



Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty"

October 8, 1942 - June 16, 2021

To call her a “Steel Magnolia” would be the understatement of the year.

Catherine Strickland Croxton, “Kitty”, to those that knew and loved her, brought joy and humor to every person she ever met and every room she ever entered. Blessed with both razor-sharp wit, and a penchant for perfectly-placed sarcasm, she charmed all who crossed her path with her unmistakable southern lilt during the years we were blessed to have her.

Her beloved husband, Jerry, to whom she was married for 56 years, worked as a pharmacist while she taught high-school math. He was her tall, dark, handsome beau, and she was his sparkling jewel. On their very first date, she announced to my father “Jerry I must warn you – you are in danger...I caught the bridal bouquet at a wedding today, and I am on the prowl”. Prescient humor, as they were married 3 years later.

Her two sons, Huff and Tag, were consummate knuckle-heads growing up, and she was doting and omnipresent – score-keeping every little-league baseball game in the hot sun, and every high-school basketball game in faraway gymnasiums. Her heart was large enough to later become an omnipresent “Mimi” to her 8 grandchildren: Slade and Jett (Tag), and Dane, Celia, Fallon, Chase, Cole, and Kaitlyn (Huff). She adored her daughter-in-law Beth, whom she thought was “almost perfect, except for her questionable

judgment marrying Huff” (her typical humor lol).

Kitty is the daughter of Willis and Catherine Strickland, late of Richland, GA. She was very close to her dear younger brother Sam and his family in Albany: sister-in-law Willette, niece Kate, and her beloved nephew Matt, who predeceased her.

“Miss Kitty”, as she was known to the hundreds of students to whom she taught mathematics over the years, acquired her academic skills at Agnes Scott College, where she was Valedictorian in 1964. She taught at Greenfield Academy for almost 30 years, and Southland Academy for nearly another decade. She was simultaneously brilliant, firm, and humorous with her students. She effortlessly infused learning, whether a student was a future math genius, or just praying for a C. Most importantly, she cared deeply, and every student she ever had would say they felt special and loved in her classroom.

Whether as mother, wife, sister, grandmother, or daughter, she wove and secured the fabric of family together with effortless charm and humor. She was a nurturing and gentle caregiver, who could become a roaring lioness when those she loved were threatened by life’s troubles. She leaves behind a loving family who will miss her dearly, and hundreds of enlightened students.

A graveside service will be held at Harmony Cemetery in Richland, GA, at 3 pm on Saturday, June 19. Pastor Paul Coats will preside. In case of severely inclement weather, the service will be moved inside to Richland United Methodist Church. The family welcomes and will receive visitors at the family home in Richland (128 Broad Street) all day on Friday at such time as anyone wishes to visit.

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors is in charge of arrangements.

Flowers by Darrell is in charge of floral arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Harmony Cemetery

Richland, GA

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN 19. 3:00 PM.

Harmony Cemetery
Richland, GA

Tribute Wall

DP

“ To the family of Mrs. Kitty’s family: Mr. Jerry, Huff, Tag and extended family,
I’m so sorry for your loss! She will be missed by so many! I remember her teaching at Greenfield! She was a wonderful person, teacher, mom, etc. She was caring, joyous and was loved by so many! May God bless y’all during this time in the months ahead with peace, comfort, strength, and God’s love!

Donna Spann Pelfrey - September 13, 2021 at 05:22 PM

SR

“ I was probably one of the worst math students that Miss Kitty ever had but she became one of my best friends. A real steel magnolia if there ever was one. I hope she runs in to Elvis in heaven!

Stan Robets - July 17, 2021 at 09:23 PM

TH

“ The obituary in the Stewart Webster Journal was so well written and I am so sorry I couldn’t be at the funeral. I loved Miss Kitty and she gave me my love of math. Her laughter and humor would have kept a zombie interested in her class. She will be missed. Rest in peace!!!

Teri Hancock - June 25, 2021 at 08:27 AM

CW

“ Mr. Jerry, Tag, Huff and families- we are so sorry to hear about your Ms. Kitty!! What memories we will cherish of her and our gatherings, both in the front yard for our annual Turkey Bowl and in the kitchen for story time and festivities!

All of you are in our prayers!!

Chuck Wimberly - June 23, 2021 at 12:04 PM

PK

“ Jim and I are so sorry to hear about “Miss” Kitty. We have some great memories of her and your family. She was a wonderful, special person who was loved by so many.
Jim and Pat Kelley

Pat Kelley - June 19, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JJ

“ John B/Martha Jane purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty".



John B/Martha Jane - June 18, 2021 at 09:49 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty".



June 18, 2021 at 09:02 PM

PM

“ Huff and family:
So sorry to hear of your dear mother's death. I am sorry I didn't know her.....she sounds like so much fun. Know your many friends hold you in our hearts and prayers as you move through these tough days ahead. My condolences to your entire family.

patsy martin - June 18, 2021 at 06:27 PM

PW

Whoever wrote the obituary absolutely nailed it. To know Kitty was to absolutely love her. I had the pleasure of teaching with her at Southland. Tag, I am so sorry for your loss. Your mother was certainly unique. Prayers for you all!

patty webb - June 18, 2021 at 10:22 PM

DH

“ We were so saddened to hear of Kitty's passing. She and Jack taught together for several years at Greenfield and she taught Jarrad math in high school. She was very special. Diane, Jack & Jarrad Holbrook

Diane & Jack Holbrook - June 18, 2021 at 03:35 PM

JM

“ Janice Mannix lit a candle in memory of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty"



Janice Mannix - June 18, 2021 at 01:12 PM

JM

May your light of your spirit forever burn in all your hearts to hold onto for warm memories of our time spent together even though your gone, the warmth of your love will always live on.. 🙏🕊️❤️

Janice Mannix - June 18, 2021 at 01:17 PM

JM

“ I always loved coming for visits at the Holidays,,at Jerry and Kittys house,,it was always decorated so pretty with lights Christmas tree and Christmas decorations everywhere in the house with all the chatter of the house being full of grandkids,your children,friends and rest of the family,,always great food and conversations in every room and the yard! Bustling with activity where ever you looked! Ms.Kitty you will be greatly missed and you are greatly loved. RIP KITTY Till we meet agin,,



Janice Mannix - June 18, 2021 at 01:10 PM

SW

“ How sad I am to hear of Miss Kitty’s passing. She meant so much to me during my high school years at Greenfield. She was an awesome teacher who brought math to life. When faced with the need to calculate something now, I always think back to those lessons and tips she shared. She was also my star teacher in 1978— one who inspired and encouraged me so much. My sympathies to you Mr. Jerry, and to Huff and Tag, (who I babysit back in the day), and to all the family. We share your sorrow and will miss her too.

Sherry Wilder Witherington

Sherry Wilder Witherington - June 18, 2021 at 12:20 PM

BJ

“ To Huff, Tag and the Croxton family,

I wish to to express my sincerest sympathy in the loss of your dear Mother. She was a fine lady and math teacher. I will always remember the assistance she gave me during my time as Headmaster at Greenfield. A memorial gift will be made in Kitty's memory to the Richland Methodist Church.

Sincerely,

Coach Billy Wilson and family

Billy S Wilson, Jr - June 18, 2021 at 11:52 AM

FW

“ *Frank Wetherbee purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty".*



Frank Wetherbee - June 18, 2021 at 11:33 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty".*



June 18, 2021 at 09:16 AM

JW

“ This lady was beyond special... she was not only my favorite teacher.. but a friend as well.. always greets you with a smile and a hug... she and Jerry trusted me to sit with her boys to allow them to go out and enjoy a symphony or a nice meal. Huff, Tag.. you boys always entertained me with games of playing the Hulk... each of you carry her love of life and family.. thanks for sharing your mom with us all..love you Miss Kitty!

Jay Tindol Wood - June 18, 2021 at 07:26 AM

TP

Sorry to hear about Miss Kitty. She was one of my favorite teachers, and I was her biggest problem. Praying for y'all.

Tom Pate - June 18, 2021 at 08:10 PM

JM

“ I was a weak math student. Kitty had the ability to break it down in the simplest way so that it made sense to me. She did it in a way that never made me feel inferior or embarrassed. When I became a teacher I tried to be the same way with my students but I doubt that I did it as well as Kitty.

Jan Webb McBroom

Janis McBroom - June 18, 2021 at 01:32 AM

DH

“ I worked with Miss Kitty for a short time at Greenfield and she was always supportive and inspiring as I was starting out as a new teacher. Loved her dearly!! Especially her feisty spirit! God bless you during this tough time. My prayers for all!

Debbie Hobgood - June 18, 2021 at 01:15 AM

AC

“ I love you. You are missed today and everyday. 💜



Amy Croxton - June 18, 2021 at 01:12 AM

AC

You are loved and missed today and everyday. 💜. My Georgia Mom.

Amy Croxton - June 18, 2021 at 01:12 AM



“ *She was not Miss Kitty to those of us who were her students at Richland Junior High in the 1965 and 1966 school years, but rather "Mrs. Croxton." It was more formal in those days, and---truth be told---we were a little scared of her!*

I think those were her first years out of Agnes Scott. She gave us a great foundation in math, and I can still visualize the classes!

Years later, my wife, Georgia, taught with her at Greenfield, and she (by then, she was Miss Kitty) taught our children.

Those community connections and sacrifices will be appreciated always by her hundreds of students and thousands of family members.

God bless you, Mr. Jerry, Tag, and Huff, and your families for sharing her with us.

Mac Moyer - June 17, 2021 at 08:55 PM

MD

“ There is not enough room for my hundreds of memories with Kitty.. Like a sister to me, I will treasure every memory. Thanks for the good times. Ki Ki. I will miss you always. Love you Jerry, Huff and Tag!

Mary jo Dudley - June 17, 2021 at 07:43 PM

BG

“ Forever my Sun Goddess☀️☀️💕🙏

Bari Geeslin - June 17, 2021 at 07:30 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty".



June 17, 2021 at 06:52 PM

LF

“ We light a red candle for the heart and love she showed to all of her students. I chose her as my STAR Teacher and enjoyed the trip we made to Atlanta with Mom and Dad back in 1981. She was such an inspiration and instilled the love of math that I carry this day. I have thought of her often over the years and missing her smile today. What a difference she made in our lives. A blessing from God!❤️❤�

Laura Hipp Farris



Laura Hipp Farris - June 17, 2021 at 06:18 PM

DD

“ *Debbie Daniel lit a candle in memory of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty"* ”



Debbie Daniel - June 17, 2021 at 06:14 PM

TB

“ *The David Hipp Family- Pat, Laura, Tommy and Bryan purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty".* ”



The David Hipp Family- Pat, Laura, Tommy and Bryan - June 17, 2021 at 06:08 PM

JI

“ *Joe Ivey lit a candle in memory of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty"* ”



Joe Ivey - June 17, 2021 at 05:59 PM

KE

“ *Kay Smith Erickson lit a candle in memory of Catherine Strickland Croxton "Kitty"* ”



Kay Smith Erickson - June 17, 2021 at 05:40 PM

KE

I am sending this green candle in her memory of being so very important to us at Greenfield Academy. I will never forget her.

Kay Smith Erickson - June 17, 2021 at 05:42 PM

SB

I am so very sorry for the Croxton family. Kitty was one of a kind and she will be missed greatly.

SUSAN LITTLE BAZEMORE - June 17, 2021 at 09:53 PM

CJ

So sorry to hear of Kitty's passing. I know she taught math, but I still remember her teaching me how to study history when we were students at Brenau Academy a very long time ago.

Carolyn Jackson - June 17, 2021 at 10:53 PM

CM

Our "Little Kitty" was a precious toddler, a good student in The tiny Richland Public School as well as at Brenau Academy and Agnes Scott! She was doted on by my sisters, Anne, Ruthie and me while we were growing up. Then, we always made time for a visit with her while we visited our parents, Leon and Burrelle Strickland, who lived just outside Richland on their family farm. Our thoughts and prayers hold many fond memories of family gatherings throughout the years.

Cousin Burrelle Strickland Meeks - June 19, 2021 at 04:04 PM

CS

Time passes so quickly, but cherished times with friends like Kitty will forever be in my heart. We shared memories of our weddings, beginning our families and long visits when I came home to Richland. We always shared laughs at her playing her song "In the Garden" and my "What a Friend" on the piano at church. I have missed seeing your family over the last few years.

Jerry, Huff and Tag, my heart goes out to each of you as you adjust to Kitty's passing, but my heart smiles to know she is in a garden with her Lord and Savior and Friend Jesus. We pray you find strength and encouragement knowing friends and family love you and are praying for you.

Joane, Jennifer Earl and I send our love to each of you and will continue to pray..❤️🙏

Carol Campbell Smith - June 20, 2021 at 11:39 PM