



Dr. Carol Anne Wingate

December 25, 1941 - June 23, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Dr. Carol Anne Wingate

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – ANNA

135 West Vienna Street, Anna, Illinois

Dr. Carol Anne Wingate, 83, formerly of Goreville, Illinois passed away June 23, 2025 at Parkway Manor in Marion, Illinois. Carol was born December 25, 1941 at Norwegian American Hospital in Chicago to Roy Peter Johnson and Annabelle Miklas. The nurses at the hospital suggested she be named Carol for a Christmas Carol born on Christmas Day.

Having lost her father when Carol was just three years old, Carol was raised as an only child by a strong and determined widowed mother in Chicago. From an early age, Carol dreamed of becoming a veterinarian. She fulfilled that dream, earning her Doctor of Veterinary degree and zoology degree in 1966 from University of Illinois. At the time, she was one of only five women in her graduating class.

In 1967 Carol founded Marion Animal Hospital, where she cared for animals and served the community with compassion for nearly five decades. After retiring in 2014 she would later serve part-time at Meller-James Veterinary Services in Vienna and Timber Trails Veterinary Clinic in Murphysboro. She continued working until 2020.

Carol was first married to Dr. Charles Spears with whom she had one daughter, Amy. She was later married to J. Lewis Wingate with whom she enjoyed the company of good friends, showing horses and fox hunting in the countryside of Southern Illinois.

Carol is survived by her daughter Amy Smith and her favorite son in law Todd. She is also survived by grandsons: Travis Smith, Wyatt Smith and his wife Tonya. She was great grandma to Avery Danielle and another great granddaughter arriving in December. Carol also leaves behind her special cousin Laura and a host of many wonderful friends.

Carol will be remembered not only for her professional accomplishments but also for her strength, humor, and unwavering independence. The family wishes to thank the kind and the compassionate nurses and staff at Parkway Manor. A heart felt thank you to the friends that helped Amy care for Carol and her many pets the last few years she lived at home.

Memorials may be made to P.A.W.S. Place in Anna, Finding Forever Animal Rescue in Marion, or St. Francis Care in Murphysboro. Carol will be cremated per her wishes and there will be no services.

Crain Funeral Home in Anna, Illinois is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

CL

“ I noticed I hadn't heard much from Carol and found out on FB that she had passed away. I'm so saddened to hear this! Carol was a real gem. I met her when I worked as a veterinarian in Anna, IL. I treated a horse of hers at her property. We had a good laugh as I was about 6 months pregnant and she was 71! She then came to work at Meller-James where I was employed and I always enjoyed our time together. She was the best! Smart, sassy and hilarious. I'll miss her. Praying for her family.

Carrie Lee - September 25, 2025 at 05:05 PM

NA

“ One of the most beautiful soul's in this world. Thank you for being my friend. Can someone please let me know that her animals are being cared for.

Nancy - June 25, 2025 at 04:36 PM

AS

Thank you for your kind words. My mother was involved in finding wonderful homes for her animals prior to moving to assisted living last year.

Amy Smith - June 25, 2025 at 08:48 PM

LM

“ I accidentally ended my post to you Amy but meant to thank you for all the care you provided Carol. I'm glad you have kept in touch with Lori. With Love, Linda (Spears) Mitchell

Linda Mitchell - June 25, 2025 at 03:54 PM