



Judy Bennett Griffith

August 14, 1945 - May 29, 2024

Judith Bennett Griffith passed away on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, surrounded by her children. She was born on August 14, 1945, in Newnan, Georgia, to the late Leonard Albert "LAB" and Flaudye Kelley Bennett.

After graduating from Newnan High School, she attended West Georgia College and earned her Masters in Education. During her life, she owned a health food store, an early childhood learning center, and a plant nursery. She taught in schools in Carrollton, Newnan, and Atlanta, including Yeshiva, where she served as coach, educator, and Vice Principal. Ultimately, she settled at The Heritage School where she filled many roles: parent, educator, mentor, coach, Board Member, Athletic Director, Upper School Head and then, as Head of School for ten years until her retirement in December 2012. Concurrently, she chaired several standardization / accreditation teams and served as President of the Georgia Independent School Association.

After retirement, she moved to California and continued to follow her passion for service as a member of Women Helping Youth, a giving circle that provided grants to organizations serving under-resourced youth throughout Los Angeles. She was incredibly proud of her work on the screening committee, reviewing applications and selecting deserving recipients.

Judy was well-known for all of her accomplishments, her leadership, and her

quick wit. She was a mentor to so many, valued for her wise counsel and friendship. Beyond her professional achievements, she viewed her greatest legacy as her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

She loved gardening and found beauty in nature. She enjoyed being in the pool, or at the beach. She was an avid, if not superstitious, sports fan and reveled in cheering on her favorite teams. She was a member of several book clubs, but loved her detective mysteries and history textbooks most of all.

Judy was humorous, generous, and loving. She was humble, yet influential. Her loss will be deeply felt by her loved ones.

The memorial service is Sunday, June 2, 2014, at 2:00 PM at Central Baptist Church, with Dr. Joel Richardson officiating. Following the service, the family will receive friends at The Heritage School Student Center, 2093 US 29, Newnan, GA 30263. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Women Helping Youth at <https://www.womenhelpingyouth.org/>

Judy is survived by her children Mary Trenton Griffies (Brian), Justin Griffith (Jessica), and Anna Dunn (John Michael); grandchildren Philip Griffies (Sunni), Julianna, Patrick, Rosemary, and Kate Griffies, Abigail and Will Griffith, John Kelley and Claire Dunn; great-grandsons Jax and Bennett Griffies; partner Amy Bernstein and daughter Eliana; sister Elinor Bennett Cawthorne, and several nephews.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUN 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

Central Baptist Church
14 West Broad St./P.O. Box 1221
Newnan, GA 30264

Visitation

JUN 2. 2:45 PM (ET)

The Heritage School
2093 Highway North
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Judy Bennett Griffith*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - June 03, 2024 at 05:27 PM

TC

“ *Dearest Anna and Judy's family. I am shocked and so saddened by Judy's passing. My daughter Katie Lloyd was privileged to attend The Heritage school and to play basketball for Judy and coach Dupree for four years. Judy was so much more than Coach-mentor, leader, role model and mom. She enriched all our lives and I am terribly sorry for your loss. Much love, Tammy Clabby.*

tammy clabby - June 03, 2024 at 06:50 PM

JS

“ *Judy was such an awesome person. She treated us like her own! I spent many days and nights at her house. She made sure we were fed, safe and always had a place to go to if we weren't going home! I'll miss her and pray for comfort for Justin, Trent and Anna. You guys were a second family to a lot of us growing up and your mom will never be forgotten.*

Jason Shelnutt - June 02, 2024 at 11:17 AM

KN

“ I graduated from Newnan High School with Judy, and it was a treat to sit with her at our class reunion last year as we shared memories. She certainly lived a busy life filled with a variety of accomplishments! I will always remember her quick wit and sweet smile. May your many precious memories of her bring you peace and comfort in the days ahead. Kay Kitchens Newman

Kay Kitchens Newman - June 01, 2024 at 08:47 AM

PB

To Judy and to she and Byron's children. and grandchildren. What a send off today .Shows how this community comes together. So proud to be part of it. Here's to you Judy Griffith. God rest your soul. Pat Burns

Pat Burns - June 02, 2024 at 08:11 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Judy Bennett Griffith.



May 31, 2024 at 08:08 PM

YY

“ Your Westhill Family we love you purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Judy Bennett Griffith.



Your Westhill Family we love you - May 31, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Judy Bennett Griffith.*



May 31, 2024 at 12:22 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Judy's passing. May she rest in eternal peace.*



Geraldine Welch - May 31, 2024 at 10:32 AM



“ *Judy, Tom Jones and I were the only three babies born at the Newnan Hospital on August 14, 1945 VJ Day.. my Mother said church bells were ringing all over Newnan.. we always thought they were to announce our arrivals 😊 We all went on to graduate from Newnan High School together. I always called Judy “ My nursery mate” and was ever so proud of all her accomplishments! She will be sorely missed by many. Just praying wonderful memories will be a comfort 🙏😭*

Dianne Cleveland - May 31, 2024 at 09:32 AM



“ *One of the best colleagues I ever had the pleasure of working with. No nonsense with her but all of Judy's efforts exuded the interest and affection she had for each and every student, parent, and members of the Heritage faculty and staff. Of all the good memories I have of Judy the one that stands out most to me is that wry smile she always flashed at the perfect time. Mary Alice and my condolences to the family for her loss. But comforted with the knowledge that the good memories of time spent with her will always persist.*

Dennis Brown - May 31, 2024 at 07:36 AM

PS

Judy's extraordinary intellect, keen wisdom, kind compassion and brave leadership provided the strength to make a difference in every school and community she served.

Her greatest accomplishment were her three children. She loved Trent, Justin, and Anna and all her grandchildren and great grandchildren beyond measure. She always shared stories with great pride and joy about her family.

Judy will watch over her family always.

Paula Smith

PAULA SMITH - June 01, 2024 at 10:53 AM

BB

With gratitude and respect for a life well lived---Cheers to you, Judy!

Binka Bone - June 02, 2024 at 09:32 AM

MG

“ *Much love, The Groovers purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Judy Bennett Griffith.*



Much love, The Groovers - May 30, 2024 at 06:34 PM