



Anna Rica Barrett

December 16, 1944 - February 25, 2025

Anna Rica Barrett passed away peacefully at her beloved Windfall Farm on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 with her friend Angie Pope and her beloved pets, Snow and Leo, by her side.

Rica was born in Savannah, Georgia on December 16, 1944, and grew up in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. After early days as a ballerina and debutante, she became a passionate equestrian -- her stable was the first in Ponte Vedra, and there are many snapshots of the proud young horsewoman growing up in the saddle. Rica spent a lively childhood at the beach, in the stable, and on the family farm in Middleburg, riding horses with her father and her younger brother, Dicky. After graduating from Duncan U. Fletcher High School, she matriculated at Stephens College and graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1967.

Rica lived expansively: she was a favorite middle school English teacher in Knoxville. Drawn to politics, she worked in Washington for the campaigns of Senator Al Gore, Sr. and Edmund Muskie's 1972 primary bid. Her love of government and politics led her to Tallahassee, where she worked for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Throughout her life, she was an avowed news junkie, following politics like a sport. A lifelong Democrat, Rica nevertheless had a talent for making friends across the political spectrum.

Rica filled her home with plants before she opened The Nature Factory in Governor's Square Mall in 1980. The business's success required a move to a cottage on Gadsden Street, where visitors marveled at its holiday displays. True to both her entrepreneurial spirit and her love of horses, in 1991, she created Windfall Farm, breeding prizewinning quarter horses and becoming a vibrant member of Tallahassee's equestrian community. The farm was Rica's sanctuary. There, her world was filled with horses, a coterie of dogs and cats, the surrounding wildlife, a greenhouse, and countless dear friends from all walks of life. She also rescued many animals, among them her faithful donkey, Truman.

Rica was predeceased by her father, Richard A. Altobellis, Sr.; her stepmother, Frizzell Whiddon Altobellis; and her brother, Richard A. Altobellis, Jr. She is survived by her niece, Angelina Altobellis (Drew Johnson); nephew, Tony Altobellis; sister-in-law, Linda Altobellis; David Barrett, dear friend; numerous cousins; and many grieving friends.

The family expresses their heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated caregivers who ensured that Rica lived her best life: Meika Rivera, Angie Pope, Sheri Thomas, and Michele Phillips. They are also endlessly grateful to "Team Rica" who, with Meika, Angie, Sheri, and Michele, were Rica's fiercest friends and advocates.

A graveside service for family and close friends will take place at H. Warren Smith Cemetery in Jacksonville Beach on Wednesday, March 5 at noon, followed by a celebration of life at Windfall Farm on Saturday, March 8 at 2pm. Memorial donations may be made to Leon County Humane Society. Todd Wahlquist is assisting the family with their arrangements (850-385-2193, www.bevisfh.com).

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

H. Warren Smith Cemetery
1538 2nd Ave N.
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Celebration of Life

MAR 8. 2:00 PM (ET)

Windfall Farm
2120 Hill N Dale St. N
Tallahassee, FL 32317

Tribute Wall

JE

“ *Jocelyn Everhart lit a candle in memory of Anna Rica Barrett*



Jocelyn Everhart - March 05, 2025 at 04:54 PM

JE

I had the pleasure of knowing Rica for the past 6 years when we moved here. I thoroughly enjoyed my visits with her and feel grateful that I knew her. I will miss her. I can see across the horse pastures to her house on the hill. A beautiful place for a beautiful person. Our sincere condolences to the family and many friends of Rica.

Jocelyn Everhart - March 05, 2025 at 05:05 PM

CM

“ *Cynthia Maxwell lit a candle in memory of Anna Rica Barrett*



Cynthia Maxwell - March 05, 2025 at 04:13 PM

KB

“ *Kelly & Patrick Booten planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Anna Rica Barrett.*

Kelly & Patrick Booten - March 04, 2025 at 05:23 PM

KB

“ Kelly & Patrick Booten purchased the Meat & Cheese Wooden Gift Crate for the family of Anna Rica Barrett.



Kelly & Patrick Booten - March 04, 2025 at 05:23 PM

ST

“ Stephanie lit a candle in memory of Anna Rica Barrett



Stephanie - March 04, 2025 at 09:14 AM

ST

“ Sheri Thomas purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Anna Rica Barrett.



Sheri Thomas - March 03, 2025 at 01:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Anna Rica Barrett.

March 03, 2025 at 01:13 PM



“ *Full Heart was purchased for the family of Anna Rica Barrett.*



March 03, 2025 at 01:13 PM



“ *Love, Jay, Anne and Meg purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Anna Rica Barrett.*



Love, Jay, Anne and Meg - March 03, 2025 at 01:08 PM



“ *Love, Jay, Anne and Meg planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Anna Rica Barrett.*

Love, Jay, Anne and Meg - March 03, 2025 at 01:08 PM



“ *Meika Rivera & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Anna Rica Barrett.*



Meika Rivera & Family - March 03, 2025 at 09:11 AM

AA

“ 10 files added to the album *Rica through the Years*



Angelina Altobellis - March 02, 2025 at 06:59 PM