



Linda Urfer Crawford

December 29, 1949 - April 14, 2026

Linda Urfer-Crawford, 76, of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, passed away peacefully on April 14, 2026, after a courageous battle with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer. Her strength, grace, and unwavering optimism in the face of illness were an inspiration to all who knew and loved her.

Linda was born on December 29, 1949, in Hickory Ridge, Arkansas. From an early age, she had a deep love of learning and a natural gift for caring for others which were qualities that shaped her life's work and the many lives she touched. Over the course of her career in education, Linda rose to the role of principal, where she devoted herself to creating a nurturing, challenging, and supportive environment for students and staff. She was adored and admired by her school community, known for her fairness, compassion, and the quiet strength with which she led. To many, she was more than a principal; she was a mentor, a role model, and a steady source of encouragement.

While Linda's professional achievements were meaningful, her greatest pride and joy were found in her family. She was first and foremost, a devoted mother, grandmother, and friend. Above all, she cherished her role as "Nana" to her three grandchildren, Cole, Avery, and Lucas, who brought her endless joy. She treasured every milestone and every visit she had with them.

Linda found great peace in serene, calming activities, often losing herself in a

novel by her favorite author, John Grisham. An avid sports fan, she passionately cheered for her beloved Arkansas Razorbacks, remaining a fiercely loyal "Hog" fan through every win and loss. Christmas time held a special place in Linda's heart. She delighted in transforming her home for the season and baking cherished family treats, simple chocolate chip cookies for her grandchildren and traditional German Bratzeli cookies that fondly recalled the days of her childhood.

Those who knew Linda will remember her for her positive outlook on life. Even in the most difficult moments, she chose hope. She had a remarkable ability to see the good in people and to find light in challenging circumstances. Whether through a warm smile, a reassuring word during a challenging time, or a simple act of kindness, Linda made others feel seen, valued, and cared for. Her kindness was quiet but powerful, and it left a lasting imprint on everyone around her.

Linda's legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched as an educator who believed in her students, as a leader who supported her staff, as a friend who listened with her whole heart, and most of all, as a beloved mother and grandmother. The lessons she taught, the love she shared, and the example she set will continue to echo in the hearts of those who were blessed to know her. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered by her family, friends, former colleagues, and all who had the privilege of being part of her life.

Linda was preceded in death by her parents and her brother. She is survived by (E.T.) Evan Crawford, Jr. of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, her sister, Vicki Brawner of Wynne, Arkansas, her children, Brad Crawford of Springdale, Arkansas and Amy Risucci (Greg) of Setauket, New York; her three grandchildren, Cole, Avery, and Lucas and many dear friends and extended family who will miss her dearly.

A private family memorial service will be shared at a later time. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.