

# OBITUARIES



## BENNY RAY BRYANT



Benny Ray Bryant, 88, of Radcliff, KY, died Saturday, April 9, 2022 at Baptist Health Hardin.

He was a retired SGM in the US Army, and a veteran of Vietnam. Benny had a great love for his family.

He enjoys fishing and a fan of all sports.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Annemarie Bryant; a son, Rudy Bryant and a granddaughter, Tiffany Bryant.

He is survived by his three grandchildren, Millicent (Ray) Thomas of Brandenburg, KY, Melissa (Mike) McGehee of Greenville, IN and Jesse Bryant of Cecilia, KY; ten great grandchildren; seven great-great grandchildren and a niece, Lois (Shan) Holland.

The memorial service will be held at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at Nelson-Edelen-Bennett Funeral Home in Radcliff, KY. Burial will follow in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central in Radcliff.

Visitation will be on Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be expressed online at [www.nebfh.com](http://www.nebfh.com).



## HUGH WAYNE CROSS



Hugh Wayne Cross, 74, of Radcliff, KY, went to be with his Heavenly Father on Sunday, April 17, 2022.

He was born on December 20, 1947, in Albany, KY. He was the son of Arnold O. Cross and Margie Helen Cross who preceded him in death.

Hugh Served in the US Army from 1968-1970. He had one tour in Vietnam where he received the Army Accommodation Medal for Valor and the Oak Leaf Cluster. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign War, Camp Knox Masonic Lodge 919, and the Gideon's International where he distributed many testaments during his trips to Brown Cancer Center. One of the proudest things of his life was being elected Senior Class President of Meade County High School Class of 1966. He continued to organize a reunion every five years. He loved his classmates.

He was a devoted member of Stovall United Methodist Church. He travelled to Puerto Rico on a mission trip with fellow United Methodists that brought him much joy.

He is survived by Susan Davis Cross, his wife of fifty years, the love of his life. He is also survived by two daughters, Carrie Elizabeth Martin of Vine Grove, KY and Jocelyn Kay Bulla (Jonathan) of Cary, NC; a granddaughter, Claire Evelyn Martin of Vine Grove, KY; and two grandsons, Henry Hugh Bulla and Alec Andrew Bulla of Cary, NC, in addition, he is survived by aunts, uncles, and many cousins from both the Cross and Graham families. He loved his whole family with his whole heart.

The funeral service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, April 25, 2022 at Nelson-Edelen-Bennett Funeral Home in Radcliff, KY with Pastor Patricia Smith officiating. Burial will follow in North Hardin Memorial Gardens in Radcliff with military honors.

Visitation will be on Monday from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers expression of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Stovall United Methodist Church or Gideons International (Oter Creek Camp).

Condolences may be expressed online at [www.nebfh.com](http://www.nebfh.com).

## JOHN MICHAEL JAMES



John Michael James of Wolf Creek, Ky passed away Monday February 28, 2022 at his residence in Greenville, AL.

John was born May 27, 1960 in Louisville to the late Michael R. James of Wolf Creek and Mary L. Wilson of Louisville.

Preceded in his death are his grandparents, Ulan Forrest and Nola Fern Lehman James.

John is survived by his son: John Michael (Laura) James II of Mayfield, three grandchildren: Taylor Bell James, Jaclyn Grace James and Sutton Foster James, brothers: Doug (Vickie) James and Paul (Lisa) James, sister Cindy (Carl) Knasel.

There will be a graveside memorial service Sunday April 24, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. EST at Parr-Frans Cemetery, Wolf Creek.

Expressions of sympathy may be made online at [www.dunklinfh.com/obituaries](http://www.dunklinfh.com/obituaries).

## MARY LEONA PIKE



On Thursday, April 14, 2022, Mary Leona Pike, née Petrey, loving wife and mother of 2 children, passed away at the age of 76.

Mary was born on November 10, 1945 to Johnnie and Leona Petrey in Louisville, Kentucky. She graduated from Valley High School in 1964 and attended Nursing School at St. Joseph Infirmary School of Nursing, graduating as an RN in 1966. She started her nursing career at Hardin Memorial Hospital in Elizabethtown, Ky, and then worked as an Intensive Care Nurse at Ireland Army Hospital at Fort Knox. In 1982 she continued her career as a school nurse with the Fort Knox Army School System, retiring in 2003. Mary's nurturing and caring nature made nursing the perfect career choice for her, and it carried over in every aspect of her life.

Mary was a creative, talented crafter with projects including Santas, doll houses, and her most recent love of making gnomes. Mary also enjoyed decorating her house for holidays and cooking big meals for her family. She was a member of The Daughters of the American Revolution and the Meade County Homemakers. In 1999, Mary received the distinct honor of being commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel.

Mary was well known for her love of genealogy, and she loved preparing lengthy, detailed genealogy charts for anyone who asked. This passion extended to her involvement with the St. Martin of Tours Archives and the preservation of the St. Martin of Tours Cemetery.

Mary leaves behind Albert Pike, her loving husband of 55 years as well as her children Amy Crebessa (Steve) and Dennis Pike (Marsha); 5 grandchildren-Ashley, Amber, Rachel, Mary Lynn and Michael; and 4 great-grandchildren-Mason, Riley, Ruby and Leo. She is also survived by her stepmother, Fran Petrey; 2 brothers, Sonny (Dee) Petrey and Mike (Laura) Petrey, a step-sister, Rochelle (John) Deering-Engel and a step-brother, Ted (Carolyn) Hart as well as many nieces and nephews.

For all of those she loved and touched deeply, please join us for visitation at Chism Funeral Home in Vine Grove on Wednesday, April 20 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM (Vigil at 7:00), and Thursday, April 21 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church in Flaherty on Thursday, April 21, at 11:00 AM with Fr. Jeff Hopper officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made in Mary's name to the St. Martin's Cemetery Fund.

Condolences can be expressed online at [www.chismfamilyfunerals.com](http://www.chismfamilyfunerals.com)

## ROY L. FARROW



Roy L. Farrow, age 77, of Ekron, passed away Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Roy was born March 1, 1945 in Vine Grove to the late Carl and California Hicks Farrow. His three sisters: Charlotte Ball, Laverne Allen, and Betty Phillips and two brothers, Russell and Joseph Farrow also preceded him in death.

Roy retired as an accountant from Rohm & Haas after 38 years of service. He was a beloved husband, father, and papaw. He was an avid outdoorsman and gardener and loved his fur babies, Misty and Bella, dearly. Roy had a brilliant mind until he was stricken with Alzheimer's.

He is survived by his loving wife of 34 years, Carol S. Farrow of Ekron; children, Christopher (Stacy) McElroy of Ekron and Scott (Abby) Johnson of Radcliff, KY; sister, Julia (Joseph) Nix of Louisville, KY; brother, Robert Farrow of Elizabethtown, KY; and six grandchildren: Allie, Addie, Cameron, Carly, Christian, and Bennett.

Cremation has been chosen per Roy's wishes and a private service will be held at a later date. Bruington-Jenkins-Sturgeon Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Kentucky and Southern Indiana Chapter – Kaden Tower, 6100 Dutchmans Lane Suite 401, Louisville, KY 40205-3284.

Online condolences may be made at [www.bjsfunerals.com](http://www.bjsfunerals.com).

## ESTHER SIMPSON GERKINS



Esther Simpson Gerkins, age 95 of Brandenburg, went to be with her Heavenly Father on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at Baptist Hospital East in Louisville.

She was born on March 16, 1927 in Ekron, daughter of the late Martha Arminda French Simpson and Guy Anderson Simpson. Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband of 59 ½ years, Norman Travers Gerkins; infant daughter, Lana Gail Gerkins; infant grandsons, John Travers and Michael Kevin Thompson; sisters, Kathleen Allen, Susie Lita Simpson, Mary Salome Simpson, Doris McGaughey, Juanita Stith; brother, G.A. Simpson; and son-in-law, Carl Heck.

Esther was a member of Hill Grove Baptist Church for 82 years. She spent the majority of her life as a homemaker; she loved taking care of not only her children but the children entrusted to her throughout the years by many people who knew her. She spent many years working in the nursery and teaching bible school at her church and in her later years, she enjoyed the caregiver's children when they brought them to visit at All About Home Assisted Living. She was a wonderful cook; she shared the gospel with everyone she met; loved flowers; and never met a stranger. She befriended everyone she met; she always helped others in any way she could; she provided food for the ill and bereaved and cooked many church dinners. She was many things to many people and will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her four daughters; Norma Darlene (Art) Dash of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Sharon Diane (Rodney) Zeller of Louisville, Monica Arminda (Dana Stephens) Thompson of Cox's Creek, KY, and Kathy Annette (Robert) Veith of Brandenburg; sister, Minnie Rose Harrington of Louisville; 7 grandchildren, Samantha Dash, Summer (Richard Lewis) Thompson, Lori (Darrell) Bradley, Allison Dash, Kristi Allen, Celia Stephens, and Miles Stephens; and 8 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held at the Bruington-Jenkins-Sturgeon Funeral Home, Saturday, April 16, 2022 from 1:00pm-8:00pm and Sunday, April 17, 2022 from 1-3:00pm.

The funeral service was held Sunday, April 17, 2022 at 4:00 P.M. from the Hill Grove Baptist Church, with Dr. Dan Francis and Rev. Ken Wiloughbey officiating. Burial will follow in Buck Grove Cemetery.

The family would like to add a special thank you to All About Home Assisted Living and the staff for the excellent care, and making the last 5 years, the best they could be.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to: Hill Grove Baptist Church, 55 Ammons Lane, Guston, KY 40142.

Online condolences may be made at [www.bjsfunerals.com](http://www.bjsfunerals.com)

# Greeter

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Izzy Frazier

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NOTICE

The Meade County Messenger will print a picture of your loved one in the obituary column. We need to receive the picture by noon Monday of the week the obituary is in the paper.