



Dixie J. Vacca

November 23, 1947 - November 10, 2025

Dixie Jean Vacca, 77, of Carthage, Missouri, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 10, 2025, at home surrounded by her family. Born on November 23, 1947, in Carthage to T.J. and Wilma "Lucille" (Legore) Anderson, Dixie graduated from Carthage High School with the Class of 1965. She was the owner and operator of Rural Refuse Service. After selling the business she went to work for Steadley which was later acquired by Leggett & Platt. She worked there until her retirement in 2020. Dixie was a devoted member of Bethel United Methodist Church for four years. She passionately supported her community, serving on the board of the Powers Museum, volunteering with Compassionate Friends, and championing causes such as the Carthage Humane Society and Carthage Schools. Dixie had a generous heart and was always eager to help others. She was also known for her spirited presence online as a true "keyboard warrior" on Facebook.

On May 22, 1969, Dixie married the love of her life, Richard Vacca, in Miami, Oklahoma. They shared many wonderful years together until his passing on November 12, 2015. Dixie is survived by her son, Wesley Vacca (Sheena) of Carthage; three daughters, Kamie Bourgault (John) of Carthage, Kim Snyder (Rusty) of Carthage, and Kelli Powelson (Mike) of Edmond, Oklahoma; eleven grandchildren, Dillon and Riley Powelson, Kally (Zach) Hatcher, Taylor Snyder, Jacob Snyder (Ashley), Olivia, Ava, and Kane Bourgault, and Trenton, Troyer, and Trayven Vacca; and six great-grandchildren, Rory, Simon, Owen Hatcher, and Margo, Scout, and Poppy Snyder. She is also survived by her brother, Thomas "Tom" J. Anderson of Carthage; sister, Sue Barton (Butch) of Carthage; brother-in-law, Kevin McKelvy of Carthage; brother-in-law Joe (Kay) Vacca of Coffeyville KS; many beloved nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard; two sons, Todd Vacca (January 9, 1986) and Chad Vacca (November 5, 1971); her parents, T.J. and Lucille Anderson; and her sister, Sheryl McKelvy.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at Ulmer Funeral Home. Visitation will take place from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 14, 2025, also at Ulmer Funeral Home. The burial will take place at Park Cemetery in Carthage, Missouri, immediately following the service.

Contributions may be made to the Carthage R-9 Performing Arts Center, in care of Ulmer Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be shared at www.ulmerfh.com.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Ulmer Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Park Cemetery

801 South Baker
Carthage, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **14**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ulmer Funeral Home
1208 S. Garrison
Carthage, MO 64836
(417) 358-2222
ulmerfh@gmail.com
<https://www.ulmerfh.com/>

Funeral Service

NOV **15**. 10:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

CB

“ Kelli, I am so sorry for your loss. I am praying for you and your family. Much love to you all 🙏❤️

chasity Burns - November 14, 2025 at 04:51 PM

DH

“ So very sorry to see of Dixies passing our prayers 🙏 and condolences to the family. Although we didn't see things eye to eye politically I still think she was a sweetheart.

David Hill - November 13, 2025 at 11:57 AM

AP

“ Kamie, I am so sorry.

Ann Peck - November 13, 2025 at 11:33 AM

BS

“ So sorry for your loss.
Dixie was a very sweet person.
Praying for the family. 🙏🙏🙏🙏



Brenda Stark Seckman - November 11, 2025 at 06:12 PM

JE

I am sorry for your loss. Dixie was a hoot to know. Jettie Bell (Penmac)

Jettie - November 12, 2025 at 02:23 PM

LW

So sorry to hear this. We went to high school together and were in some of the same classes together. She was a really good person and I am so sorry for your loss. I was so shy in school and she went out of her way to make me feel better,

Linda Williams - November 13, 2025 at 01:15 PM

MS

Aunt Dixie was an amazing woman. She was Uncle Richard's soul mate. She will always be with you all in memories and your love for her will continue.

Margaret Smith - November 13, 2025 at 01:45 PM