



Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman

May 1, 1967 - October 24, 2024

Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman, 57, of St. Albans, WV, passed away on October 24, 2024, surrounded by those she loved.

Cindy, as she was affectionately known, was born on May 1, 1967, in Mineola, NY. Her parents were Thomas Henry and Lois Mae Franz Oakes, of St. Albans. Cindy was a 1985 graduate of St. Albans High School. In high school, Cindy managed to be voted Friendliest, Shyest, and homecoming queen all in the same year, which seems like an unlikely combination, but described Cindy perfectly.

Cindy went on to receive her bachelor's degree in elementary education from West Virginia State College. She was a kindergarten teacher for Kanawha County Schools for many years, most recently at Dunbar Primary, a job she loved.

The pride of her life was her three children, Cameron Mitchell Harman II (Kylie) of Dover, Delaware, and Franklin Graham Harman and Ellynnne Brooke Harman, both of St. Albans. She is also survived by her mother, Lois (known to many as Gracie); sisters, Kelly Hammitt (Christopher) of Nutter Fort, WV and Karyn Schmidl of Kingwood, WV; brother, Jeffrey Oakes (Tonja) of Cross Lanes; granddaughter Ella Kameron Harman; and a large number of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends who loved her dearly.

Cindy Ellen's name means "shining light," and she shared her light with all of us. She loved with all her heart, making sure everyone knew just how much they meant to her. You could feel her love through the handwritten letters and cards full of hearts and smiley faces, random "I love you" texts, and the gifts she thoughtfully picked. Cindy had an affinity for sour cream, chips and French onion dip, jigsaw puzzles, board games, coloring, playing with her granddaughter Ella, and watching Love Actually on repeat. Her not-so-hidden talent was her Donald Duck impression. Cindy lived her faith out loud every day, believing strongly in second chances, showing kindness to everyone she met, and always looking for the good in people.

Cindy was greeted in heaven by her maternal grandfather, Frank Walter Franz; father, Thomas Henry Oakes; big sister, Cynthia Jane Oakes Drout, and the father of her children, Cameron Mitchell Harman I.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home, St. Albans, with Pastor Jamie Wright officiating. Her final resting place will be in the Harman Family Cemetery, Tornado.

Friends may visit with the family from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm Wednesday, at the funeral home.

You may visit Cynthia's tribute page at BartlettNichols.com to share memories or condolences with the family.

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home, family owned and located at 409 Sixth Avenue, St. Albans is honored to serve the Harman family.

Cemetery Details

Harman Family Cemetery

385 Kings Crossing Lane
Tornado, WV 25202

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **30**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home
409 Sixth Avenue
Saint Albans, WV 25177
(304) 727-4325

Funeral Service

OCT **30**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home
409 Sixth Avenue
Saint Albans, WV 25177
(304) 727-4325

Tribute Wall

KE

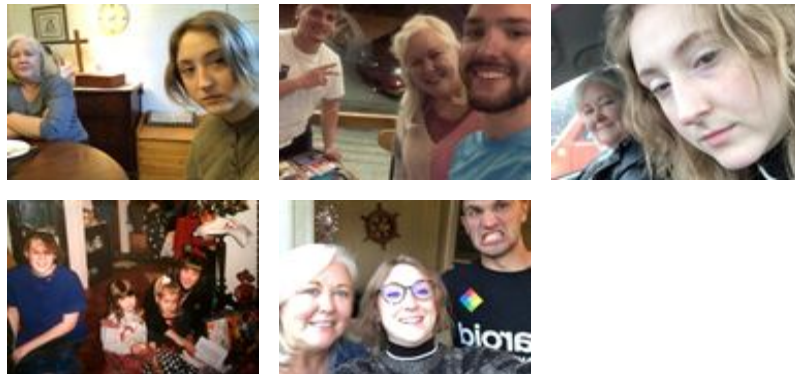
“ *The West Virginia and Kanawha County Associations of Retired School Employees extend their sincere sympathy to you, the family, in your sorrow. Blessings to all.* ”



Kanawha Co. Retired School Employees - October 30, 2024 at 01:21 PM



“ 340 files added to the album LifeTributes ”



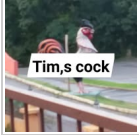
Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home - October 30, 2024 at 12:14 PM

DY

“ *I remember Cindy when she was in our Sunday school and youth group at Bible Center Church back in the '80s. Cindy wasn't just pretty, she was a very warm and gentle lady and I still remember when she gave me a hug after a softball game back then--just as a way to give her love to her friend. Cindy was a very special friend and I will never forget her.* ”

David Yost

David Yost - October 30, 2024 at 11:39 AM



“ *Cindy was my my bestie , my sis and no matter what was going on we would talk for hours, we had a bond stronger than friendship, we knew if either us needed help . Dont know how to handle the future without her , I loved her so many many years working togeher and friends outside of work , whenever we see each other it was like christmas . We laughed and cried so hard , we were emotional support to each other . I love you Cindy your my angel now . wrap your arms around jesus for me.* ”



Tim Adams - October 30, 2024 at 08:21 AM

SB

“ *I a so sorry to hear about Cindy. Although I have been retired from Dunbar Primary, I remember when she joined our Kindergarten team. She loved teaching, loved the kids, loved her co-workers and loved her family. She was always smiling, so positive and a joy to be around. Rest In Peace my friend.* ”

Susan Blackhurst - October 29, 2024 at 01:47 PM

DM

“ *Duane, Bre and Tymber Mitchell purchased the S imply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.* ”



Duane, Bre and Tymber Mitchell - October 29, 2024 at 01:44 PM

DM

“ Duane, Bre and Tymber Mitchell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.

Duane, Bre and Tymber Mitchell - October 29, 2024 at 01:44 PM

TB

“ Moving from Oregon to West Virginia was probably the worst time of my life. I didn't fit in. I was facing culture shock. Most of my classmates had grown up together and knew how to fit in. I didn't. I was awkward, lacked confidence and went to school every day knowing that I would be bullied and made fun of. Then Cindy showed up in my life. Her smile and friendship served as my security blanket for years. Her friendship helped me to build other friendships and grow into the self confidence person I am today. Thank you Cindy for being there for me at a time in my life when I needed a friend the most. Thank you for the memories, the smile you helped me find again and, most of all, all of the laughter. Lots and lots of laughter.

Trina Bartlett - October 29, 2024 at 09:31 AM

LS

“ Cindy made my days at Dunbar Primary so bright! I'll always remember her sweet, caring personality and her smile. She genuinely loved everyone around her. My condolences to her family.

Laura Scott - October 28, 2024 at 09:18 PM

AV

“ The first class I ever visited when I started Dunbar Primary in 2011 was Cindy's kindergarten class. I remember thinking "She loves those kids". She talked to them sweetly as she guided them through their lesson. She had a big heart and and shared her kindness. Gone to soon. May God comfort and give her family strength during this time of great sorrow.



Allison Vance - October 28, 2024 at 08:12 PM

DA

“ God Bless You Cindy...Will Remember you Forever and thanks for your love...

David - October 28, 2024 at 07:00 PM

EB

“ Death, that omnipotent thief, stole joy from our heart. Grief continued interrupting, refusing to depart. When the flickering flame of her candle went out, an insistent fog of moroseness spread all about. 'Shining Light' replaced that miasma, dissolving fog with memories of her love and perpetual smiling. Ken and Evadna Bartlett

Evadna Bartlett - October 28, 2024 at 06:45 PM

AP

“ Amber Patton purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.



Amber Patton - October 28, 2024 at 05:36 PM

LW

“ *Lynn Duffield Wise purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.*



Lynn Duffield Wise - October 28, 2024 at 12:58 PM

LW

“ *Cindy was one of my best friends in high school. We had homeroom together and our lockers were nearby. We used to ride the same school bus. We enjoyed so many jolly rides! We studied together with our group of friends in the lunchroom in the mornings. We walked around the school building after lunch on our break. Lunchtime seemed so much longer in those days. Homecoming was amazing. Cindy was our Queen, so beautiful, inside and out. Cindy came to my house and we made fun memories! I also attended college with Cindy. Like Cindy, I became certified in Elementary Education and taught Kindergarten, but her career was much more stellar than mine. When Cindy had her car accident in college, I went to the hospital and visited her. God gave her another chance at life and she made the best of life. I saw her at class reunions. Her beauty bubbled over through her personality and her smile and lovely voice. The last time I saw Cindy was at Maranatha Church. She is with Jesus, now.*

Lynn Duffield Wise - October 28, 2024 at 12:50 PM

CH

“ Oh my friend, Cindy. How your light will be missed. You are gone from this world too soon. We shared such good times growing up in a simpler world. Games like four square, letter in the box, Popsicles and badminton are treasures that I'm so grateful for and blessed to have shared with you and our friends on the street where we lived. I know God was your center and you lived and loved Jesus. Rest in peace with Him now.



Cecilia Howley-Aussicker - October 28, 2024 at 12:16 PM



“ I always remembered Cindy as kind & sweet to everyone she met. We graduated together. She was beautiful inside & out. I will always remember seeing her on the homecoming court looking beautiful & always smiling. She would always speak to you if she saw you in the hallway. I can totally see her as a teacher, it just seems fitting. I saw her at a game several years ago, we sat with her and her daughter, she was very outgoing & sweet too, she gave me something, possibly a friendship bracelet. This is so sad to hear, I wish peace to her family, friends & co-workers, I know they must be especially sad. We are thinking of you in this rough time.

Kristene Arbaugh - October 28, 2024 at 12:15 PM

PB

“ Cindy was one of the sweetest persons I ever knew. She always had a smile on her face. Her heart was full of joy and happiness always. She will be missed by many. Fly high sweet Cindy heaven has definitely gained another angel.

Polly Baker - October 28, 2024 at 11:06 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.

October 28, 2024 at 10:39 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.



October 28, 2024 at 09:34 AM



“ Cindy and I graduated together and she exuded happiness daily. She had beautiful long hair and gorgeous without a stitch of makeup on! Every time you'd see her she'd flash a big smile! She had a diamond personality to go with it! What a huge loss to all who knew her. My heart hurts for her loving family and her precious students that she adored.



Karla Baire - October 28, 2024 at 09:23 AM



“ What a woman who loved Jesus and her family. She now is home with her Lord and Savior
She now enjoying the wonders of the City of God

James Wright - October 28, 2024 at 08:41 AM

TD

“ Cindy was my son Ben's kindergarten teacher, she was a wonderful woman and a phenomenal teacher. She always had a hug and smile when we would see her around St. Albans. I am so sorry to hear about her passing, the world lost an amazing person! Prayers to her family.

Tracy Dawson - October 28, 2024 at 08:32 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.



October 28, 2024 at 07:43 AM

BD

“ I knew Cindy when she was a teenager and my first impression was that she was the prettiest person I had ever seen. Very soon I realized that her outward beauty was surpassed only by the beauty she carried from within. Lois, my heart is broken for you and Cindy's children and granddaughter and my prayers are with you.

Brenda Dunn - October 28, 2024 at 07:06 AM

TF

“ The Newbrough Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.



The Newbrough Family - October 28, 2024 at 12:04 AM

TF

“ *The Newbrough Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cynthia Ellen Oakes Harman.*

The Newbrough Family - October 28, 2024 at 12:04 AM