



## Johnnie Camp Taylor

August 31, 1943 - January 15, 2025

Johnnie Camp Taylor, 81 Springfield, Arkansas, formerly North Little Rock died on January 15, 2025. Johnnie was a long-time Executive Director of Goodwill Industries of Arkansas. Johnnie was born August 31, 1943, on the family farm, Johnstown. East of Newport in the Cache River bottoms.

Johnnie was a 1961 honor graduate of Newport High School. She received academic scholarships and was able to obtain her BSE degree in three years at UCA in 1964. She later received an MSE degree in Special Education in 1967 from UCA.

Johnnie began her work as an Extension Home Economist in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Returning to Arkansas in 1965, she accepted a job in the developing field of Special Education. She was one of the first two elementary Special Education teachers in the large Pulaski County School District. In such a new field, Johnnie relied upon her formative experiences in a two-room school house and her 4-H Club and Girl Scout experiences.

In the fall of 1968, the State of Arkansas began a new Special Education program for High School students. Johnnie was asked to participate and developed her program in the North Little Rock School District which became a model Vocational program for the State. Some of the students that she placed on jobs remained in those jobs for more than 30 years. She has been credited with altering the life path of many students who were destined for failure.

Johnnie obtained a staff position with Pulaski Technical College and became

affiliated with Goodwill Industries in an effort to expand their vocational placement program. This led to Johnnie becoming the voice of Goodwill in Arkansas. In 1981, she was unexpectedly thrust into the position of Executive Director of Arkansas Goodwill where she remained until her retirement. During these years she developed the programs and the financial stability to enable Goodwill to become the successful model that Goodwill in Arkansas is today. Johnnie received state and National recognition for work in the non-profit arena. Savvy Magazine, a New York publication named her as one of the top twelve women executives in the non-profit sector in the United States Johnnie was also proud to have been selected along with Scotty Pippin to be featured in a promotion and recruitment brochure for UCA.

In retirement, Johnnie and Larry enjoyed many years of travel in their small motor home. Eventually, they traveled to every state and to Europe. Johnnie became a tournament poker player and enjoyed playing cards across the country. Honorary pallbearers are her two local poker clubs.

Johnnie is survived by J. Larry Taylor, her husband of 60 years, two nephews and bonus son, Eric Camp of Searcy. Johnnie was preceded in death by her son John Larry Taylor Jr. her parents, J H and Alice Camp and two sisters, Martha and Anna.

A round table memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 29, at Harris Funeral Home. Arrangements are by Harris Funeral Home of Morrilton. Internment of ashes will be at Johnstown Memory Gardens and Springfield Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions be made to Goodwill Industries of Arkansas.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN **29**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Harris Funeral Homes - Morrilton  
1325 Oak St  
Morrilton, AR 72110  
(501) 354-4575

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ Larry, sorry to hear of Johnnie’s passing. Just now reading about her. We think of y’all often. We still live in same house in NLR. We hope you are doing well. Richard & Doretta

Doretta Allen - September 26, 2025 at 04:49 PM

LA

“ Johnnie was my sorority sister at ASTC. She was one of the most accomplished members of Tri Sigma & distinguished herself further in her professional life. I remember her kindness & her energy in getting things done while helping others. A wonderful person!

Linda Arnold - January 24, 2025 at 09:36 AM

KB

“ Larry, I’m sorry to learn of the death of your wie, and I wish you the best as you mourn her loss.

Ken Barnes - January 24, 2025 at 06:18 AM

BP

“ Larry, I’m so sorry for your loss! When Susan told me about Johnnie , I was heartbroken! Bill and I considered her a good friend!! I loved being around her and playing tournaments with her!! Plus she always acted like she was as happy to see us as we were her!! Life will be a little sadder with her gone!!

Bonnie Peoples - January 22, 2025 at 03:57 PM

JC

“ So sorry to hear of Johnnie passing larry you are in my prayers let me know if I can do anything

Jim cooper - January 21, 2025 at 06:39 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Johnnie Camp Taylor.*



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January 21, 2025 at 04:57 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Johnnie Camp Taylor.

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January 21, 2025 at 04:57 PM



“ *I met Johnnie through Extension Homemakers and she played poker with my late husband. I always found her to be a very nice person. Larry I'm so sorry for your loss. Nina Richey.*

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**Nina Richey** - January 21, 2025 at 11:20 AM



“ *Johnnie was a good friend to my mother and me. She was always up for an adventure and a laugh and told the most interesting stories. She had a unique gift for working with the underdogs among us marginalized by society. Her childlike curiosity and belief in our better selves gave her a youthful nature. Hundreds of Goodwill clients grew and prospered under her encouragement and are a testament to her legacy. Johnnie and Larry shared a deep mutual admiration and respect for each other. We will dearly miss her.*

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**Dexta Rodriguez** - January 19, 2025 at 09:22 PM