



## Ruth Coffman Deaton

April 5, 1934 - November 13, 2023

Ruth Coffman Deaton, 89, of Little Rock, Arkansas, was born, as her mother would say, somewhere up around Alread (Arkansas) on April 5th, 1934. She was premature and tiny enough to fit in her father's palm, but she started out tough and stayed that way all her life. She died on November 13, 2023, after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease

Ruth graduated from Morrilton High School in 1952 and married Floyd Ray Trafford the same year. They had 2 daughters and made their home on Petit Jean Mountain where Floyd worked for Winthrop Rockefeller. During those years she earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Central Arkansas and taught English at Morrilton Junior High. She and Floyd divorced in the mid-'70s and Ruth later married Jimmy Deaton. During their years together she worked as a school counselor in the Fairview-Camden School District and Pulaski County Special School District. She earned her credentials as a Licensed Professional Counselor and worked with the Arkansas Governor's Dislocated Workforce in the later years of her career. She was a lifelong member of the Baptist Church, last attending Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Ruth loved helping other people and believed that education was the key to a successful life. She also loved to read and was always ready to pass on a good book to anyone she met in her daily life: at the grocery store, in an elevator or at the hairdresser.

Ruth was preceded in death by her mother and father, Geneva and Loyd

Coffman, and her husbands, Floyd Trafford and Jimmy Deaton. She was also predeceased by her special friend, John Wear. She leaves behind her daughters, Debbie Trafford Johnson (Bill) and Beth Trafford Boyd (Bob) of Little Rock; grandchildren, Trey Massingill, Nick Massingill, Bethany Johnson Howell, and David Johnson Pendragon (Emily); 7 great-grandchildren; brother, Darrel Coffman (Letha); and a host of nieces and nephews. The funeral service will be at 2:00 p.m. Friday, November 17, at the Harris Chapel with Pastor Blake Martin officiating. Burial will be at Elmwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Arkansas Alzheimer's Association.

# Cemetery Details

## Elmwood Cemetery

1830 Highway 113  
Morrilton, AR 72110

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

NOV 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ruth Coffman Deaton.*



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November 15, 2023 at 10:13 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Ms.Deaton's passing. She was my English teacher at Morrilton JHS. A great teacher and a very sincere believer in Jesus. She made a big impression on me by reading the Bible everyday in class. I shall never forget that. Family you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Tyronne Davis** - November 14, 2023 at 10:10 PM



“ *Joe Phillips purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Ruth Coffman Deaton.*



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**Joe Phillips** - November 14, 2023 at 02:27 PM

LM

“ *Debbie and family,*

*So sorry to read of your sweet mother's passing. I so remember riding the school bus to your home on the mountain for your birthday party every year and being served your mom's delicious spaghetti and meat. Many years have passed since those grade school days at Reynolds.*

*May your mom rest in peace and eternal light shine upon her.  
Prayers for comfort for all of her family.*

*Linda Morgan-Wiedower*

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**Linda Morgan-Wiedower** - November 13, 2023 at 11:00 PM