



Joyce Ronale Prather Sopko

June 13, 1958 - January 7, 2026

Joyce Sopko passed away peacefully January 7, 2026 at 4:11 a.m., leaving behind a family who loved her deeply and a life marked by strength, honesty, and unmistakable character.

She is now reunited with her beloved husband, Frank Sopko; her father, HB; her mother, Delma Foster; and her siblings, Pamela Prather, Bryant Prather, and Leon Prather. We find comfort in knowing Joyce is no longer in pain and is finally at rest.

She leaves behind her children—Russell, Andy(Mandy), Melissa, Tiffany, Randy(Beatrice), Anthony(Sophanny), and Clayton—along with her cherished grandchildren, all of whom were part of the life she built in her own strong and determined way. Joyce is also survived by her sisters, Patricia(Eric) Koster and Laurie(DeShawn) Merriweather.

Joyce was feisty, outspoken, and never one to sugarcoat anything. She loved her animals deeply—some would joke, even more than her children—and had a true passion for flowers. She had her moments and wasn't always easy, but she was real, fiercely loyal, and had a heart of gold beneath her tough exterior.

Joyce will be remembered for her strength, her blunt honesty, her humor, and the lasting mark she left on everyone who knew her. She will be deeply missed and always remembered.

Cemetery Details

Bakersfield National Cemetery

30338 East Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **15**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Mission Family Mortuary
531 California Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93304
1 (661) 323-3339
<https://missionfamilymortuary.com/>

Graveside Service

JAN **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

Bakersfield National Cemetery
30338 E Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203
(661) 867-2250

Tribute Wall

RB

“ Randy and Betty purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Joyce Ronale Prather Sopko.



Randy and Betty - January 13 at 01:39 PM

RB

“ Randy and Betty planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joyce Ronale Prather Sopko.

Randy and Betty - January 13 at 01:39 PM