H. Richardson (married August 18, 1959), her parents, Billy and Leila Norris, and her brother, Benjie Norris (Mary Jane Norris).

Bunny is survived by her son, Scott Richardson (Sheila), and daughter, Leianne Hester (Jack). Also, grandsons: Stefan Richardson, Brandon Hester (Megan), Brock Hester (Kelley), Gavin Richardson; and great-grandchildren: Grady Hester, Jase Hester, McKenzie Hester, Baylor Hester, Ellie Hester, and soon-to-be-born Elliott Hester.

She is also survived by her brothers: Tim Norris (Beverly), Lanny Norris (Donna), and her Sister-in-law, Nell Richardson, along with a host of nieces,

nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

She lived in many places in her life, beginning in Knoxville, Tennessee. She soon moved to Montgomery, Alabama, Maryville and Sparta, Tennessee, Searcy, Arkansas, and then to Russellville, Jasper, Parrish, Midfield, Bessemer, Phil Campbell, back to Russellville, and finally to Athens, Alabama. She was proud to claim Russellville, Alabama, as her permanent residence.

From her earliest days, it was clear that she would be one to work and help others, especially the young. As did all the Norris children, time was spent working at King Frosty. Imagine how many smiles came to young faces (and old faces) from an ice cream cone she served up. After marrying, she assisted Jackie in the floral business.

She was also a teacher at Union School and worked in the Franklin County Tax Assessor's office. After moving to the Birmingham area, she worked at the Sears Roebuck business office downtown. Later, she helped run her family's newspaper route and then ran the Business Office for Colonial Carpet and Interiors. Moving back to the Russellville area, she operated Norris Book Company and was the Business Manager for Norris King Frosty. She was still making kids smile.

Throughout all of the work, she also managed to bring a multitude of children and young adults into her home to live. She took care of them all. Through teaching Bible classes as she served the Lord, standing by her evangelist husband, she touched even more lives. As her children had children, she still took care of them all. Certainly, her care for young people is seen in her being a Co-Founder of Rustic Youth Camp (affectionately known as RYC) in 1980. "Ms. Bunny" blessed thousands of young lives from all across the United States and countless foreign countries. She took care of them all. She still does—her legacy continues.

The service to honor the life of Bunny will be held on Saturday, June 28, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Spry Funeral Home in Russellville, Alabama, with a period of visitation from noon until 2:00 PM. There will be no graveside service. The pallbearers will be Stefan Richardson, Brandon Hester, Brock Hester, Gavin Richardson, Lanny Norris, Tim Norris, and George Hutto. The honorary pallbearers will be Grady Hester, Jase Hester, and Baylor Hester.

After the service, the family will meet with friends at the Dining Hall of Rustic Youth Camp, 3100 Shady Grove Road, Russellville, Alabama.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider donating to the Rustic Youth Camp, 1520 Hwy 33, Russellville, AL 35653 (mailing address) or [blog.rusticyouthcamp.org](http://blog.rusticyouthcamp.org).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **28**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Spry Memorial Chapel  
907 South Jackson Avenue  
Russellville, AL 35653  
(256) 332-1122  
sprymemorialchapel@yahoo.com

## Service

JUN **28**. 2:00 PM.

Spry Funeral Home

# Tribute Wall

JT

“Kathie and I send our sympathy to the family. Her passing will leave a void but you can take great comfort in the life she lived. You will be in our prayers.

Jimmy Taylor - June 28, 2025 at 11:10 PM

MD

“I don't think I ever met Bunny, although I heard great things about her. I did meet Jackie when he brought Billy Norris to my dad's funeral in 1999. My dad, Lindsay Allen, and Billy were close friends as young men in Russellville and stayed in touch the rest of their lives. Daddy thought so much of Billy. Then I was privileged to have Benjie as an excellent trigonometry teacher for two semesters at UNA. I also met Tim when he was attending UNA and then Lanny at the University of Alabama. What a fine family, admired by so many people who were inspired by their Christian faith and exemplary work ethic. My heart goes out to Bunny's family and especially to Tim and Lanny.

Mary Allen Daily - June 28, 2025 at 10:40 AM

CS

“Cortrina, Regina, & Staff purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Bunny Norris Richardson.



Cortrina, Regina, & Staff - June 27, 2025 at 11:26 PM