



Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins

May 7, 1948 - November 8, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Ruthie Chamlee Watkins, age 77, who passed away at home in Umatilla, Florida, on November 8, 2025, surrounded by her loving family. Born on May 7, 1948, in Evansville, Indiana, Ruthie was the youngest of seven children born to Robert and Louannah Armstrong.

Ruthie's life was a beautiful tapestry woven with love, laughter, and resilience. She dedicated herself to being a stay-at-home mom for most of her children's lives, nurturing and guiding them with unwavering support. Her passion for flowers led her to become a talented florist, where she shared her love of nature's beauty with others.

In her youth, Ruthie married her high school sweetheart, Tony Chamlee. Together, they built a life filled with love and joy, welcoming four wonderful children: Tony Chamlee II (Tammy), Kim Nuffer (Phil), Amy Arflack (Dave), and Doug Chamlee (Jill). Their family was a source of great pride and happiness for Ruthie. Tragically, Tony passed away from cancer in 2004, leaving a void in her heart.

In 2007, Ruthie found love again with a remarkable man, Jack Watkins. Their marriage on November 29th, 2014 bringing new joy and companionship into her life, and Ruthie embraced her role as a stepmother to Jack's daughter,

Christine Watkins.

Ruthie's legacy lives on through her cherished grandchildren: Ray, Lee, Lauren, and Stephen (Tony's children); Philip, Joshua, April, and Nathan (Kim's children); Austin, Cole, Emma, Madee, and Sydnee (Amy's children); and Abbigail and Olivia (Doug's children). Each grandchild held a special place in her heart, and she delighted in their accomplishments and adventures.

An avid lover of the outdoors, Ruthie found peace and happiness in the sun, tending to her yard, and enjoying the serene beauty of her porch swing overlooking the lake. Her three beloved cats were constant companions, adding joy to her days.

Ruthie will be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and the warmth she brought to everyone she met. Her infectious sense of humor and loving spirit made her a beloved wife, mother, sister, grandmother, and friend. She touched the lives of many and will be deeply missed.

Ruthie was preceded in death by her late husband, Tony Chamlee, and her siblings Jean, Mary, and John. She is survived by her devoted husband, Jack Watkins; her siblings Ann, David, and Bob; her children Tony, Kim, Amy, and Doug; and her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

As we celebrate Ruthie's life, we invite all who knew her to remember her laughter, her love, and the light she brought into our lives. In her memory, let us continue to spread kindness and joy, just as she did.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **12**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory - Umatilla
279 South Central Avenue
Umatilla, FL 32784
(352) 669-2146

Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins*



Beyers Funeral Home - November 11, 2025 at 04:18 PM

DS

“ *Debra Pierson, Diane and Dave Perkins, Tearry & Nancy Smith purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins.*



Debra Pierson, Diane and Dave Perkins, Tearry & Nancy Smith - November 12, 2025 at 09:07 AM

TG

“ *The Eckel's Mark Elaine & Gram purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins.*



The Eckel's Mark Elaine & Gram - November 12, 2025 at 07:50 AM



“ *Bandaged Heart Ash Holder Necklace was purchased for the family of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins.*



November 11, 2025 at 03:30 PM



“ *Spectrum Cable planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins.*

Spectrum Cable - November 11, 2025 at 01:19 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins.*



November 11, 2025 at 01:19 PM



“ *Love, Karen and Ken Havens purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins.*



Love, Karen and Ken Havens - November 11, 2025 at 12:58 PM

DJ

“ Don And Joe planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Watkins.

Don And Joe - November 11, 2025 at 10:21 AM

DJ

“ Don And Joe purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ruth "Ruthie" Chamlee Watkins.



Don And Joe - November 11, 2025 at 10:21 AM