



Carolyn Ballington

November 28, 1950 - May 17, 2025

Carolyn Ballington (Vickie Caroline Barnhill Abbott Ballington), of Conway, passed away on Saturday, May 17, 2025, after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's and cancer.

Carolyn was born on November 28, 1950, to her biological parents, Willie and Fleetwood Branton. She was adopted as an infant by Clara Branton Barnhill and Edgar Barnhill, who raised her in a home filled with love, light, and unwavering support. She was preceded in death by both sets of parents and by her beloved husband, Herbert McKendree Ballington Jr. of Lexington, SC.

She is survived by her children, Matthew Abbott and Brandi Abbott Thompson (Timothy), as well as her treasured grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and an immeasurable circle of friends who became family through love.

Affectionately known as "Nana" or "Chick", Carolyn was a force of nature—spirited, sharp-witted, and full of heart. Her infectious smile could brighten any room, and her boundless energy left a lasting mark on all who knew her. Though she stood just 4 feet 10 inches tall, her presence was undeniably larger than life.

Her adventurous spirit and unshakable grit led her to break barriers as the first female rural letter carrier at the Conway Post Office, a role she held with great

pride following her graduation from USC Coastal. She faithfully served her community for decades, earning admiration not only for her dedication to her work but also for the warmth and sincerity she shared along every route.

Carolyn was also a devoted follower of Christ, living out her faith through acts of kindness, compassion, and a genuine commitment to others including through her role as a Guardian ad Litem, Red Cross volunteer, and Consumer Affairs Commissioner for the State of SC.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Watercrest Assisted Living and Memory Care and to Gentiva Hospice for their care and support.

The family invites those wishing to remember Carolyn and her life to join them for a drop in reception.

Celebration of Life Reception: Saturday, May 24, 2025 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Location:

Brandi's Residence

5115 Old Hwy 90

Conway, SC 29526

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Children's Recovery Center or the Alzheimer's Association in Carolyn's memory.

Tribute Wall

EB

“ So sorry just heard. My sincerest sympathy.
Ella Bartscht



Ella Bartscht - January 26 at 07:29 PM

DC

“ Matt, Brandi adn family, I am so sorry for you loss. Your mother was certainly one of a kind! I will always remember her for her ready smile and warm nature. May you find comfort in know is at rest now.

Dee Adams Coleman - May 23, 2025 at 12:05 PM

WW

“ Matt and Brandi. So sorry to hear of Carolyn passing. Though we have known her and your family for many years, it has been a long time since we last saw and talked to any of you. I remember those early years when Matt was just a small kid. I never knew Brandi. We will continue to keep you in our prayers.
Wayne & Connie Williams

Wayne & Connie Williams - May 21, 2025 at 08:54 AM

DV

“ Carolyn has always been a dear, lifetime friend and confidante. The memories we shared from childhood through college and adulthood could fill a book. Church, Tilly Swamp, tobacco barns and pack houses, her mother’s flower garden, Waccamaw Elementary, Conway Junior High, Conway High, Coastal Carolina all were part of the tapestry of our friendship. She even honored me by asking me to direct her wedding over 50 years ago.

Her passing is a major loss to me, and I offer my prayers and concern to the wonderful family she created and loved with all her being.

David Vaught - May 20, 2025 at 09:59 PM

RS

“ My deepest sympathies to the entire family. Carolyn was a very sweet person. May you hold on to the sweet memories now and in the coming days. 🙏



Rhonda Sanders-Butler - May 20, 2025 at 11:00 AM