



Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp

August 30, 1941 - April 18, 2022

Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp, age 81, of Inez, Ky., crossed over to her eternal home April 18, 2022.

Born August 30, 1941, in Martin County, she was the daughter of the late Sheridan and Bertha (Mills) Booth. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Orville Ray Blankenship, sister, Joyce Booth Ferris, and brother, Glen Morris Booth.

Peggy was a graduate of Warfield High School, Pikeville College, and Morehead State University. She began her career in education in 1962, teaching social studies to students at Inez High School. The following year, she transferred to Warfield High School as a teacher and then went to the new high school (currently Martin County High School) that combined both high schools in Martin County when it opened in 1972. In 1982, Peggy was hired as assistant principal and remained in that position until she retired in 1997.

Peggy not only taught the principles of good citizenship, she made efforts to know her students. She was a teacher, counselor, and disciplinarian combined who has helped many students over the years. It was not unusual for Peggy to give students money for a personal need, purchase a prom dress, or take them to her home and give them a good meal, conversation/guidance, or clothing. She inspired and encouraged students to always work hard to acquire credentials that would allow them to have a happy and prosperous

career. Many former students, who became doctors, plumbers, electricians, lawyers, teachers, etc., have expressed that Peggy believed in them and supported their dreams. Most of all, she helped them dream and, by example, how to work toward their goals.

Peggy also taught adult education over the years and helped many adults acquire their GED diplomas. Her realm of helping others is an example of Christianity in a very unselfish way. She always knew how to lead individuals to make a positive difference in their lives and surroundings.

As a founding member of the Martin County Historical Society or being on the board/membership of an existing civic group, Peggy always advocated for the betterment of Martin County via organizations such as the Rotary and Kiwanis civic groups. Peggy served as a member and, oftentimes, chairperson, of several larger community-wide boards, including the Big Sandy Health Care Board and the Big Sandy Community and Technical College. She was a 51-year member, beginning in 1971, of the Order of the Eastern Star with the Inez Chapter.

After 35 years of working in the education field, Peggy became a real estate agent with Realty One USA. She knew the community well and how to help families relocate when needed.

The heartbreaking disease of dementia began affecting her daily life approximately 14 years ago. She lost her ability to enunciate words six years ago. Peggy has had the very best possible caregiving in her home. Her most recent caregivers of several years were Brenda Jude Robertson, Lalah Woolever, Millie Reagan and Elizabeth Webb (cousin). With their excellent care, along with guidance from the Appalachian Hospice Group, she passed peacefully in her home. Her caregiving was coordinated by her sister, Karen, who followed the teachings of their mother to love and take care of each other

in conjunction with guidance from the teaching of God in Colossians 3:12 - God tells us to clothe ourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility and patience.

Peggy is survived by her husband, Landon Stepp, one son, Dr. John Stuart (Sarabeth) Blankenship, and a grandson, Jack, of Elizabethtown, Ky. Also surviving are her siblings, Don (Thelma) Booth of Warfield, Ky, Sheridan Jr. (Carol) Booth, Jim (Linda) Booth, Karen (Bill) Booth Harvey of Inez, Ky and sister-in-law Joann Booth of Warfield, KY. In addition, she leaves behind several nieces and nephews along with great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and friends.

Peggy became a Christian and was baptized by Rev. Jimmy Grayson in October of 1966. She was a dedicated member of the First Baptist Church of Inez, where she taught Sunday school classes, sang in the choir, and made many efforts and donations to the growth of the church as well as missions over the many years.

Funeral services will be held at the Callaham Funeral Home in Inez, KY at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, April 20, 2022. Pastor Dr. Garrett Mills will be conducting her services along with Pastor Dwayne Mills. Rheta Mills, who led a Dementia Support Group for three years in Inez, will present a special prayer. Burial will follow at the Riverview Memorial Gardens in Louisa, KY. Friends may visit at the funeral home on Tuesday from 5:00-9:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to Stray Hearts Animal Rescue, whose address is, PO Box 1328, Inez, KY 41224. Peggy appreciated how important animal rescue was to her sister, Karen.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Callaham Funeral Home, Inez, KY.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **19**. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Callaham Funeral Home, Inez Location
278 West Main St.
Inez, KY 41224
(606) 298-3501
kellycallaham@yahoo.com
<http://www.richmond-callaham.com>

Service

APR **20**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Callaham Funeral Home, Inez Location
278 West Main St.
Inez, KY 41224
(606) 298-3501
kellycallaham@yahoo.com
<http://www.richmond-callaham.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Cherished Memories was purchased for the family of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp.*



April 19, 2022 at 04:37 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp.*



April 19, 2022 at 03:59 PM



“ *What a beautiful role model Miss Booth was, as she was called at Warfield High School. I graduated in 1968 and I never forgot her. She was the perfect southern lady. She showed us what we could be, educated and refined. I am so glad to have known her. With love and respect to a life well lived!*

Dianna Ross - April 19, 2022 at 02:29 PM



I love her she was so good to me when I was in high school.

Janet combs - November 14, 2024 at 12:53 PM

PW

“ *Polly Ward lit a candle in memory of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp*



Polly Ward - April 19, 2022 at 11:09 AM

PW

Peggy was a wonderful friend, teacher and mentor. We, of Stray Hearts Animal Rescue, are honored that in lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to our organization.

Polly Ward - April 19, 2022 at 11:15 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp.*



April 19, 2022 at 10:28 AM

EC

“ On behalf of the Martin County Historical Society members, to Peggy’s son, husband, all her family and friends, please except our condolences.



Peggy was a very active member of this organization (MCHGS) before she got too sick to continue with her activities.

She was faithful to attend our meetings and take part in all our events.

She was a Charter Member, a volunteer, and supporter.

This illness has taken a lot from her, but Not her friends, Not her legacy as an educator, community volunteer, and Not her friends.

I like to think she and her friend, Amy Allen are putting together an (HHO)

a Heavenly Hallelujah Organization, praising our Lord. 🙏

Organizing is one of the things they were good at. Let’s plan to join this club later.

Several Gideon Bibles will be purchased in Memory of Peggy B. Stepp.

Evelynn Cassady - April 19, 2022 at 10:03 AM

RW

“ Raymond and Carole Wells purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp.



Raymond and Carole Wells - April 19, 2022 at 09:35 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp.



April 19, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp.



April 19, 2022 at 08:07 AM



“ *Judy Simmons lit a candle in memory of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp*



Judy Simmons - April 19, 2022 at 07:39 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp.



April 18, 2022 at 08:39 PM

SS

“ Sue Sword lit a candle in memory of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp



Sue Sword - April 18, 2022 at 08:36 PM

HC

“ Hazel & Letitia Campbell sent a virtual gift in memory of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp



Hazel & Letitia Campbell - April 18, 2022 at 06:49 PM

HJ

“ I'm sorry to hear about Peggy. I have fond memories of her. She was a lovely lady and dedicated her life to help others. My heartfelt condolences to the family. You are in my thoughts and prayers.



Henry Vinson

Henry Vinson, JD - April 18, 2022 at 05:57 PM

RC

“ Sending Love and Prayer to the family.....So sorry for your loss Uncle Don....prayers that God will comfort your family.



Richard C - April 18, 2022 at 05:45 PM

SJ

“ *Sharlene Jude lit a candle in memory of Peggy Booth Blankenship Stepp*



Sharlene Jude - April 18, 2022 at 05:23 PM

JK

Peggy, a Dear Friend of Loyce and me, was a lady of class, a lady born into a very good family, a family that I knew very well. Loyce and I were teachers at Warfield High School for 2 years, a time when Peggy was a teacher there, a teacher that others admired and respected. Later, after Loyce and I moved to Cold Water, Peggy and Orville were our neighbors and close friends. It was during our days at Coldwater that their son, John Stuart, was born, who is now a very good doctor, a doctor who fixed and repaired our daughter, Kim's, hip 3 years ago. Several years ago, Peggy became a widow following the death of Orville. Several years after Orville's death, Peggy married Landon Stepp, another friend of mine and another very good person, a person I have liked and respected since my days at Warfield. Loyce and I wish to share our condolences with John Stuart, Landon, her brothers, Don, Jim and Sheridan, Jr., and Karen, her sister. May God Bless this dear family.

John Kirk

John Kirk - April 18, 2022 at 08:46 PM