



*Mrs. Judy Lee Graves
LeCroy*

Feb. 9, 1941 - Jan. 25, 2025

Mrs. Judy Lee Graves LeCroy passed away on Saturday, January 25, 2025, at Grace Ridge Retirement Community in Morganton, North Carolina, where she had resided for the past three years. She fought a valiant fight against Parkinson's Disease.

Judy was born on February 9, 1941, in Atlanta, Georgia, to the late Helen Augusta Hopkins Graves Williams and Grady Fielding Graves, Jr. She was raised primarily by her beloved mother and stepfather, B.E. "Will" Williams. She graduated as the Valedictorian of the first graduating class from Jenkins High School in Savannah, Georgia. After marrying her soulmate, Charles Michael "Mickey" LeCroy, in 1960, she moved with him to Shelby, North Carolina, where her three children were born. In 1971, she graduated as Salutatorian of her graduating class from Gardner-Webb University with a B.S. in Education. She began a teaching career thereafter, and after moving with her family to Lexington, North Carolina, she ultimately obtained her Masters Degree in Library Science from UNC-Greensboro in 1981.

Judy was the school librarian at Welcome Elementary School in Davidson County for a few years before becoming the Director of Educational Technology and Media Services for the Davidson County School System, from which she retired in 1997. Judy was recognized as a state-wide leader in public school media technology. She was published in the North Carolina Libraries publication and served on the Executive

was published in the North Carolina Libraries publication and served on the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Library Association. She designed some of the first computer reading programs implemented in North Carolina for elementary school students. She also served on a North Carolina Select Committee to advise the North Carolina Legislature on public school technology needs.

Judy was involved in more community activities and service organizations than could be listed here. She touched too many people to count with her selfless love and compassion for others and the strength of her faith. She served through the years at her church in numerous capacities as a Deacon, Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School Director, and as a member of possibly every church committee at different times throughout the years. She was especially passionate about foreign missions and, along with Mickey, traveled all over the globe assisting Baptist missionaries. She also served on numerous committees with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina. At home, she co-founded Touching Davidson County with Love, a week-long annual missions blitz in Davidson County led by multiple churches, and she delivered meals for Meals on Wheels for many years.

Judy was preceded in death by her beloved husband after 49 wonderful years of marriage in 2010. She is survived by her three children: Dr. Charles Michael LeCroy, Jr. and wife, Allison, of Asheville; Mark Alan LeCroy and wife, Sara, of Morganton; and Nancy LeCroy Mohler and husband, Peter, of Columbus, Ohio; and by 13 grandchildren whom she adored: Devan Faulkner Ivers of Winston-Salem, Dallas Faulkner of Asheville, Ashley LeCroy Roberts of Troutman, Collin Jones of Asheville, Charlie LeCroy of Atlanta, Ga, Carson Jones, student at East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine, Max LeCroy of Charlotte, and Cayden Jones, student at University of Alabama; Dr. Katie LeCroy of Charlottesville, Va, and Beth LeCroy, student at UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law; and Ella Mohler, student at Ohio State University, Caroline Mohler, and John Mohler, of Columbus, Ohio; as well as 7 cherished great-grandchildren, Kylie, Juliet, Drew, Celeste, Maddox, Nate, and Kennedy. She is also survived by her beloved sister and brother: Nancy Graves Fricke of Gainesville, Ga, and Kent Williams of Atlanta, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Judy was known for her incredible intellect (she played a mean game of Trivial Pursuit and all card games), her voracious appetite for reading and travel, and for her

skill as a talented musician and singer. She was also known as a dedicated friend to so many. After retirement, Judy was able to enjoy her “second home” at Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, where she and Mickey relished long walks on the beach with their dogs and floating in the intercoastal waterway in their boat. She traveled all over the world, missing only one continent, including travel to more difficult locations such

as Pakistan (on an educational exchange commission), China and Russia. She was the very definition of a “lifelong learner”.

The family will receive friends at First Baptist Church in Lexington, North Carolina on Saturday, February 8, 2025, at 1:00 p.m, with a Memorial Service to follow in the sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. Friends will also be received at Grace Ridge Retirement Community in Morganton at a later date to be announced.

Mike, Alan and Nancy would like to especially thank the staff at Grace Ridge Retirement Community for their wonderful love and care for Mom over these past three years and thank Amorem Hospice Care for their assistance with her final days.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be sent to the North Carolina & Global Missions Division of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina and/or to the Parkinson’s Foundation.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

Just a note to say how nice your mother was to me and how it seemed she always had a big smile. I know how proud she must have been to have such accomplished children and grandchildren, I guess the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. The service for your mom was inspiring and showed how much she loved and was loved. Hope we can catch up sometime, it was good to see you all.

—Mark Lowder

I worked with Judy at Welcome School and she was a part of our monthly Lunch group. She was a wonderful educator and friend. I enjoyed visiting her at Grace Ridge. Judy touched so many hearts and we are better for knowing her. My condolences to her family. Nancy Aley Mueller

—Nancy Aley Mueller

To the LeCroy Family from the Grace Ridge Retirement Community Family: Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of loss. We were all blessed to have known Ms. LeCroy. She was such an amazing person and truly made a difference in other people's lives. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

—Lisa Miller



Our family is so sorry to hear the news of your mom's



passing. Such a special, smart lady who loved her family to pieces and always wore a smile. She loved talking about her children and grandchildren. Praying for peace beyond understanding in the days ahead.

—Elizabeth Snyder Lancaster

Mike, Alan and Nancy: I was very sad to learn of your mom's death and I appreciate your putting the obit in The Dispatch. Judy touched many lives including mine. She was the best supervisor I ever had at Davidson County Schools. Her get-togethers with all the media people on my birthday even after we all retired were some of the best times I ever had. May she rest in peace.

—Jonathan Sowers

Your mother touched my life in many ways. We both worked for DCS and also worked out at the Y with a group of friends. After our workouts, this group ate lunch at the Village Grill. Our group missed your Mom when she moved from Lexington. I was blessed to travel with her to Israel and later to Russia. Her friendship enriched my life.

—Barbara Everhart

To the family of a wonderful lady. I had the pleasure of working with Judy at Davidson County schools. She was a wonderful person . She was so interesting, kind, and patient. She touched so many lives including mine.

—Vicky Gray

—Barbara Everhart

We are so sorry for your loss and hope you find some peace during this difficult time.

—Tara Conrad



I met Judy through the Friends of the Lexington when she made Friends part of the Touching DC with Love. Judy made sure our annual book sale was listed as one of the volunteer opportunities. Judy was so thoughtful and kind. I'm now a member of the book club she started. I get to hear wonderful stories from the current members. I send my deepest sympathies to Judy's family.

—Karen Schrader



Dear Mike, Alan and Nancy~ What a beautiful tribute to your mom. I wish I had known her. You and your family are all in my prayers. I'm unable to come to the service as I will be out of town. I keep you all in my heart. Love, Susan

—Susan Dameron Fowler

What a beautiful tribute. It truly captured her accomplishments humility. Love and intelligence. I valued her friendship and have missed that friendship for many years now. The trips we made to New York in Florida will always be lovely memories. I look forward to seeing you all again.

—Sue wikstrom



Sending my Condolences

—Quentin Nichols

Thinking for all of you and sending love. Your parents were very special people.

Praying for all of you and sending love. Your parents were very special people and wonderful servants at First Baptist Church.

—Craig and Robin Deal

I send love and blessings to you all. I cherish my memories of Judy and the times, starting in 1961, that we enjoyed together.

—Marion Harris

Mike, Allan, Nancy I am thinking of you all in the death of your Mother. Judy was a wonderful person—bright, energetic, loving and kind. I am so glad I got to spend a part of my life with her and each of you. She was a blessing to us all.

—Al Martin



To the LeCroy family, I am so sorry to hear about your loss! I will be thinking about each of you. Love, Julia and Mitch

—Julia Kessel

I have admired Judy and Mickey the entire time that I have been a member of First Baptist church of Lexington. Her passing is a loss to all that knew her.

Tommy Saintsing

—Tommy Saintsing



—Beth LeCroy



What a beautiful legacy Mrs. LeCroy leaves, challenging us to be better people and making a difference as an educator in the lives of children.

—Karen Causby