



Polly Shaw Murphy

September 13, 1936 - December 22, 2022

Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch

Polly Shaw Murphy, age 86, passed into the presence of her Lord and Savior on December 22, 2022. She died peacefully following a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease. Polly was born in Parkin, Arkansas on September 13, 1936 to Jack and Mary Shaw. The family moved to Memphis, Tennessee a short time after. She graduated from Whitehaven High School and proceeded to earn a bachelor's in education from Memphis State University.

After graduation, Polly and her best friend, Pat Whitten, traveled to Dallas, Texas to start their careers. They found teaching jobs on their first day as "Texans" and Polly taught for the next 30 years. Derrell Murphy first saw his future wife, Polly, singing in the church choir and knew he had to meet her. Six-months later, they were married on August 13, 1960. Polly and Derrell used their marriage to honor and serve their Lord Jesus Christ, and He blessed their marriage for 62 years.

Both of their children, Marcy and Mike, were born in Dallas, TX. Derrell and Polly moved to Longview, TX in the late 1960's. For 40 years, East Texas provided a wonderful community, friends, and home to the Murphy's. Throughout her life, Polly was dedicated to the service of others, serving her friends and family relentlessly. Sometimes it was hard to even tie your own

shoes with Polly Murphy around. Her top priority was using her talents to point people toward her Lord and Savior. Over her 30-year career as a teacher in Pine Tree schools she had a profound impact on her students and co-workers.

Polly and Derrell returned to Memphis, Tennessee in 2012 to be close to family. Polly is survived by her husband, Derrell Murphy; her son and daughter-in-law, Mike and Anne Murphy; her son-in-law, Guy Gilliland; her grandchildren, Luke Murphy, Jared Gilliland (Lindsey), Rachel Campisi (Steven); her sisters, Linda Newson (Larry) and Gigi Mills (Ken). She was preceded in death and greeted in Heaven by her daughter, Marcy Gilliland, her parents, Jack and Mary Shaw, and her brother, Jackie Shaw.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, January 5th, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch (6815 Parkview Blvd, Olive Branch, MS). A service will follow at 12:00 p.m. at Coleman Funeral Home. Interment will be at West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at a later date. Bro. Jerrod Brooks and Bro. Tim Lampley will officiate.

In lieu of traditional flowers, memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church Debt Retirement Fund at www.fbcob.org or the Memphis Union Mission at www.memphisunionmission.org.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Cemetery Details

West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

4000 Forest Hill Irene Rd
Memphis, TN 38125

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch
6815 Parkview Boulevard
Olive Branch, MS 38654
(662) 893-3900
info@colemanfuneralhome.com
<http://www.colemanfuneralhomeob.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 5. 12:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch
6815 Parkview Boulevard
Olive Branch, MS 38654
(662) 893-3900
info@colemanfuneralhome.com
<http://www.colemanfuneralhomeob.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford created a Tribute Video in memory of Polly Shaw Murphy



Coleman Funeral Home - January 02, 2023 at 07:49 PM

NN

“ I think I’m a former student of Miss Shaw. I saw that it said that her first teaching job was in Texas. I’m just almost sure that she taught me at Oakhaven when I was in the 6th grade. I remember that she got married on August 13th. She invited me & my 2 best friends to the wedding. My name is Norma & my friends were Ginger & Margaret. We just loved her. I came across this looking for another friend. Everything just marched. We thought she was the most beautiful lady we had ever met seen. We wrote her a song & sang it in our classroom. “ Beautiful Beautiful Polly, You look like a real live dolly. You come to school to teach us the rule, Beautiful Beautiful Polly.” I’ll never forget that year. It was one of my best memories. She was so amazing. Of all my teachers, she was the best. I just wanted to share this. Condolences to her family. I’m Norma Neal now, but was Norma Fant back then. I’m hoping this is the right one. So many things matched.



Norma Neal - June 20, 2025 at 08:26 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Polly Shaw Murphy.*



January 04, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Polly Shaw Murphy.*



January 03, 2023 at 10:00 PM



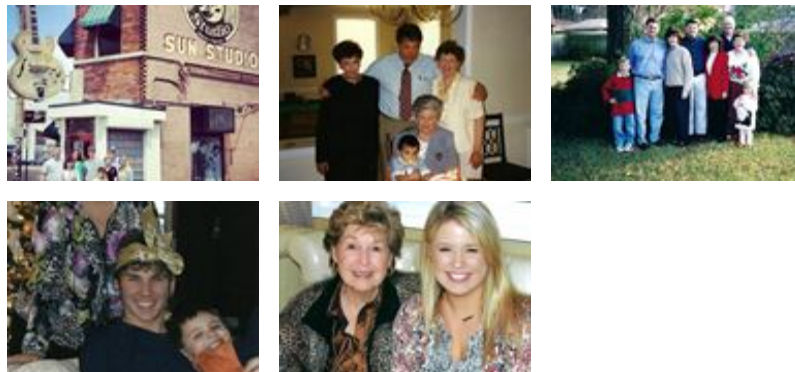
“ *Jan Gilliland purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Polly Shaw Murphy.*



Jan Gilliland - January 03, 2023 at 06:31 PM



“ 42 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Coleman Funeral Home - January 02, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray* was purchased for the family of *Polly Shaw Murphy*.



January 02, 2023 at 04:28 AM



“ *Mike and Ann*, I'm sorry for your loss. Love the picture of her. She was a beautiful lady.

Mary Jo Sowell - December 30, 2022 at 07:36 PM



“ *Broadway Baptist Church of Southaven, MS* would like to offer their sincere condolences to the family.



Broadway Church - December 30, 2022 at 03:20 PM

MM

“ *Polly and Derrell were the cutest couple ever. They never lost their youthfulness or their usefulness. They served their Lord well, by serving others. I love them both. God bless you all.* ”

Marine Moore - December 28, 2022 at 08:22 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Polly Shaw Murphy.* ”



December 27, 2022 at 10:25 PM