



## Joy Parsley

February 18, 1955 - December 23, 2025

Joy Parsley, a spirited and vibrant soul, left this world on December 23, 2025, at Deaconess Hospital in Newburgh, Indiana, after a brave battle with cancer.

Joy was the beloved wife of Kenneth Parsley and a cherished mother to her two daughters, Ellie Wright Drinkwater and Chelsie Leigh Simmons. She found joy in her family, especially her beloved son-in-laws, Dr. Chris Drinkwater and Danny Simmons. Joy's legacy shines brightly through her grandchildren, Cora and Caleb Simmons, who will carry her memory forward. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Sue Powell.

Joy was a tireless worker for her family and friends. She proudly served as an executive secretary at Big Rivers for 39 years. Also, a Kentucky basketball enthusiast, Joy cheered passionately for her Wildcats, balancing her competitive spirit with her love for all things feminine and fabulous. A Tina Turner fan at heart, she embraced life with the same fierce energy that filled Tina's songs, and her strong Christian faith was the rock upon which all her love was built.

Joy leaves behind her brother, Steve Powell, mother-in-love Cleda Parsley, as well Keith and Donna Parsley, Kathi Hitch, Kirby and Karen Dennis, and Roger and Kristi Metz, all brothers-and-sisters-in-love, first cousins who were more like siblings, and countless nieces and nephews who will remember her

infectious laughter and warm hugs. While her time with us was cut short, her generous and loving spirit will forever light our lives. So, here's to you, Joy— may you be dancing in heaven, sporting your UK blue, and singing along with Tina!

Relatives and friends are invited to Joy's Life Celebration from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 28, 2025, and from 9:00 a.m. until service time on Monday at Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home in Henderson, KY. The funeral service will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Henderson.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Sieman Cancer Center at Barnes Jewish Hospital, 1 Brookings Drive., St. Louis, MO, 63130, <https://siteman.wustl.edu/give/>

Arrangements entrusted to Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home, A Life Celebration® Home, online condolences may be made at [www.bentongluntandtappfuneralhome.com](http://www.bentongluntandtappfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Roselawn Memorial Gardens

8136 Highway 2084 S  
Henderson, KY 42420  
(270) 826-9623  
roselawn@ccol.net  
<http://www.bentonglunt.com/>

# Previous Events

## Life Celebration

DEC **28**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home  
629 S. Green St.  
Henderson, KY 42420  
(270) 827-3535  
email@bentonglunttapp.com  
<https://www.bentongluntandtappfuneralhome.com/>

## Life Celebration

DEC **29**. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home  
629 S. Green St.  
Henderson, KY 42420  
(270) 827-3535  
email@bentonglunttapp.com  
<https://www.bentongluntandtappfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

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DEC **29**. 12:00 PM (CT)

Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home

629 S. Green St.

Henderson, KY 42420

(270) 827-3535

[email@bentonglunttapp.com](mailto:email@bentonglunttapp.com)

<https://www.bentongluntandtappfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

LF

“ Love, The Sam Parsley Family purchased the "O n Angel's Wings" Sympathy Gift Wind Chime to S end for Funeral Or Memorial for the family of Joy Parsley.



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**Love, The Sam Parsley Family** - December 27, 2025 at 05:57 PM

LF

“ Love, The Sam Parsley Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joy Parsley.

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**Love, The Sam Parsley Family** - December 27, 2025 at 05:57 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joy Parsley.



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December 27, 2025 at 12:34 PM


DY

“ Debbie Yates planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joy Parsley.

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**Debbie Yates** - December 27, 2025 at 12:34 PM

JN

“ After a long journey you are now free from worry, sickness, and fear of next appointment. We were friends for over 40 years. I will certainly miss you, our lunches with Nurse Toni, and our phone conversations especially our back and forth texts when UK was playing . Don't worry we will be reunited and we can get caught up. My DEEPEST sympathy to Ken, her precious daughters, her grandchildren, and her son in love's (as she always referred them). May God surround you and comfort you. Your memories will help get you through the difficult days. Joy was a special one and I was proud to call her my friend.



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**Jney** - December 27, 2025 at 08:46 AM

DB

“ Joy was one of my very best and exceptional friend..I'm glad I got to meet Joy first here on earth instead of meeting her for the first time in Heaven... save me a place close to you Joy...her mold has not been broken... She has two beautiful redheads daughters... who will carry her torch!!!

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**debbie bullock** - December 26, 2025 at 08:44 PM

DD

“ I loved working with Joy at WKE....her UK Basketball poster has the prime spot over her desk, she always had that big jug of legitimate Southern Sweet Tea and a laughter that was infectious. I will assume that she and my late husband David are still debating the U of L Cards Vs the UK Cats, even in heaven. Debbie Dewey

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**Deborah Dewey** - December 26, 2025 at 04:39 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joy Parsley.



December 26, 2025 at 04:34 PM



“ Debbie Dewey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joy Parsley.

Debbie Dewey - December 26, 2025 at 04:34 PM



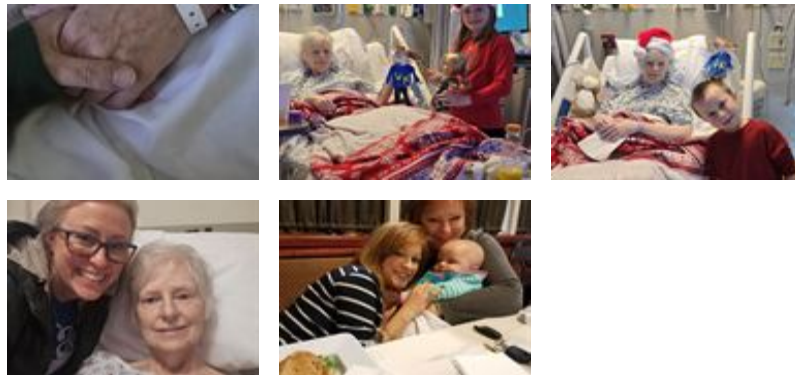
“ Carolyn T and Rhonda B. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joy Parsley.



Carolyn T and Rhonda B. - December 26, 2025 at 02:46 PM



“ 74 files added to the album Life Tributes



Benton-Glunt Funeral Home - December 26, 2025 at 01:42 PM

JA

“ *Joe and Jejin An purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Joy Parsley.*



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**Joe and Jejin An** - December 23, 2025 at 08:56 PM