



Cynthia Jo Runnion

March 8, 1958 - August 22, 2010

Cynthia Jo Runnion, known as "Cindie", age 52, died on August 22, 2010, at St. Mary's Mercy Hospital in Knoxville, after a brief illness. Cindie lived in Newport all her life. She was a graduate of East Tennessee State University, with bachelor and master's degrees in education.

Her parents were Jim and Jo (Sykes) Runnion, who died in 2005 and 2009, respectively. Grandparents were Charles S. Sr. and Maye (Burnett) Runnion of Newport, and Clovis and Eula (Osborne) Sykes of Virginia. She is also predeceased by uncle Charles S Runnion Jr., uncle Frank Sykes, and 1st cousin Carl ("Chip") McNabb Runnion. She is survived by her sister Vicki Maye Runnion of Louisville KY; aunt Beth McNabb Runnion of Newport; aunt and uncle Alma and Allen Rakes of Raleigh NC; 1st cousin Trey (and Joan) Runnion of Kansas City MO; 1st cousins Philip Rakes (and Kim) of La Crosse WI and Steve Rakes of Raleigh NC; and a wealth of friends, including "adopted sister" Debbie Black of Knoxville, and lifelong friends Tandy Painter Lyles, Jorja Painter Williamson and James Allen Painter, Susie Teague and Debbie Teague Barclay.

She worked for Cocke County Schools for her entire career, primarily as a 3rd grade teacher at Edgemont. Teaching was one of her great passions in life. She served on the School Improvement Team, and as a supervisor for several student teachers. She enlisted the help of friends and family in saving receipts from Food City and box tops to purchase educational materials for her classroom, including several extra computers. She was excited each fall to

meet the new students assigned to her classroom, and she loved encountering former students out in the community and hearing about their lives. She was diligent about communicating with the parents of her students, and many of her earlier students later requested that their own children be assigned to her classroom.

She was a lifelong and devoted member of First Baptist Church in Newport, where she served as deacon, Sunday School teacher for youth and adults. At various times she sang in the choir, chaired the Scholarship Committee, and most recently was serving on the Evangelism Committee. Over the years, she also volunteered with the Dead Pigeon River Council, Newport Theater Guild, and Smoky Mountain Hospice.

She was generous in her support of many not-for-profit service organizations, including Compassion International, The Heifer Project, American Bible Society, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, The Leukemia Society, First Priority Launch Ministries, several animal rescue groups, and others.

She was an avid reader, and a collector of movies old and new. She loved music, and enjoyed attending concerts and musicals. She maintained regular correspondence with an extensive list of friends, often sending handcrafted greeting cards for special occasions. She enjoyed traveling, and one of the great joys of her life was her 2007 adventure in Ireland with a small circle of close friends. She loved animals, and cherished a succession of beloved dogs. She considered her family and friends to be her greatest treasure, and lived her life accordingly.

The family will receive friends from 2:00-6:00 pm at First Baptist Church on Tuesday, August 24th, with a service at 7:30pm, Dr. Rich Lloyd officiating. Burial will be 11:00 am Wednesday morning August 25, 2010 in Union Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be given to First Baptist Church, 261 E Broadway, any of the charities mentioned above, or any child-serving or animal rescue group of the donor's choice.

Tribute Wall



“ *Cynthia Jo Runnion*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *Today you would have had your 53rd birthday and I am crying right now as I wish that I could speak with you again, but I do realize that you are in Heaven with the Lord and that you know no sadness in His presence, my dear friend, Cindie. Every day I thin*

Kim Baldwin - March 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I met Cindie when she was 15 and I was 16- in Spain. We went through Augustana College- for high school and college students. We spent 6 weeks there learning the language and exporing the country. We took the subways, went out dancing, toured different ci*

Rick Wentzel - January 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Cindie has been a very dear friend of mine since we were both age 38. She was such a loving, kind, generous and thoughtful woman on whom you could always count for unconditional love and support. Our mutual love for Days of Our Lives originally brought us*

Kim Baldwin - December 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our sincere sympathies to the family.*

John, Vida, Luke & Meredith - September 21, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ I went to school with Cindie, Newport Grammar and Cocke County High School. She was a very sweet girl. I will be praying for the family. God Bless You

Louise Gregg Carpenter - September 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I went to high school with Cindie and always loved and admired her. I vividly recall the time when Cindy and I, as high schoolers, were talking with each other about what we wanted to do with her lives after high school. She said she "wanted to make the w

Treva Hall Shropshire - August 31, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Miss Runnion was a very special lady, she will be missed. She taught both my children at Edgemont and always enjoyed everyone she came in contact with. Darlene Tracy, Tim & Talea Blakely

Darlene Tracy & Family - August 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Our thought and prayers. Ms. Runnion will be miss by all.

Drew & Linda Ramsey - August 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FE

“ We were very sorry to learn of Cindie's passing. I recently spent a day of in-service with Cindie that we enjoyed. She will be missed.

Fletcher and Penny Ervin - August 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ My deepest condolences for the family. May the promises in the Holy Scriptures comfort you. The Bible promises one day soon, ôGod will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymoreö

Rena - August 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ We are sorry for your loss and know that indie is in a wonderful place. She was a good friend and wonderful person. She will be greatly missed.

Randy and Joyce Mullins - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ I taught with Cindy at Edgemont several years ago. I hated to hear about her passing. May GOD be with your family at this time.

Randy Sturgill - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Miss Runion's family. She was my kindergarten teacher in the old Edgemont school building. She will be sadly missed but has made an impact on many lives.

Christy Edwards Fowler - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ We here at Rusty Wallace Ford were all very saddened to hear of Ms. Runnions death. She was a wonderful lady and will be deeply missed.

CINDIE'S RUSTY WALLACE FORD FRIENDS - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Randy and Julie Sturgill - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Jamie Cody - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Vicki, my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May God bless each day with happy memories of your sister and may God's mercy give you peace. I went to high school with Cindie and we shared many classes together. I shall remember her fondly.

Diana Taylor McGaha - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ Vickie, Cindie and I went all through Grade and High School together! I never heard or saw anything bad out of her, that is alot to say about someone ! The Truth will always stand! I enjoyed when your mom was able to come in Food City, I tried to always

Frances Standifer - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Pat & Patricia Mathis Taylor - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EY

“ Cindi was such a blessing to my Mother Ella Youell, coming to see her among a whole bunch of other things just because Cindi wanted to, I will never forget her. She will be sadly missed by all.

Ellen Youell-Williamson - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Cynthia Jo Runnion*

Jaclyn Smith-Pack - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *My heartfelt sympathy to the family and loved ones left behind. 52 seems like such a young age to leave this world, but Cindi certainly left the world a better place for having been here. It was my pleasure to have known her.*

Jan Barnes - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ *A beautiful soul and a lady.*

Ray Fancher - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ *My heart with yours this day, yesterday, and all the morrows yet to be. Know that I send you love forward into the past. . .*

Ann - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Beyond that far horizon where someone dear has gone is a place where life is eternal and love lives ever on. May faith and friendship help comfort you at this difficult time. Deepest Sympathy Tammy & Jabo Francis*

Tammy Francis - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Vickie, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family during these trying days. We so cherished Cindie and her love of family.

John and Jetta Burnett - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Diana Arrowood & Ruby Blazer - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Cindy will really be missed in the community. She was a dedicated teacher and a good christian who practiced her faith.

Charlotte Davis - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of grieve. Cynthia was a special person to me and to my family she was a wonderful teacher and a great friend, I send my love to all of you,

Trayce Mantoath-Mooneyham - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Mrs. Runnion will be greatly missed. I was at one time one of her 3rd grade students. I loved her class, the thing I remember most about her class is when she read Boxcar Children books to us. She would read aloud from one of these books and while she was

Michel Hannon - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Good bye my good friend. You will be missed. My prayers are with your family. We had some good times in the Newport Theatre Guild. Many good memories...

J. L. Gardner - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ I am so sorry for the loss of Cindi. She was such a caring, fun loving person. She is a wonderful example of a dedicated teacher. We will all miss her smile.

Robyn Self Elkins - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss Ms. Runnion. My children, Kailey & Seth, had the pleasure of being her students in the past few years. She had such a heart of gold and truly loved all of her children. She will be sadly missed by all that loved her.He

Rebecca Clabough - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

VD

“ I have enjoyed working with Cindy. She is a wonderful mentor and friend. I will miss her dearly.

Vonda Dunn - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

NG

“ I HAD MISS RUNNION LAST YEAR AND I LOVED HER TO DEATH. SHE WAS A WONDERFUL TEACHER. I WILL MISS HER DEARLY. YOUR FAMILY IS IN MY PRAYERS

NICHOLAS GIBSON - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Terry Stuart - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. Cindi was a great educator and friend to her students. My children lovingly referred to her as Ms. "No Homework" Runnion. The education field has definetly taken a great loss.

Sheryl, Amy, Ashley, Jordan Clevenger - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Sorry for your loss she was a special lady in my familys life for many years she will be deeply missed by Tena, Sam, & Austin Hines and also Starr Mantooth May God Bless you all

Tena Hines - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Cindi set a wonderful example to all of us with her kindness and generosity. I had the priviledge of knowing Cindi thru her friendship with Debbie Black who was truly her "sister". My prayers are with all of you.

Linda Hitch - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Ms.Runnion was my 3rd grade teacher in 1988. She was a very nice lady. I will be thinking and praying for the family during this time. Sorry for your loss.

Misty Campbell Fine - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

A.C. & Stacy Willis - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Tiffany Dover - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Miss Runnion was a very special lady, she will be missed.

Tracy Banks - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ Your family is in our prayers. Cindi was a wonderful person. She will be greatly missed.

Gail Gray - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I met cindie when she first started teaching at CCHS and later moved to Edgemont. She was a great friend and still knew me after all those many years when I was back home in Newport. My prayers are with her family. God bless you, cindie, for all the

Steve Strom - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Robert and Martha Pack - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ *Cynthia Jo Runnion*

Linnie Denton - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *Cynthia Jo Runnion*

Sylvia I. Gray - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *May God rest your soul. My thought and prayers go out to the community who lost an excellent ambassador. Who loved Newport very much.*

Steve Shaver - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ *Cynthia Jo Runnion*

charles; kate; tammy evans - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *Vickie, My thoughts & prayers are with you during this difficult time. Love, Ginni*

Ginni Walker Foust - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *sorry for your loss*

margaret fox busler - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Dear Vicki and family, We are so sorry to hear of your sister's death. You have our deepest sympathy. Sincerely, George and Pat Webb

Pat Webb - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Linda D Clark - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ My sympathies to Cindie's family and friends.

Kim Gentry Derrick - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FP

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

fredia pruit - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ VICKI. SO SORRY TO HEAR BOUT MS CINDIE . SHE WAS ALWAYS A GOOD LADY. SHE TAUGHT MY HUSBAND AT EDGEMONT . SHE WELCOMED US WITH OPEN ARMS WHEN WE FIRST CAME TO CHURCH. WE ARE OTR DRIVERS NOW AN WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND HER FUNERAL BUT KNOW WE LOVED THAT LAD

BETTY & JIM DOCKERY - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ Cindy was truly a giver in every aspect of her life. She touched so many students during her career. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. We will keep the family in our thoughts and prayers during this time.

Kay and Kim Gregg - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ I am so sorry to hear about loss of Miss Runnion. My heart and prayers go out to her family and friends. She was my 2nd and 3rd grade teacher at Edgemont. She was such a wonderful person who really cared about her students..

Kim (Clevenger) Price - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ We are happy that we were part of the friends that traveled to Ireland.

Wiley & Kate Morgan - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Praying For You---Jerry

Jerry Austin - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

HK

“ Cynthia Jo Runnion

Hank & Louise Sweeten Kilgore - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I really enjoyed having you as my teacher last year! I will really miss you. With all my love, Terry

Terry Lee Stanley - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Vicki, My thoughts and deepest sympathy to you. Heaven is nearer and dearer now...especially since so many were waiting to welcome Cindie "Home". I hope to see you when you return to Louisville.
Mary Lou Crutcher

Mary Lou Crutcher - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ My deepest sympathy in the lost of Cindie. I only had the pleasure of meeting her one time with Deb Black. She had such a sweet personality and loved life. She will make a very special angel.

Jan Wilson - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ In deepest sympathy for your loss will keep you in my prayers.

Angela Reynolds - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ i am so sorry to hear that Miss Runnion has passed away.i had her in third grade and then moved in fith grade. i havent seen her since.i have a lot of great memories with her.i remember that the year i had her was the year she went toi ireland.she had be

Madison Owens - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ Cindie will be truly missed! She was a great person, co-worker, teacher, but most of all friend. Cindie helped me out so much the couple of years I taught third grade with her. She and I really got to know each other those couple of years. I was proud

Tonya Owens - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Cindie was my friend. I will always remember her for the true friend that she was. I am so sad for the loss the family must feel. I know we will see her again in heaven someday, but I will miss the kindness of Cindie in this world. God bless, Julie*

Julie Cummings Freeman - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ *Cynthia Jo Runnion*

Earl and Kathy Williamson Woody - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM