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APPALACHIAN NEWS-EXPRESS

OBITUARIES

Joe Cantrell

Joe Cantrell, 72, of Ashcamp, died Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, at the Hylton Freewill Baptist Church. Burial followed in the Sanders Cemetery, Ashcamp.

Arrangements were under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home Inc. of Elkhorn City.

The guestbook may be signed at www.baileyfuneralhomeinc.com.



Gwydolin Coleman

Gwyndolin Jannis Coleman, 84, of Pikeville, died Monday, Oct. 5, 2006, at her residence. She was born in Bartley Hollow, Aug. 13, 1942, to the late William and Almedia Martin.

Gwyndolin went to college, raised her kids, got a bachelor's degree in science and worked at Long John Silvers for 10 years. She enjoyed spending most of her time at Mountain View Pace with her friends and spending every extra moment quilting. She loved her church, family, God and spending every minute she could with her family.

She was a sponsor of CCYC (church camp).

In addition to her parents, Gwyndolin was preceded in death by two sisters, Margaret Emogene Walker and Evangeline O Shinn.

Gwyndolin is survived by two brothers, Ferrell Martin and Wayne Martin (Pat); one sister, Ivolene Joyce McDaniels; four daughters, Rita Jane Parkins (Roger), Jacquelyn Ford (Terry), Tina Faye Stanley (Roy) and Arlene Newsome; and two sons, Joseph Shane Little and Mark Adkins (Deann). Gwyndolin is also survived by nine grandchildren, Freda, Joel, Johnathan, Janice, Geneia, James M., Molly, Cody and Madison; 13 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren, Brinleigh F., Blakely R. Blankenship and Everly Gordillo; and a host of loving family and friends.

Services were held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 8, at Fords Branch Church of Christ.

Arrangements were under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home of Pikeville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.lucasandsonfh.com.

This is a paid obituary.



Donnie Gannon

Donnie Gene Gannon, 85, of Williamson, W.Va., died peacefully on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026.

A memorial service to celebrate Donnie's life was held at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 7, with Pastor Ralph Ferree officiating.

Arrangements were under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel of Belfry.

The guestbook may be signed at www.hatfieldsfc.com.



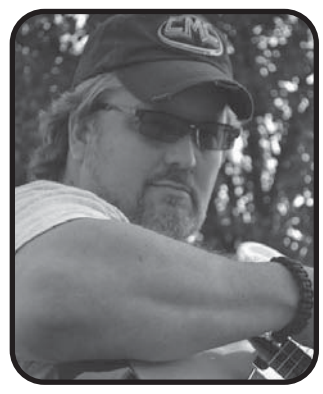
Raymond Pinson

Raymond E. Pinson, 77, of Louisville, died Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026, following a courageous battle with ALS.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, at Chism Family Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held from noon until 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, at the funeral home.

Obituary courtesy of Weaver Mortuary of West Williamson, W.Va.



"JK" Spence

John Kenneth "JK" Spence, 63, died Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026.

He was a proud veteran of the United States Army.

A celebration of life was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 7, at Reger Funeral Home in Huntington, W.Va. His ashes will be interred at the Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery in Dunbar, W.Va., at a later date, where he will receive the final honors befitting a veteran.

Obituary courtesy of Jones and West Funeral Home of Phelps.



Evelene Stamper

Evelene Coleman Stamper, 94, of Pikeville, died Monday, Oct. 5, 2026, at her residence.

She was a housewife, a wonderful babysitter and a member of the Victory Baptist Church.

She was born in Regina, Sept. 30, 1932, a daughter of the late Glenn Coleman Sr. and Viva Justice Coleman.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Claude Stamper; one son, Danny Stamper; five brothers, Earl Coleman, Levi Coleman, Robert Coleman, Glenn Coleman Jr. and Bill Coleman; two sisters, Ruth Gardner and Katherine Caudill; and two daughters-in-law, Brenda Stamper and Vanessa Stamper.

She is survived by two sons, Claude Stamper (Kathy) and Jerry Stamper, both of Pikeville; one daughter, Anna Curry (Robert), of Pikeville; two sisters, Sue Rice, of Waco, and Odell Hanenburg, of Sun City, Ariz.; and one brother, Harold Coleman (Mary), of Pikeville. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren, Benjamin Stamper (Renee), Nathan Stamper, Susan Holland (Michael), Travis Stamper, Brian Adkins, Krissy Kimball (Pete), Jeremy Smith (Amy), Kara Buntain (Kyle), Melissa Smith (Josh), Glenda Brock (Freddie), Courtney France (Steven) and Lucie Newsome; 21 great-grandchildren; and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

A special thanks to her caregivers, Samantha Cecil, Jennifer Hall, Mountain View Pace and Nathan Stamper.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, in the J.W. Call Funeral Home chapel with Carl Harville officiating. Burial will follow in the Stamper Cemetery, Broad Bottom. Honoring Evelene by serving as pallbearers will be Ben Stamper, Claude Stamper, Austin Holland, Maddux Stamper, Devin Lumpkins, Kyle Buntain, Chris Gunter and Eugene English.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in Evelene's memory to: Victory Baptist Outreach, P.O. Box 2863, Pikeville, KY 41502.

Arrangements are under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home of Pikeville.

The guestbook may be signed online at www.jwcallfuneralhome.com.

This is a paid obituary.



Tracy Stewart

Tracy Allen Stewart, 59, formerly of Pikeville, died Monday, Sept. 28, 2026, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington.

He was born in Pikeville, Nov. 4, 1966, to the late Ray Gene and Mary Stone Stewart.

He is survived by his loving wife, Cynthia Luke Stewart; one daughter, Lyndsey Neace (Cody); two sons, Jordan Curry (Whitney) and Devin Lequire-Stewart; five grandchildren, Peyton Huffman, Kinsey Curry, Macy Curry, Cruz Neace and Evie Neace; one brother, Scott Stewart (Michelle); his mother-in-law, Cheryl Barnard; and a host of other family and friends.

He was best known for owning Stewart and Stafford Tire and the dedicated service that he provided to the people of Pike County for many years.

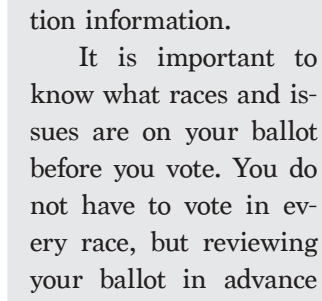
He will be missed by all who knew and cherished him.

A celebration of life service will be held from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Pikeville Overlook Event Center.

Arrangements are under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home of Pikeville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.thackermemorial.com.

This is a paid obituary.



Phillip Varney

Phillip Varney, 82, of Huddy, died Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2026.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8, at R.E. Rogers Funeral Home with Pilgrims Prayer Old Regular Baptist Church of Dorton officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home of Belfry.

The guestbook may be signed at www.rerogersfh.com.



Loretta Young

Loretta (Varney) Young, 84, of Wellington, died Monday, Oct. 5, 2026, at her residence.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, at Hatfield Funeral Chapel with elders of the Old Regular Baptist Church officiating. Burial followed in Mountain View Memory Gardens, Huddy.

Arrangements were under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel of Toler.

The guestbook may be signed at www.hatfieldsfc.com.

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Postmaster: Send address change to the Appalachian News-Express, P.O. Box 802, Pikeville, Ky., 41502. Periodicals postage paid at the Pikeville, Ky., post office.
Published twice a week: Tuesday-Thursday and Weekend Edition by Appalachian Newspapers, Inc., 211 Main St., Pikeville, Ky., 41501

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Continued from Page 5A

ballots and other election information.

It is important to know what races and issues are on your ballot before you vote. You do not have to vote in every race, but reviewing your ballot in advance allows you to make informed decisions about the races and issues before you. The Kentucky State Board of Elections website allows voters to review a sample ballot. A sample ballot can help voters familiarize themselves with the races and questions they will encounter before they arrive at the polls.

You can view the sample ballot for your county by visiting https://web.sos.ky.gov/electionballots/.

Our communities are strongest when citizens take an active role in the democratic process and take the time to understand the choices before them. I encourage every eligible Kentucky voter to make a plan to participate in this year's election. Check your registration, know your polling location, review your ballot, and research the candidates and issues that will appear before you. Whether you vote on Election Day or take advantage of Kentucky's early voting options, taking the time to be informed helps ensure you are prepared to make your voice heard. Your vote is an opportunity to help shape the direction of your community and our Commonwealth. This November, exercise your right to vote, participate in our democracy, and make your vote an informed one.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at Bobby.McCool@kylegislature.gov, and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.

RUTH

Continued from Page 5A

him to Michigan shortly after to escape the stigma of being named Leslie.

I got that last fact online. It came from a giant data center.

Speaking of giant data, I'm celebrating another data gathering trip around the sun in the coming week or, as I like to call it, my 39th 29th birthday. I've got to tell you, I barely feel a year over my 30th 29th.

Sometimes you can't find the words. Then again, sometimes you can.


And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. – *Revelation 21:4*


KEVIN HALL

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