



Mary Jewell Starnes Capozzi

March 23, 1932 - October 28, 2025

Mary Jewell Starnes Capozzi of Sweetwater, age 93, passed away on Tuesday, October 28, 2025.

Jewell was born to James Cummings Starnes and Tennie Shell Starnes of Dandridge, on March 23, 1932. She graduated from Sweetwater High School in 1950. She had a great sense of style and a soft heart for stray animals and loved her neighbors and her community.

She is survived by her husband Robert (Bob) Capozzi; daughters Melanie Woods Kirkpatrick (Robert) of Sweetwater, Donna Woods (Marty Rosenfield) of Highlands NC, and Trish Woods Salmon (Phil) of Canton, NC; Stepson Bobby (Kim) Capozzi; grandsons Rob and Ryan Kirkpatrick, and step-grandsons Tony and Tyler Capozzi; granddaughters Allison Salmon Puryear, Ashley Woods Irwin, and Heather Woods Hodges; several great grandchildren. Daughter-in-law. Martha Cate Woods, sister-in-law: Charlotte Starnes, several nieces, and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her son Dale Woods; sisters Norma Williams, and Helen Harkleroad; Brothers Jay Starnes, Jimmy Hugh Starnes, and Eddie Bruce (Mopsy) Starnes.

The family would like to give special thanks to the doctors and staff of Sweetwater Hospital for their loving care and support during her final days. Visitation will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 12:00 to 2:00 at Sweetwater Memory Chapel in Sweetwater. The funeral service will follow, with Reverend Keith Wheeler officiating. Burial will take place in Sweetwater

Valley Memorial Park. Rob Kirkpatrick, Ryan Kirkpatrick, Joel Puryear, Phil Salmon, Marty Rosenfield and Robert Kirkpatrick will serve as pallbearers. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Monroe County Animal Shelter/Eastbourne Animal Center, or Sweetwater Area Ministries. Sweetwater Memory Chapel in charge of arrangements. www.kykerfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Sweetwater Memorial Park

1838 Hwy 11 N
Sweetwater, TN 37874

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 1. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Sweetwater Memory Chapel
P.O. Box 201
1838 Highway 11 North
Sweetwater, TN 37874
(423) 337-7773
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

NOV 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sweetwater Memory Chapel
P.O. Box 201
1838 Highway 11 North
Sweetwater, TN 37874
(423) 337-7773
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com>

Tribute Wall

GT

“ *thinking about you all during this time.* ”



Glenn & Delorese Thompson - October 31, 2025 at 09:15 PM

DD

“ *Jewel was one of the nicest and prettiest ladies I've ever known. She was always so kind and friendly. Many prayers to the family.* ”

Debbie devine - October 31, 2025 at 07:32 PM

CK

“ *Steve and I are sending heartfelt condolences. Jewell was truly a beautiful soul.
Bob...my Daddy R.H. Johnson, looked forward every day to calls from Jewell and yourself. He considered you both as very dear friends.
May God wrap His loving arms around all of you in the days to follow.* ”

Cyndi&Steve Kyker - October 30, 2025 at 05:29 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Mary Jewell Starnes Capozzi.* ”



October 30, 2025 at 04:22 PM

SF

“ Sweetwater Area Ministries Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jewell Starnes Capozzi.

Sweetwater Area Ministries Family - October 30, 2025 at 04:22 PM

JM

“ Mrs. Jewel and Mr. Bob were my neighbors while I was growing up. They gave me my first job, mowing their lawn for \$7. That was a lot of money back then for only an hour of work. Mrs. Jewel would often bring out fresh lemonade to me when it got very hot during the Summer and bought me pizza to eat more than once, to enjoy when the cutting was done. I remember watching Mr. Bob build an airplane in his garage and flying it over the neighborhood. He would often show me his AM radio setup in his garage, detailing how he would talk to folks worldwide. I was amazed at Mr. Bob's old Navy diver helmet he kept near his fireplace. The thing was massive and extremely heavy. Their home and yard was always immaculate and Mrs. Jewel would never be seen without being all made up. They both were very kind to me and my family. My Mom and Mrs. Jewel were walking buddies, going on long walks together in the neighborhood. They both are a big piece of my upbringing and I was Blessed beyond measure for them being a big part of my young life. My deepest condolences to Mr. Bob and his family. John McInnis, U.S. Air Force, Major (retired)

John McInnis - October 30, 2025 at 01:35 PM

HD

Bob I've known a long time. Ms Jewell I met only once but was a wonderful person. I offer my condolences to Bob and the family...Hal

Hal Dale - November 08, 2025 at 02:37 PM

CA

“ I spent a lot of time in your home growing up.. She was always so nice to me.. I remember as a Girl Scout that she always brought such good treats.. she certainly was a lady of style.. always looked so pretty.. she will be missed by all who knew her.. Carol Ann Bivens Akins and husband Mike

Carol A Akins - October 29, 2025 at 01:16 PM

BS

“ Bob and Jewell have been our precious neighbors for many years. She was truly a southern lady in all respects. Prayers for Bob and all of the loved ones of Jewell.

Billy Stephens - October 29, 2025 at 12:56 PM

BM

“ Jewel has always been a very kind and beautiful neighbor. She will be greatly missed.

Betty Mathews - October 29, 2025 at 12:20 PM

BK

“ Bobby and Kim purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Jewell Starnes Capozzi.



Bobby and Kim - October 29, 2025 at 11:08 AM

BK

“ Bobby and Kim planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jewell Starnes Capozzi.

Bobby and Kim - October 29, 2025 at 11:08 AM