



## Betty L. King

April 27, 1932 - April 22, 2019

KING, Betty L., age 86, of Waynesville, passed away Monday, April 22, 2019 at Ohio Living Quaker Heights in Waynesville.

Betty graduated from Olive Hill High School in KY, and after living at home for several years to assist in the raising of her siblings, she enrolled in college and received a Bachelor's Degree in English from Morehead University and a Master's Degree in English from the University of Kentucky. She was the first of her family to graduate high school and attend college. She taught English at Wayne Local Schools for 35 years. Due to academic leadership and exemplary service in the area of language arts, Mrs. King was inducted into the Wayne Local Schools Academic Hall of Fame.

Elegant, gracious, brilliant, and deeply spiritual, Betty loved her students, family, and friends deeply. She greatly enjoyed quilting, reading, writing, gardening, and the arts. She loved visual arts, drama, and music, and almost all of her students were introduced to the arts via her involvement with the Muse Machine. In addition, she was a National Writing Project fellow and docent of the Dayton Art Institute. Over the years, she and her husband enjoyed participating in the bowling league with other teachers and administrators, traveling with friends, and organizing family get-togethers. She will be especially remembered for her enthusiasm for the game of Euchre, her passion of giving gifts to others, and the love and care she had for her beloved Westies.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Allen, in 1994; her parents Jack and Eva Tackett; one brother Glenmore Tackett; and three sisters Alma Tackett, Zelma Frodge, and Naomi Stepping. She is survived by six siblings Madge Morrison, Philip (Addie) Tackett, G.J. (Rosemary) Tackett Jr., Paul Tackett, Joy (Larry) Gooding, and Linda (Robert) King; Goddaughter Arlinda Blake; and a host of beloved nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends 6-8 PM Wednesday, April 24 at Stubbs-Conner Funeral Home in Waynesville. An additional visitation will be held 10:00 - 11:30 AM Fri. April 26 at the Olive Hill Wesleyan Church, immediately followed by a funeral service at 11:30 AM.

Burial will be in Garvin Ridge Cemetery in Olive Hill, KY. If desired, contributions may be made to Ohio Living Quaker Heights staff appreciation fund and/or the Alzheimer's Association. Condolences at [www.stubbsconner.com](http://www.stubbsconner.com).

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Garvin Ridge Cemetery**

State Hwy 2078

Olive Hill, KY, 41164

**APR**

**24**

**The Family Will Receive Friends** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

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Stubbs - Conner Funeral Home

185 North Main Street, Waynesville, OH, US, 45068

**APR**

**26**

**The Family Will Receive Friends** 10:00AM - 11:30AM

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Olive Hill Wesleyan Church

905 Town and Country Lane, Olive Hill, KY, US, 41164

**APR**

**26**

**Funeral Services**

11:30AM

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Olive Hill Wesleyan Church

905 Town and Country Lane, Olive Hill, KY, US, 41164

# Comments

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“ Mrs King. She pushed me, but she knew more about me than i did. She taught so much about writing (a skill I still struggle with), but through the literature we read, she taught us about life, observation, and critical thinking. She was an amazing educator. Her lessons will always be with me.

greg shellenbarger - April 28 at 11:13 PM

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“ I had the privilege of having Mrs. King for several English classes while a student at Waynesville High School and she is who inspired me to seek my first college degree in English at the University of Kentucky. She taught the first Advanced Placement class offered at WHS and I learned in that one class what I was later being taught as a junior in college. I will never forget that I had 28 papers due my last semester in college and I thanked Mrs. King every day for her accepting nothing less than my best while in her classroom.

Not only was she an inspiration and mentor to her students, but she served as a role model for class and grace outside the classroom as well. My love of literature and writing trace back to Mrs. King and her true passion for teaching and her students. All students should be so lucky to have had a Mrs. King in their lives.

Prayers and blessings to her family at this very difficult time.

Claudia Andres Carroll  
WHS Class of '78

Claudia Carroll - April 25 at 09:36 PM

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“ Betty was such a sweet lady. I was in quilting club with her and my stepmother, Bonnie Boal, for several years. I know what a wonderful friendship the two of them had and how kind and caring Betty was when Bonnie was in the hospital and the nursing home. My thoughts are with her family and may their memories help them through this difficult time.

Amy Boal Allen  
Fort Wayne, IN

Amy Boal Allen - April 25 at 08:49 PM

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“ Miss Tackett was my High School English teacher, and she brought out the best potential of her students. I was shocked to receive a “D” on my first paper; as an honor roll student, I had never seen that before. Miss Tackett would not reward mediocrity, and taught me how to write grade “A” papers. While attending English classes at OSU, my fellow classmates would ask me for help. Later, when my own children were in HS and needed to write papers, I taught them her “no fail” formulas. Thanks to Miss Tackett, many students beyond Waynesville HS also benefitted from her instruction!

Martha Vint LaConte

Martha LaConte - April 25 at 06:56 PM

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“ Joette Dedden lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



Joette Dedden - April 25 at 06:44 PM



“ Betty was a wonderful neighbor and friend. Loved her little dog, Hannah, walked her every day. Now they are together again.

Joette Dedden - April 25 at 06:45 PM

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“ Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket was purchased for the family of Betty L. King.



April 25 at 03:44 PM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Betty L. King.



April 25 at 09:02 AM

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“ Jill (Stepping) Miller lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



Jill (Stepping) Miller - April 24 at 10:33 PM

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“ An external video has been added.



Stubbs-Conner Funeral Home - April 24 at 09:50 PM

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“ Mrs. King taught me how to write well, a gift I appreciate every day.

Fred De Naples, 1984 - April 24 at 09:42 PM

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“ Jennifer Hunt lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



Jennifer Hunt - April 24 at 05:52 PM

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“ Mrs. King had an indelible presence in my life. Every success I have had in my career can be traced back to what she gave to me in her class. Mrs. King taught us the power and grace of words. She was a challenging and demanding teacher who was also gentle and encouraging. Day after day in class she maintained her poise and dignity while being surrounded by our pubescent whims and general teen-aged angst. Mrs. King's lessons are frequently in my mind. She was a gift to Waynesville High School and an incredible individual. I am a better person because of the classes I had with her. I hope her family can find comfort in everything she gave to her students.

Dan Shellenbarger

Dan Shellenbarger - April 24 at 04:30 PM

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“ I've been blessed to have many amazing teachers throughout my life. I'm grateful for each of them. One, in particular, will always hold a very special place in my heart, Mrs. Betty King. It was in her three classes where I really fell in love with writing and literature (especially Shakespeare!). She asked questions and gave assignments that prompted me to think about and reflect on human nature, who I am, what I believe, and my own world-view. She inspired me to want to inspire others to this same self-exploration and discovery. I wanted to be an English teacher just like her. I was privileged, years later, to have her as a mentor while teaching across the hall from her. A dream come true!

After I heard the news yesterday, I searched my boxes of keepsakes hoping to find a picture of us together. I know I have one somewhere! Of course, these were the days before people carried cameras in their back pockets. I didn't find a photo, but I don't need a photo to remember her facial expressions, soft voice, sweet smile, and the way she said, "Oh, Alyssa!" They are "indelible!" She often talked about "indelible" moments and experiences as they pertained to characters and our own lives. Indelible means "making a mark" and "not able to be forgotten or removed." Mrs. King is, most definitely, indelible!!

In my search, I, instead, found paper after paper and journal after journal I had written for her classes. I have laughed and cried reading these on and off over the last 24 hours. In many ways, I haven't changed that much. In some ways, I've changed so much. She challenged me to go beyond my usual comfort level in my thinking and writing. I'm reading some of these and am, actually, a bit surprised and kind of proud of them. Lol. This is because she drew it out of me. She encouraged me to go for it! She instilled the confidence that I had something to write about and the ability to write it.

In reading the papers and journals, the most special part has been reading her comments. Oh, that indelible handwriting! In one assignment, I wrote about Ashley and something he'd done to tick me off, a big brother kind of thing. She commented, "That Ashley!" She knew him well. She knew he was ornery AND talented.

To be a student at Waynesville HS who's been in Mrs. King's class means something. Thank you, Mrs. King, for giving so much of yourself to so many of us. I've heard many say they tested out of college English because of you. I've heard many say you sparked a lifelong interest in reading and writing. For many, you opened up the world of the arts through Muse Machine (and a love for Spaghetti Warehouse after the shows ).

THANK YOU for being an amazing teacher and friend!

Say "hi" to Ashley up there. I know he'll be happy to see you. Until we meet again...

Alyssa Boyd-Fouch - April 24 at 04:21 PM

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“ Carlean Mckenzie lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



Carlean Mckenzie - April 24 at 03:49 PM

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“ My deceased wife, Roberta "Bert" Wolfe, worked with Betty during her tenure as a teacher in the Wayne Local Schools at Waynesville High School. She greatly valued Betty King as both a close friend and talented professional colleague. She often spoke of Betty's friendship and insightful advice, and praised her exemplary teaching skills. Betty King had a positive impact on the lives of many children in the Wayne Local Schools. Her family can take great pride in knowing that Betty really made a

difference in the lives of the students she taught. I extend my sincere condolences to Betty's family and many friends.

**Fred Wolfe** - April 24 at 03:26 PM

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“ Bob Bilbrey lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



**Bob Bilbrey** - April 24 at 03:08 PM

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“ Ronnette Erwin lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



**Ronnette Erwin** - April 24 at 12:56 PM

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“ Shirley Ames lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



**shirley Ames** - April 24 at 12:32 PM

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“ Betty King taught me how to write, how to speak in public, and to enjoy Shakespeare. She always modeled respect, care, compassion, and love for her students. She showed me that passion and grace could go hand in hand to help me stand tall, be confident, and always keep learning. I remember well her gentle smile

and her quiet and calm encouraging voice. I can close my eyes and be right back in her classroom, mesmerized by her "way". She will stay in my mind and heart always.

**Lizabeth Self-Mullens** - April 24 at 10:50 AM



“ She was quite simply, the best teacher I ever had. She commanded respect with a kind, firm dignity that fostered a desire in me to earn a good grade from her. If you got an A, you had worked for it. I remember she had one lucky sophomore American Literature class, English Literature (her favorite), Composition and Novel, and the strictest Homeroom regimen imaginable. I love all sorts of 19th century English novels to this day. God bless her kind soul.

Steve Boggs

**Steve Boggs** - April 24 at 03:00 PM

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“ Mrs. King was the consummate professional but more than that, she influenced students and colleagues alike to strive for greatness. I have been fortunate to work with some amazing English teachers over my career, but Mrs. King was the finest. She respected the dignity of each student and they, in turn, honored and cherished her. She is the only colleague I have had (to this day) that I would never address by her first name. She will always be "Mrs. King" to me.

**John Moore** - April 24 at 10:46 AM

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“ Patti G. Stamper lit a candle in memory of Betty L. King



**Patti G. Stamper** - April 24 at 10:28 AM

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“ Betty King was so many things to me. At first, she was my teacher, Mrs. King. I learned so much from her. I didn't fully appreciate all she taught me until I was in college, and found I wasn't struggling in Freshman English like so many others around me. Later she became Mrs. King, my husband's respected teaching colleague and friend. I saw her frequently and we would have short conversations and then go on with our days. After Phil died, she became Betty-my neighbor, my confidant, my mentor, my friend. I would walk to her house and sit and talk. She was such a good listener. She encouraged me always and comforted me after Phil died. After I adopted my girls, Betty became "our Betty" to my girls (we knew several

Bettys) and they couldn't wait to go visit her and play with her dogs, Hannah, and then, Sophie. She celebrated holidays with us and came to the girls' programs and science fairs at school. She gave us a special tour at the Art museum. Every time I visited with her, she told me two things: "I love you," and " Phil would be so proud of you." I only hope I was as good a friend to her as she was to me. I will miss you.

**Diane Webb** - April 24 at 09:56 AM

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“ Mrs. King was one of my favorite people on this Earth. She pushed me to be a better writer and was a good friend to so many. I'll never forget her reaction to me telling her I was majoring in business/accounting vs. writing; I think she was heartbroken. She loved writing so much. I was pleased to be able to tell her later on that I use my writing every single day in business to influence and change lives. And I owe a lot of that to her and the foundation she gave me in my writing. I was blessed to live close enough to her for a while that I could catch her and her little dog on their walks and visit with her and I will cherish those times. She was a true blessing to so many and will surely be missed.

**Amanda Sessler** - April 24 at 08:29 AM

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“ I was so saddened to hear of the Passing of Mrs. King. She was a wonderful teacher to me, as well as a mentor and truly one of the few teachers that I connected with. Mrs King was the epitome of grace and charm, always elegant and refined, but warm and caring. I will never forget her words of encouragement to me, nor the passion she instilled in me for writing I hope that she knew just how special she was and what a difference she made in the lives of her students. RIP Mrs King.

Tracey Arthur.

**Tracey Arthur** - April 24 at 08:28 AM

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“ Goodbye to our dear friend and neighbor, we have such loving memories of our visits with you, we miss you and your little white Westin's. Our children had tremendous respect for you while you were teaching them. Thank you dear Betty for being in our lives. The Madison family

**Bev Madison** - April 24 at 08:16 AM

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“ Southern Grace, at it's finest. While Mrs. King may have been my "teacher"... the most impressionable mentor I've had the pleasure of knowing, she certainly taught many valuable "life lessons" as well that I have carried with me for thirty years. She commanded respect that was both earned and deserved. Her words of encouragement and honesty were appreciated then and stay with me to this day. As a fellow classmate stated as well, thank you for believing in me!

Tonia Lamb Kidd - April 24 at 12:28 AM

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“ Betty King was my favorite teacher in high school simply because she never gave up on me. I got to know her on a closer level due to the amount of one on one time I spent with her in after school detention. She took advantage of that time to make me a better writer, teaching me the fundamentals of English and to this day, I still have the journals she helped me write. She was a precious, soft spoken, caring lady and will truly be missed.

Zachary Bates  
Class of 2000

Zachary Bates - April 24 at 12:09 AM

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“ Mrs King was profoundly the most impactful mentor I have ever had. Her words to me are now immortalized in my high school journals, still as profound and comforting as they were 25+ years ago.

Rest well Mrs King, thank you for believing in me.

Jaime Praeter - April 23 at 11:05 PM

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“ Betty was a special friend! A co- worker, travel buddy, and a very caring, compassionate person. A true lady! Many good, fun memories made with her through the years! She will be missed by many and remembered by all who knew her.

Our condolences to her family and to her Waynesville family of friends! Special thoughts to her wonderful caregiver and sister, Joy! Betty was Blessed to have such a loving sister.

Darrell and Wilma

wilma Watson - April 23 at 10:16 PM