



Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling

December 18, 1951 - May 11, 2024

Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling (72) passed away peacefully at home on May 11th, 2024, with her family lovingly by her side after bravely fighting endometrial cancer.

She was born in Campbellsville, Kentucky, to Ray and Wynema Jessee on December 18, 1951. She grew up in Louisville with two brothers (Doug and Mark) and one sister (Holly). After graduating from Pleasure Ridge Park High School, she attended the University of Kentucky and earned the degree that began the journey for one of her greatest passions of teaching. She was a proud teacher for 31 years before retiring in 2004.

On April 7, 1973 she married the love of her life, David Hafling. They were married for 51 incredible years. They had two sons, Christopher and Matthew. Her boys were her life's work and source of her greatest joys. She also had a faithful dog, Buddy, whom she loved dearly until his passing in 2020.

In November 2013, she became Nana after the birth of her granddaughter, Ava Colette. Ava was her final and greatest love.

She treasured spending time with family and friends. She also loved her Kentucky Wildcats - Go Big Blue! She had enormous respect for the teachers she was fortunate to work with. She had tremendous pride for the countless

students she taught or crossed paths with over her career. Long after retiring from teaching, she was still impacting their lives.

Wife, Mom, Nana, daughter, sister, aunt, niece, teacher, friend. She was all of these things and so much more. To know Phyllis was to be loved by her.

Phyllis is survived by her husband David, son Christopher, son Matthew (Breanne), granddaughter Ava, brother Mark Jessee, sister Holly Thurman (Steve), 8 nephews, 2 nieces, and many other caring family and friends.

Phyllis is preceded in death by Ray Jessee (Father), Wynema Jessee (Mother), and Douglas Jessee (Brother).

Her funeral service will be at 1:00 p.m. Friday, May 17, 2024, at Owen Funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Highway, with burial at Bethany Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 1:00 – 8:00 p.m. Thursday at Owen Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in memory of Phyllis to the American Cancer Society.

Cemetery Details

Bethany Memorial Cemetery

10917 Dixie Hwy
Louisville, KY 40272

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 16. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

MAY 17. 1:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

YF

“ Your Louisville Modine Family purchased the *Vivid Recollections* for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.



Your Louisville Modine Family - May 16, 2024 at 01:50 PM

YF

“ Your Louisville Modine Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.

Your Louisville Modine Family - May 16, 2024 at 01:50 PM

RP

“ Phyllis was such a kind and gentile person. meeting her the first time she made you feel like she had known you all her life. She will be missed by all that knew her.

roger pryor - May 16, 2024 at 11:52 AM

JE

“ Jennifer E. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.

Jennifer E. - May 16, 2024 at 11:39 AM

AP

“ Anita P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.

Anita P. - May 16, 2024 at 11:00 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.



May 16, 2024 at 08:49 AM

YF

“ Your Modine Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.

Your Modine Family - May 16, 2024 at 08:49 AM

JF

“ Mrs. Hafling was a wonderful Teacher and great Lady. She taught me English at Stuart Middle School in the 7th Grade. She will be sorely missed. My Prayers are with her family and her husband during this Difficult Time.



Jeremy Foley - May 15, 2024 at 01:15 PM

MC

“ Dave, Chris, and Matt, sorry to hear the loss of a great woman. I would always have her critique letters that I was sending to colleges and employers. She would grade them and I'm happy to say I would have barely passed her class. She made an impact on many students and teachers. I truly glad I had the opportunity of meeting her.

Mike Campbell

Mike Campbell - May 15, 2024 at 12:26 PM

TF

“ Trish Thompson and Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.



Trish Thompson and Family - May 15, 2024 at 11:29 AM

ML

“ I had the privilege to work with Phyllis at Stuart Middle School. She always supportive of the band program and would help me in any way to see the children succeeded. Her love for children was displayed with such calm gentleness and kindness. My condolences to the family.

May Lambert

May Lambert - May 15, 2024 at 06:19 AM

JK

“ Jan & Marianne, Robert, Mason & Kenzie purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.



Jan & Marianne, Robert, Mason & Kenzie - May 14, 2024 at 01:32 PM

JK

“ Jan & Marianne, Robert, Mason & Kenzie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.

Jan & Marianne, Robert, Mason & Kenzie - May 14, 2024 at 01:32 PM

LA

“ Love Lee and Kathi Anderson purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.



Love Lee and Kathi Anderson - May 14, 2024 at 10:10 AM

LA

“ Love Lee and Kathi Anderson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.

Love Lee and Kathi Anderson - May 14, 2024 at 10:10 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.*



May 14, 2024 at 09:33 AM



“ *One of my favorite teachers at Butler and a great lady in general. RIP Mrs Hafling, you'll be missed.*

Clay Entrican - May 14, 2024 at 08:25 AM



“ *David, so very sorry for your loss. Sounds like Phyllis was a remarkable woman. Wishing you and your family peace. Sincerely, Vicki Spradlin*

VickiTallarico Spradlin - May 13, 2024 at 10:09 PM



“ *Both my sons had Mrs. Hafling for Eng. but at two different schools. My older son, Philip Todd Turner, had her for advanced Eng. at Stuart Middle. My younger son, Aaron, had her at Butler for honors Eng. his 10th grade year. I also knew Phyllis in a different way - as a fellow Eng. teacher at Butler. It was a pleasure to know her*

Marsha Spears - May 13, 2024 at 09:07 PM

LM

“ Love the Pressman’s, Scott, Katja & Max purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.



Love the Pressman’s, Scott, Katja & Max - May 13, 2024 at 08:28 PM

JD

“ Mrs. Hafling challenged me as a 7th grade ELA student at Stuart Middle School in the early 90s at a time when I needed it the most. Now, as an 8th grade ELA teacher myself, I carry a lot of what she taught me into my own classroom experience. Thank you, Mrs. Hafling, for your influence and I am sorry to the family for your loss.

Jason Davidson - May 13, 2024 at 06:37 PM

NB

“ NKU Women’s Basketball purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.



NKU Women’s Basketball - May 13, 2024 at 05:34 PM

NB

“ NKU Women’s Basketball planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.

NKU Women’s Basketball - May 13, 2024 at 05:34 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.*



May 13, 2024 at 05:21 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.*



May 13, 2024 at 04:00 PM



“ *Mrs.Hafling was the reason I became an English teacher. An amazing lady who will truly be missed. Heaven has a new angel. Keep teaching Mrs. Hafling. Love you. Lori Harper*

Lori Harper - May 13, 2024 at 03:32 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Phyllis Ann Jessee Hafling.*



May 13, 2024 at 02:36 PM

Jl

“ *Phyllis on her 72nd. birthday. I always loved her smile. Great person, great teacher, great mom. It was a blessing having her in our family. She will be missed.* ”



Jim - May 13, 2024 at 01:40 PM