



## Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin

September 27, 1948 - July 2, 2020

Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin, age 71, of Dublin, Ohio passed away at home unexpectedly on July 2nd, 2020. Cathy retired from Columbus Public Schools after proudly serving forty-five years as a teacher. Preceded in death by parents Anthony and Gloria Raphael, and brother Anthony Raphael II. Survived by her loving husband of 49 years, Donald, daughter Elizabeth and son Michael (Chevy Lynn), she was known to her beloved grandchildren, Gloria Rose and Marigold Lynn, as "Sithie." Also survived by sister Mary Martha "Mimi" Stewart (Van), sister-in-law Carol Raphael, Aunt Helen Sarky, Uncle Bill Rushay (Marlene) as well as cherished nephews and nieces: Todd (Madonna), Matthew (Betsy), Anthony III, Alexandra, Mara, Matthew, Alena, Cedric, Lyla and additional dearly loved cousins and dear friends. Cathy was a graduate of St. Francis DeSales High School in Columbus and received her BA in Education from The Ohio State University. She was a member of St. Brigid of Kildare Catholic Church, Columbus Education Association, the Columbus Symphony League, the Franklin Alternative Middle School Crew and "The B's".

Cathy couldn't go anywhere around town without running into a former student whose name she would easily recall no matter how much time had passed. After retiring from Whetstone High School, she would substitute there three to four times a week. To say she loved teaching children would be an understatement. She spent many a prom season supporting girls with dresses

and makeup.

Caring for her family was at the core of her being. She loved taking her brother's children, Anthony and Alexandra, on adventures when they were growing up. But Cathy really hit her stride once her son, Michael, and daughter-in-law, Chevy, gave her grandbabies. Gloria and Marigold loved and insisted on coming over to Sithie's house multiple times a week to eat, bake, blow bubbles, eat again, shop online, hit the online slot machine button (to experience the action) and eat some more.

Known for her world-famous iced sugar cookies, Cathy was a terrific cook all around, but what we loved most about our Cathy/Momma/Sithie/Aunt Cathy was her kindness, calm head, devotion and most of all her generosity.

When all is said and done, Cathy led her life to the fullest, whether traveling the high seas on the QM2 with her beloved husband, teaching or spending time with her family.

#### CALLING HOURS:

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell,  
450 West Olentangy Street, Powell, Ohio

Tuesday, July 7th:

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Due to social distancing recommendations, and because only 30 people will be allowed in the parlor at one time, we ask that you pay your respects to Cathy's family in the following manner:

1:00 – 2:00 pm or 8:00 – 9:00 pm: Last Names Beginning A-H

2:00 – 3:00 pm or 7:00 – 8:00 pm: Last Names Beginning I-M

3:00 – 4:00 pm or 6:00 – 7:00 pm: Last Names Beginning N-Z

Cathy will be laid to rest at Resurrection Cemetery, 9571 North High Street, Lewis Center, Ohio 43035 in a private ceremony with family and close friends on Wednesday, July 8th at 11:00 am.

A memorial mass celebrating Cathy's life will be held at St. Brigid of Kildare at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you support Cathy's legacy with a donation/contribution in her name to Children's Hunger Alliance [www.childrenshungeralliance.org](http://www.childrenshungeralliance.org).

# Cemetery Details

## Resurrection Cemetery

9571 North High Street  
Lewis Center, OH 43035

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 7. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell  
450 West Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065  
(614) 792-1471  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

## Visitation

JUL 7. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell  
450 West Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065  
(614) 792-1471  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin



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**Rutherford Funeral Homes** - July 06, 2020 at 04:20 PM

SS

*Mrs. Griffin and I didn't always see eye to eye, but looking back I am so grateful to have had her as a teacher. She challenged me to ask questions and to think on my own. You are all in my thoughts and prayers, know she will be missed.*

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**Stephanie Sapp** - July 07, 2020 at 10:56 AM

EG

*Thank you so much, Stephanie. Even as her daughter we didnt see eye to eye all the time, but you are spot on, she always challenged me to think on my own and question things-- i think that is why she was a good teacher and mother.*

*I appreciate your thoughts, Stephanie. All my best, Beth Griffin, Cathy's daughter.*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:12 PM

MD

“ The Whetsone group of retired teachers were meeting for our monthly lunch date and I thought of Cathy. Whetstone teachers were a tight knit group and Cathy was such an important part of our group. I think of her often.

*Marvella Dade*

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**Marvella Dade** - December 02, 2023 at 08:30 AM



“ Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ It is difficult to put into words how special Cathy was to me. When I think of Cathy, so many adjectives come to my mind: beautiful, caring, compassionate, genuine, intelligent, kind, patient, and unselfish. She was an angel, who was always willing to talk with you, share a hug, and many times, just listen. I enjoyed the conversations I had with Cathy when she would sub at Whetstone, and I will miss seeing her, as well as talking with her.

One of the times Cathy subbed for me, I had to take my youngest son to the ENT to get an ear tube removed. Evan was a little nervous about this procedure. I had told Cathy why I would be out for the day, and she said she wanted to get something for Evan. I told her that wasn't necessary, but she insisted. When I returned the next day, I found a beautifully wrapped Lego on my desk, and a card for Evan. I just couldn't believe that someone would do that, and yet, Cathy did. She was one of a kind, and she truly made a difference in this world. To know her was to love her, and I am blessed to have known Cathy. She really was an angel on Earth, and now, she is an angel in heaven.

My sincerest condolences to Cathy's family. I pray that the Lord will give you peace, and surround you with His love, knowing that she is in a better place.

Tanya Toland - July 20, 2020 at 10:23 PM

JR

“ *What a shock and tragedy to lose Cathy. Teaching social studies with her for so many years at Franklin was just wonderful. Her vibrant personality combined with the highest level of creativity and talent made her an excellent teacher. She always listened to her students and responded with care and concern. We planned many school functions together - including many History Days. Great memories.*

*Seeing her just a month ago at lunch makes this sudden news so shocking because she was the same friendly, witty and beautiful Cathy. She will be missed by us all.*

*Jim Reinker*

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**Jim Reinker** - July 10, 2020 at 04:48 PM

EG

*Jim, thank you for these beautiful words and for your card. I would love to stay in touch with you. If you wouldn't mind, could share your information with me? I can be reached at [bethgriffin99@gmail.com](mailto:bethgriffin99@gmail.com). All my best, Beth Griffin, Cathy's daughter.*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:14 PM

VD

“ *Our heartfelt sympathy to the Griffin family. Cathy was definitely one of the nicest people you could ever meet. She will be greatly missed.*

*Vickie Delfino and Bob Belli*

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**Vickie Delfino** - July 07, 2020 at 05:34 PM

EG

*Vickie & Bob,  
Thank you for the kind words, we are so appreciative. I'd love to keep in touch with you for the memorial service that will (hopefully) happen next year. Please keep in touch at bethgriffin99@gmail.com*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:16 PM

MO

*“ I am so saddened to hear of Cathy's sudden passing. I send my truly heartfelt condolences to the entire Griffin family. I taught with Cathy at Franklin Alternative in the late 70's to late 80's. She was the most caring individual and loved her students dearly. A few years ago, I ran into Cathy and we shared Sithie and Nana stories, our greatest joy!!!!  
May God bless her and keep her and His face shine upon her.*

*Mary O'Rourke*

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**mary o'rourke** - July 06, 2020 at 07:07 PM

EG

*Mary, we are heartbroken but we take solace that she passed quickly and mercifully in her sleep. God took care of her and us in that regard. Being a Sithie was her most prized role after raising Mike and I-- I wish you many beautiful years with your grandbabies, Nana! Please stay in touch-- my email is bethgriffin99@gmail.com. All my best, Beth Griffin*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:19 PM

JA

*“ Jada sent a virtual gift in memory of Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin*



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**jada** - July 06, 2020 at 05:38 PM

EG

*Thank you Jada! All my best, Beth Griffin, Cathy's daughter*

**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:19 PM

AF

“ *To the family; as a Social Studies teacher at Whetstone, I cannot put in to words how much she will be missed, or the impact that she had on everyone she came into contact with. Mrs. Griffin was admired and loved by everyone in the building, especially the students. I did not get to work with her while she was still a full-time teacher, but the stories I've heard and how I've been able to see her in the classroom - she's the type of teacher that all educators should aspire to be.*

*The best part is - she's an even better person. She was always there for me whether I needed to vent, her opinion on delivering a lesson or literally anything else. If she wasn't able to sub for one of us the last several years, it was because she had already committed to someone else in the building. I will always enjoy and cherish her political / social studies talks we had, and hope to do right by her as an educator. I know that her most favorite time of the year was when she had all the family - the grandkids especially - over for a big meal. It was great to see her smile and laugh as she talked about her love of family, especially during the holiday seasons.*

*Thank you for sharing her with us, and will always appreciate the time we were able to have with her. Heaven gained another angel way too soon.*

**Austin Ford** - July 06, 2020 at 05:31 PM

EG

*Austin, I cant tell you how much these words mean to us as a family. Holidays will never be the same without her, but she would be so mad if we didnt carry on and do right by her-- and so we will! Please stay in touch-- bethgriffin99@gmail.com*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:21 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin.*



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July 06, 2020 at 03:35 PM

PD

“ My wife Linda and I have known Cathy and her family since around the time we were both 12 to 13 years old. I first met Cathy when we were students together in the 5th or 6th grades at Saint Matthias catholic grade school. We continued our friendship through our High School days at Saint Francis DeSales.

Entering high school and prior to knowing Linda, my family moved from Elmore Avenue (one street over) to Norris Drive in Columbus. I did not realize at the time that Cathy and her family were our neighbors and Cathy's sister Mary Martha was a very close friend of Linda's

Through the many years since high school, we continued to keep in touch with one another, celebrating our anniversaries, birthdays, and holidays.

We were truly shock and we are very much saddened by Cathy's sudden passing.

The Raphael's are a very compassionate, caring, and loving family. We know that these virtues are what will get everyone through these heartbreaking times.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Raphael family. Linda and I wish to express our sincere condolences and wish to help in any way we can.

*Phil and Linda Delbert*

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**Philip Delbert** - July 06, 2020 at 11:18 AM

EG

*Phil, we love you and Linda dearly, as did Mom. Thank you for the support and the memories as one of my parents closest friends. We will miss her everyday, being with us to tell stories and share memories is the best thing we could ask for, and I look forward to it. XOXO, Beth*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:24 PM

RN

*Oh Cathy! How can we ever forget your warm laughter and great conversations on your back porch or ours. You were the most kindest, genteel and thoughtful lady we ever had has a SUPER neighbor. You will be sadly missed.*

*Jan and Roberta*

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**roberta nowak** - July 14, 2020 at 04:33 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin.*



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July 06, 2020 at 08:46 AM

KM

“ *Cathy was a special cousin. It no doubt began with those family connections. Her mother Gloria (Rushay) was from my hometown of Zanesville and was close friends with my sisters and relatives there. Cathy’s grandfather, Forest Rushay, was one of my Dad’s best friends. Her grandmother, Catherine Raphael, and my grandmother, Rose Michael, were sisters and best friends. I think all of this influenced a lifelong feeling of closeness. Even if we didn’t see or talk with each other for months or years, when we did, it was like no time had passed. The last time I saw her, we had lunch together about two years ago. It was so great catching up. I most remember how effusive and proud she was when speaking not only of her precious grandgirls, but of her dear husband Don, and of Beth and Michael. She was so animated. About three years ago, I got a large manilla envelope in the mail. It was from Cathy, sharing photos of my grandmother, parents and sister that she found when going through her old family photos. These photos were precious to me as she knew they would be. That’s who she was. Always kind, always thinking of others. I am forever grateful for her life and friendship. Deepest condolences and love to Don, Beth & Michael.*

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**Karen Michael** - July 05, 2020 at 05:59 PM

EG

*Karen, you and your family are beloved by the Raphaels and the Griffins. Thank you for these beautiful words. I miss her so much. XOXO, Beth*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin.



July 05, 2020 at 11:08 AM



“ Don, Beth, Michael, and family,

*News of Cathy's passing has come to our attention here in Arizona. Words can not express our heartfelt sadness. Besides all of her students and family expressions of this amazing lady I would also add what a gracious and kind neighbor she was to all of us on Morris Dr. she will be remembered fondly. God's Blessings to all of you.*

*Skip and Linda Murray*

Skip Murray - July 05, 2020 at 10:51 AM



*Skip and Linda- we love and miss you, neighbors! Thank you for the beautiful words. All our best, Beth*

Elizabeth Griffin - July 14, 2020 at 03:29 PM



“ *I was very fortunate to have Mrs. Griffin as a substitute many times while I attended Whetstone. She was a very sweet lady and it was clear she cared very much for her students, and I hope she knew how fond we were of her. She will be sorely missed.*


Sam Kalyn - July 04, 2020 at 09:42 PM

EG

*Sam, I love hearing this. She LOVED teaching and subbing. Thank you for the kind words and for taking the time to express them to us. All my best, Beth*

Elizabeth Griffin - July 14, 2020 at 03:30 PM

CH

“ *I'd like to send my heartfelt condolences to Cathy's family during this difficult time. Although I never knew Cathy personally, I heard beautiful stories of a family overflowing with love, passion, generosity and support from her daughter, Beth. I'm certain that Cathy was at the heart of it all! And reading the many memories shared here give me another glimpse of the amazing women she was! All my love and hugs to you especially, Beth* 


Cindy Hulse - July 04, 2020 at 04:15 PM

EG

*Cindy, thank you my friend. My Momma was the heart and soul of all of our lives. We miss her so much. I'm so grateful for you. XOXO*

Elizabeth Griffin - July 14, 2020 at 03:32 PM

VW

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Mrs. Griffin's family. She was an amazing educator with a great sense of humor. I'm so sorry for your loss.* 

Valine Williams - July 04, 2020 at 03:21 PM

EG

*Valine, thank you so much for the kind words and for taking the time to express them to us. We are grateful. All my best, Beth*

Elizabeth Griffin - July 14, 2020 at 03:33 PM

KH

“ My thoughts are with her family during this hard time. Mrs. Griffin was one of the many teachers that encouraged and challenged me to think beyond myself. There were many times we debated and despite our agreement/disagreement on any topic, she was challenged me to be better and authentic. She is definitely a teacher I will never forget.

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**Kari Hansen** - July 04, 2020 at 12:49 PM

EG

*Kari, I love hearing this-- thank you so much for these beautiful sentiments. Thank you for taking the time to tell us. All our best, Beth Griffin, Mrs. Griffin's daughter*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:34 PM

JG

“ Cathy was unquestionably one of the nicest people I have ever known. Growing up with her on Norris Drive and going to DeSales with her created some of the fondest memories of my childhood and teenage years. This is clearly everybody's loss.

*Jim Grueff*

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**Jim Grueff** - July 04, 2020 at 12:08 PM

MS

*Jim, we are deeply touched by your kind words and fondest memories. We truly all bonded together and became lifelong friends growing up on Norris Drive. Cathy would tell me funny stories babysitting your brothers and the talks she would have with you on various topics. I'd say we all turned out pretty good. I will miss my best friend and Beloved sister Cathy. Thank you also for reaching out by phone. Lovingly, Mimi*

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**Marty Stewart** - July 04, 2020 at 10:24 PM

LZ

*I was a part of the Norris Drive brigade as well, and a close friend of Cathy's for life. I miss her more than I can say.  
With love, Linda (Troiano) Zeigler*

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**Linda (Troiano) Zeigler** - July 05, 2020 at 06:25 PM

EG

*Thank you Jim for your beautiful words about my Momma. We are heartbroken and will miss her more than words can express. Seeing these tributes makes my heart smile. Thank you, Beth Griffin*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:37 PM

MD

“*To the family, I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers. Cathy was such a wonderful teacher, colleague, and friend. I worked with her a number of years at Whetstone. She cared deeply for her students. Cathy was very compassionate and touched many lives at Whetstone. She definitely touched mine. I have so many wonderful memories of her laughing and smiling.*

*Marvella Dade*

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**Marvella Dade** - July 04, 2020 at 11:38 AM

EG

*Marvella, your words mean so much to us. Thank you for taking the time to express them. We are deeply grateful. All my best to you, Beth Griffin, Cathy's daughter.*

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:42 PM

SC

“ Mrs. Griffin was a beloved teacher, not only to me but to so many others. I took her journalism class when I was a sophomore at Whetstone High School. She always encouraged me with my writing, and pushed me to get the story for Moccasin Tracks, the high school newspaper. I even wrote an article about her retirement from teaching at the end of that year. I called her “The Chief” and she called me her “Ace Reporter” during my time in her class. She stoked and encouraged my interest in journalism and is part of the reason why I went to college for it. She will be very much missed by all who knew her. Thank you for everything Chief.

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**Seth Crowell** - July 04, 2020 at 11:21 AM

EG

Seth, I wish I would have known that you called her "The Chief"-- that is awesome!!! LOL!!! She was, and will always be THE CHIEF!!! I am sure she is so proud of you. If you have that article, I'd love to see it. Please keep in touch, I'd like to hear more about what you are doing. My email is [bethgriffin99@gmail.com](mailto:bethgriffin99@gmail.com)

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**Elizabeth Griffin** - July 14, 2020 at 03:41 PM

JS

“ I’m going to miss you dearly Mrs. Griffin! You and I had great conversations together. You gave me great insights! I’m glad I had moments with you, during high school. You are a wonderful person  
❤️ This is so surreal!

*I’m going to miss you and I love you Mrs. Griffin.*

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**Jazmine Smith** - July 04, 2020 at 11:04 AM

BG

*Jazmine, we are so touched by your words. Hearing from her students who loved her makes all of this a little easier. She would be so proud. Please carry on with faith, hope and love to honor her memory. Thank you. XOXO, Beth Griffin, Cathy's daughter*

beth griffin - July 04, 2020 at 11:14 AM

RC

“ *Sorry for your loss. I taught with Cathy at Franklin Alt. back in the nineties. A great time for all. Robert Coleman*

Robert Coleman - July 04, 2020 at 09:43 AM

BG

*Thank you, Robert. We are heartbroken but my Momma taught us by example, we will be strong and carry on for her and in honor of her legacy. XOXO, Beth Griffin, Cathy's daughter*

beth griffin - July 04, 2020 at 11:10 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin.*



July 04, 2020 at 08:40 AM

JS

“ *Marty, I am so sorry to hear of your sister's passing. Please accept our condolences. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Dave and Jeannie (Mayhew) Schneider*

j Schneider - July 04, 2020 at 08:08 AM

MS

*Jeannie, I am deeply touched by your thoughtfulness and prayers. Thank you for thinking of my Sister and my Family at this time. Lovingly, Marty*

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**Marty Stewart** - July 04, 2020 at 10:01 PM

CW

“*I am going to miss you so very much. You're an amazing woman Mrs. Griffin. I loved you, you were the best teacher. This is so unreal and I'm beyond speechless. I wish I could take your place. God takes the good ones way too soon. I miss you very much 😞. I hope you're loving heaven. ❤️*

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**Cincera Ward** - July 03, 2020 at 11:51 PM

BG

*Cincera, your words are beautiful and we feel your loss from the deepest part of our souls. Mrs. Griffin would never want you to take her place, she lived a beautiful life and had the honor of teaching people like you— besides her family, teaching was her greatest joy. She would want you to stay focused, and move yourself forward with faith, hope and love.*

*Thank you from the depths of my heart for remembering her so beautifully. XOXO, Beth Griffin*

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**beth griffin** - July 04, 2020 at 03:04 AM

TA

“*Cathy was an angel on earth for my family! When my husband Kevin became terminally ill she not only became his substitute for his classroom, but a continuous visitor to Kevin, our kids and I. I am certain Kevin has welcomed Cathy with a hug and many stories of Whetstone students! My deepest condolences to you all! May perpetual light shine upon her!*

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**traci arway** - July 03, 2020 at 10:45 PM

BG

*Traci, I'm so touched by your words, thank you. It was great getting to see you and the kids when I was dating David. There is comfort knowing that Kevin was there to welcome her. She talked frequently about him and prayed vigilantly for you all— we all did. May perpetual light shine upon them both. XOXO, Beth*

beth griffin - July 04, 2020 at 03:18 AM

FA

“ *Cathy was a former teacher of mine at Whetstone and to be able to say I knew and loved her is a blessing. She was the most kind, caring, selfless woman I have ever met. She kept me from dropping out of school and has even saved me from ending my life many times. I could call or text her and she'd be there. She'd text me to come skip class to hang out with her when I was having a bad day. She'd buy me gifts just because she knew I'd like it. She was like a mother to me and even when we didn't talk for sometime, I'd think about her because she made that much of an impact on my life. My thoughts and prayers go out to all that knew and loved her.*

Faith - July 03, 2020 at 09:37 PM

BG

*Faith, I'm so sorry for the shocking news, but I am glad I was able to speak with you tonight. Your words about my Mom are so kind and beautiful, thank you for letting me know her impact on you. My Dad and I are so touched. You didn't lose Mrs. Griffin, you gained a guardian angel. I'm here to tell you that your guardian angel expects you to live a long, full life of purpose and with love and hope. There is always hope. My momma taught me these things, and I'm guessing she taught them to you as well. She loved you, Faith. XOXO, Beth*

beth griffin - July 04, 2020 at 03:12 AM

SC

*Heaven will receive a beautiful angel*

Sandra Conner - July 04, 2020 at 07:03 AM

DH

*Mrs. Griffin was my 8th grade Journalism teacher at Franklin, and also taught American History. It's no surprise that she was an anchor of support to so many, given that she was the advice columnist for the school paper when finances permitted. I knew that her husband Don owned The Glassery, and felt bad for them when the store went out of business. We were in Pickerington on Friday...*

David Heuser - July 06, 2020 at 02:34 AM

TF

“ *My deepest sympathy to the entire family.*

Teri (Delaney) Franklin - July 03, 2020 at 08:32 PM

BG

*Teri, thank you so very much. We are heartbroken, but take solace in the fact that she passed away quickly and mercifully in her sleep. XOXO, Beth Griffin*

beth griffin - July 04, 2020 at 03:23 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Catherine Anne (Raphael) "Cathy" Griffin.*



July 03, 2020 at 08:26 PM