



## Two Locations to Better Serve You

21 E. Steve Wariner Drive - Russell Springs, KY

1-270-866-6600

1004 Jamestown Street - Columbia, KY

1-270-384-1111

Real Estate Professionals Specializing in Estate Auctions

Christopher B. Wilson  
Broker & Auctioneer  
GoldenRuleRealty.com  
270-866-6600

# OBITUARIES

## Faye Blakey Morgan



Faye Blakey Morgan, daughter of the late John Sidney and Susie Campbell Blakey, was born in Russell County on February 2, 1938, and departed this life, Thursday, April 16, 2026, attaining the age of 88 years, 2 months, and 14 days.

She was united in marriage to Edwin Morgan on December 10, 1959. Two children blessed this union, Douglas (and Julie Garner) Morgan, Nancy, and Julie (and Brian) Campbell, Jamestown.

Also surviving is her precious grandchild, K'LeAnn Morgan, whom she loved dearly; two brothers, Rev. John (and Faye) Blakey, and Kenneth (and Ann) Blakey; two sisters, Joyce (and Randall) Conner, and JoNell (and the late Joe Keith) Selby; and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, David Blakey.

She was a former employee of Russell Sportswear and Fruit of the Loom, Inc. She was a dedicated member of Hayes Chapel Church, where she loved attending church and singing to the Lord. She also enjoyed spending time outside and tending to her flowers. She was an outgoing person who never met a stranger, and she always made time to visit her family and friends that she dearly loved.

She was a kind and loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, relative, and friend who will be sadly missed by her family, her church and community, and her many friends.

Funeral services were held 11:00 am Saturday, April 18, 2026, at Hayes Chapel Church with Bro. Bobby Cole, Bro. Kenny Kimbler, and Brooks Cochran officiating.

Special music was presented by April Robertson and the church choir.

Pallbearers were Brooks Cochran, Tyler Cochran, Garrett Lawless, Scott Conner, Mark Helm, and Ronald Cochran.

Interment was in the Blakey Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to Hayes Chapel Church or to Blakey Cemetery.

Arrangements were entrusted to Bernard Funeral Home. An online guestbook is available at [www.bernardfuneralhome.com](http://www.bernardfuneralhome.com).

## Mary Beth Durham



Mary Beth Durham, 40, Russell Springs, passed away at her home Sunday, April 12, 2026.

Born July 29, 1985, in London, she was a daughter of Ben Durham and Teresa Jones Stevens. She was a former waitress, and she loved being around people. Her son Kayden was truly the center of her life, and she cherished every moment spent with him.

Survivors include her son, Kayden Durham, Russell Springs; long-time boyfriend, Melvin Withers, Russell Springs; her father, Ben (and Pamela) Durham, Nancy; her mother, Teresa Stevens, Somerset; a brother, Matthew (and Kaitlyn) Durham, Somerset; and a sister, Kayla Strong, Somerset.

Funeral services were held 1:00 pm Thursday, April 16, 2026, at Bernard Funeral Home with Bro. Joe Sullivan officiating. Burial followed in Wilkerson Cemetery.

An online guestbook is available at [www.bernardfuneralhome.com](http://www.bernardfuneralhome.com).

## Linda Carol Kerr



Linda Carol Kerr, 68, Columbia, passed away Thursday, April 16, 2026, at her home.

Born on April 30, 1957, in Danville, she was the daughter of the late Clyde and Ruby McDaniel LeFevers. She was a former payroll manager for Neat Companies and a member of Free Union Separate Baptist Church. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She loved cooking, making big meals for her family.

She is survived by her husband, Jerry Kerr, Columbia, whom she wed on July 4, 1978; her children, David Kerr (and Amy Molen), Columbia, and Vickie George, Russell Springs; her grandchildren, Cayden George, Allie Rae Kerr, and Dillon George; her step-grandchildren, Ashley Caudill, Hannah Caudill, and Kelley Caudill; and her brother, Milton LeFevers, Danville.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Donnie Ray LeFevers.

Funeral services were held 2:00 pm Sunday, April 19, 2026, at Bernard Funeral Home, with Brother Robert Knight and Brother Craig Huddleston officiating. Burial followed in Free Union Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Darren Sinkhorn, Michael Sinkhorn, Todd Green, Troy Green, Jessie Green, and Kevin Grider.

Honorary pallbearers were Tony Denton, Jeffro Burton, Paul Milligan, and Rick Doss.

An online guestbook is available at [www.bernardfuneralhome.com](http://www.bernardfuneralhome.com).

## BELL,

— Continued from Page One

the purpose of setting him up 'with someone to talk with.' Said defendant then provided Trevor Taylor with a fifteen (15) year old female...to meet with and have sexual relations."

"Affiant (Trooper Gadberry) states that Mr. Taylor admitted to meeting with said 15 year old and digitally penetrating her as well as having her to perform oral sex on him," the criminal complaint said.

"Affiant further state that victim stated that she had sexual intercourse with Mr. Taylor. Affiant states that Mr. Taylor further stated that he sent defendant \$55 dollars via cash app for said meeting stating that he tried to get refund because 'he had paid too much.'"

An additional criminal complaint filed by Trooper Gadberry involving Taylor said the defendant allegedly "committed the offense of Rape 3rd... by being over 21 years of age and having sexual intercourse

with a fifteen (15) year old female following a solicitation from a family friend, Melina Bell to connect the two together."

Bell "is currently charged with Human Trafficking," the trooper's criminal complaint said.

A uniform citation said Trevor Dean Taylor, 29, of Whitley City, was arrested Friday upon "Execution of complaint warrant...for Russell Co. Court" on a charge of alleged rape, third degree.

The "Russell District Court Warrant of Arrest" was "signed by Judge S. Latham on 4/17/2026," the citation said. "Trooper Gadberry is the Affiant on this case."

At presstime, Bell was to appear in Russell District Court for an arraignment, authorities said.

She is presently incarcerated in the Russell County Detention Center on a \$250,000 cash bond.

Use QR Code to Search Kentucky Public Notices or go to [kypublicnotice.com](http://kypublicnotice.com)

**Adam C Stille,**  
Financial Advisor, AAMS™

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**FINANCIAL FOCUS**

36 Dr Joe T Pettey Dr, Russell Springs, KY 42642  
(270) 866-6818 • [www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

**Joshua Frost**  
Financial Advisor

## Sustainable investing means investing with purpose

When you think about investing, you probably want your money to grow. But maybe you also want it to make a positive difference in the world while you continue pursuing your financial goals. That's the foundation of sustainable investing — an approach that considers environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors alongside traditional financial analysis.

Sustainable investing allows you to support better business practices through your investment choices. It looks at how companies address issues ranging from climate change to worker well-being to corporate ethics. At its core, it's about aligning investments with personal values while still focusing on long-term financial outcomes.

Here are the three main areas of sustainable investing:

Environmental considerations include how companies respond to climate change, use natural resources and manage pollution.

Social factors address workforce well-being, product safety and efforts to reduce social inequities.

Governance focuses on corporate behavior, ethics policies and financial transparency.

You may wonder whether investing sustainably means sacrificing returns. Research suggests it doesn't. New York University's Stern Center for Sustainable Business reviewed more than 1,000 studies from 2015–20 and found that incorporating ESG factors does not inherently diminish returns, and in many cases is associated with improved financial performance. As with any investment approach, it's important to focus on high quality investments that help support more consistent long term returns.

Sustainable investing can take several forms:

ESG intentional strategies spread out your investments and have clear goals for choosing companies that follow strong environmental, social and governance practices.

Sustainable thematic strategies focus on specific issues, such as clean energy or water conservation.

Impact investments go a step further, targeting measurable environmental or social outcomes. Because they prioritize more narrow, specific objectives, they may carry higher volatility and potentially lower returns.

One concern you may hear about is "greenwashing," which happens when companies or funds exaggerate their environmental efforts. To help prevent this, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission created a rule in 2023 that requires any fund with "ESG" in its name to keep at least 80% of its assets in ESG aligned investments.

Another challenge is data consistency. Today, 99% of S&P 500 companies report ESG metrics, according to the Center for Audit Quality, but different rating providers still use different methods. Looking at relative rankings can help you compare companies and mutual funds in a more consistent way.

Deciding whether to include sustainable investments in your portfolio really depends on your values and financial goals. You can build a well diversified portfolio with or without them. A qualified financial advisor can help you understand whether adding sustainable investments fits your overall strategy and makes sense for your situation.

As more companies disclose ESG data and more funds offer sustainable options, investors have increasing opportunities to align their portfolios with their values — without sacrificing their financial objectives.