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Nancy Guthrie disappearance in Arizona: Daughter makes emotional plea for her return

KJZZ | By Associated Press and L.M. Boyd & Katya Mendoza/AZPM News

Published February 5, 2026 at 10:43 AM MST



Pima County Sheriff's Department

Nancy Guthrie

There was no public sign early Thursday of a response to NBC "Today" show host Savannah Guthrie's [message to her 84-year-old mother's kidnapper](#).

Guthrie said her family is ready to talk but wants proof that [Nancy Guthrie](#), who authorities [believe was taken from her home](#) in Arizona against her will, is still alive. Guthrie said in a heart-wrenching video posted on social media Wednesday that her family has heard media reports about a ransom letter.

"We are ready to talk. However, we live in a world where voices and images are easily manipulated," [Savannah Guthrie](#) said while reading from a prepared statement. "We need to know without a doubt that she is alive and that you have her. We want to hear from you and we are ready to listen. Please reach out to us."



[View this post on Instagram](#)

A post shared by Savannah Guthrie (@savannahguthrie)

Nancy Guthrie was last seen Saturday night, when she was dropped off at her Tucson home by family after having dinner with them, the sheriff's department said. [She was reported missing](#) about 14 hours later on Sunday after she didn't show up at a church.

At least three media organizations have reported receiving purported ransom notes that they handed over to investigators. The sheriff's department has said it was taking the notes and other tips seriously but declined to comment further.

Law enforcement officials returned to Nancy Guthrie's home Wednesday, Feb. 4. About a dozen investigators were seen at about 5 p.m., some carrying items from the home.

Pima County Sheriff Chris Nanos previously said that investigators concluded processing the home as a crime scene and turned the home over to the Guthrie family.

A note emailed Monday to the KOLD-TV newsroom in Tucson included information that only the abductor would know, anchor Mary Coleman told CNN. It also included a dollar amount and a deadline, she said.

"When we saw some of those details, it was clear after a couple of sentences that this might not be a hoax," she said in an interview aired Wednesday.

The family posted their plea after police searched in and around Nancy Guthrie's home for several hours Wednesday.

Investigators returned for the follow-up investigation after being at the home earlier in the week for a couple of days, said Kevin Adger, a spokesperson for the Pima County Sheriff's Department. He said the sheriff's department was not commenting on the family's video message.

The Guthrie siblings' message to their mother

Savannah Guthrie was emotional during the recording, with her voice cracking. She addressed her mother directly, saying the family was praying for her and that people were looking for her.

"Mommy, if you are hearing this, you are a strong woman. You are God's precious daughter," she said.

Savannah Guthrie described her mother as a "kind, faithful, loyal, fiercely loving woman of goodness and light" and said she was funny, spunky and clever.

"Talk to her and you'll see," she said.

Guthrie was flanked by her sister Annie and her brother Camron.

"Mamma, If you're listening, we need you to come home. We miss you," Annie Guthrie said.

No suspect identified

Authorities are expected to give updates on the investigation at a news conference Thursday. The Pima County Sheriff's office has said no suspects or persons of interest had been identified.

There were signs of forced entry at the home in the Catalina Foothills neighborhood. Guthrie has limited mobility, and officials don't believe she left on her own. A sheriff's dispatcher said during the search Sunday that Guthrie has high blood pressure, a pacemaker and heart issues, according to audio from [broadcastify.com](https://www.broadcastify.com).

The neighborhood's desert terrain can make looking for people difficult, said Jim Mason, longtime commander of a search-and-rescue team in Maricopa County that isn't involved in the search. He said it can be hard to see into areas dense with mesquite trees, cholla cactus and desert brush.

"Some of it is so thick you can't drive through it," Mason said.

Nation prays for Nancy Guthrie

President Donald Trump posted on social media that he was directing federal authorities to help where they can, after the White House said he spoke with Savannah Guthrie on Wednesday.

A couple hundred people prayed and placed lit candles on an altar during [a vigil at a Tucson church](#).

Jeremy Thacker had tears in his eyes as he described the heartbreak and helplessness. He worked with Savannah Guthrie at an Arizona news station. They shared losing their fathers at a young age, and his own sister was kidnapped when he was young.

Thacker said he knew Nancy Guthrie to be sharp, grounded and earnest.

"We're all holding our breath," Thacker said.

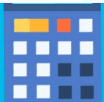
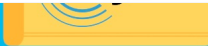
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NPR News

Savannah Guthrie shares emotional video asking for proof her missing mother is alive

Bill Chappell, Alana Wise, Ayana Archie, February 4, 2026

Police in Arizona believe Nancy Guthrie, 84, was taken by force from her Tucson area home this weekend. So far, no suspect or person of interest has been identified.

PIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

MISSING PERSON
VULNERABLE ADULT





Nancy Guthrie

Age: 84-years-old
Sex: Female
Height: 5'05"
Weight: 150 lbs.
Hair Color: Brown
Eye Color: Blue
Last seen: Evening of Jan. 31, 2026, at her residence near East Skyline Drive & North Campbell Avenue. Unknown what clothing she may be wearing.
Case #: 260201080

Tipline QR Code



260201080

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NPR News

What we know about Savannah Guthrie's missing mother

KJZZ
Here and Now

Nancy Guthrie is 84 and has mobility issues, but she is mentally sharp, Pima County Sheriff Chris Nanos said. She was last seen Saturday evening at her home near Tucson, Ariz.

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PIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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Fronteras Desk

Few new clues in Arizona disappearance of 'Today' host Savannah Guthrie's mom

L.M. Boyd and Katya Mendoza/AZPM, Associated Press, February 4, 2026

It's imperative that Nancy Guthrie, who was last seen Saturday night, is found soon because she could die without her medication, Pima County Sheriff Chris Nanos said.



Fronteras Desk

Arizona sheriff: There's 'a crime scene' in search for 'Today' show host Savannah Guthrie's mom

L. M. Boyd/AZPM, Associated Press, February 2, 2026

Authorities in the Tucson area are searching for the 84-year-old mother of “Today” show host Savannah Guthrie, who was reported missing over the weekend



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