



Reba Faye Sane

March 24, 1929 - March 16, 2026

Reba Faye Sane, age 96, of Parrottsville, died Monday, March 16, 2026, surrounded by loved ones. She was preceded in death by her parents, Gray Sparks, Sr. and Mattie (McGaha) Sparks, and one brother Gray Sparks, Jr. Reba Faye married the love of her life, Herbert Hoover Sane, on August 15, 1953. They had a happy marriage for sixty-eight (68) years and were blessed with their daughter, Amy Teresa Sane, who they loved dearly.

Reba Faye graduated from East Tennessee State University with a B.S. in Education. Reba Faye spent forty-six (46) years teaching children. She began her teaching career in 1948 at Mannings Chapel School. She later moved to Newport Grammar School and ended her teaching career in the classroom at Parrottsville Elementary. After retirement, she continued to teach children through Sunday school at her church, Parrottsville United Methodist, and through her church's "Wonderful Wednesday" Program which was near and dear to her heart. Reba Faye was a member of Parrottsville United Methodist Church and was involved in the choir, the Clothes Closet, and children's sermons.

Reba Faye enjoyed a full life after retirement. She loved reading, gardening, and visiting with friends and family. Many remember her by her delicious cakes. Reba Faye remained involved in her community by volunteering at the Cancer society and the Newport Museum. She was involved in several organizations, including The Red Hat Society, Retired Teachers Association, Daughters of the American Revolution, and Alpha Delta Kappa.

While Reba Faye touched so many lives through teaching and community involvement, likely her most favorite role was being “Nana” to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren who were precious to her.

Reba Faye is survived by her daughter Amy (Phil) Williams, grandchildren Corbin Williams and Maddie (Isaac) Copes, great grandchildren Lennon Gray Williams, Lawson Faye Copes, Frankie Tyler Williams, Sutton Rose Copes, and sister-in-law Jean Sparks.

The family would like to express their upmost gratitude and appreciation for the phenomenal and wonderful staff at Wellington Manor who loved and looked after Reba Faye as their own family. In addition, they would like to thank the amazing staff at Smoky Mountain Hospice for their care of Reba Faye. The family will forever be grateful.

Memorial remembrances may be directed to Wellington Manor in Newport (checks to be made out to Angelina Messer), Parrottsville United Methodist Church, or American Cancer Society.

The Family will receive friends from 10:00am-12:00pm Friday, March 20, 2026, with funeral services following at 12:00pm in Manes Funeral Home Chapel, with Chris Stanfield officiating. Burial will be held immediately following the funeral services in Union Cemetery.

Family and friends may sign the guest register online at: www.manefuneralhome.com.

Arrangements with Manes Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 20. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Manes Funeral Home Inc.
363 East Main Street
Newport, TN 37821
(423) 623-6952
manesfuneralhome@bellsouth.net
<https://www.manesfuneralhome.com/index.cfm>

Funeral service

MAR 20. 12:00 PM (ET)

Manes Funeral Home Inc.
363 East Main Street
Newport, TN 37821
(423) 623-6952
manesfuneralhome@bellsouth.net
<https://www.manesfuneralhome.com/index.cfm>

Graveside

MAR 20 (ET)

Union Cemetery Inc
420 Mineral St
Newport, TN 37821-3900
(423) 623-6918

Tribute Wall



“ *Manes Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Reba Faye Sane*



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - March 18 at 03:25 PM

LB

*Amy,
Your mother was so very special to us—one of our very favorite teachers! Like several others have stated, she always made us feel special—even as adults. She definitely had a great influence in our lives that will never be forgotten. Heaven welcomes a special lady. May God’s grace comfort you and your family at this sad time. Larry and Kathy (Willis) Brooks.*

Larry and Kathy Brooks - March 18 at 07:05 PM

JP

We loved her. She loved our boys. She was both my boys teacher. Even after she retired she always talked to us when we seen her. She never forgot a face. She was so special. We just loved her so much. Prayers and sympathy to her family.

Joann Parton - March 19 at 11:44 AM

CS

Reba Faye was a very faithful member of Cocke County Retired Teachers. She always did really meaningful devotions at every meeting. She always had a smile & wanted to know about my family. She beat me by 2 years teaching. She taught 46 yrs. & I taught 44. I’m sure Wellington enjoyed her being there. She was a sweet sweet lady that everyone that knew her will miss.

Carwin Stogner - March 19 at 01:15 PM

JC

With deepest sympathy to all the family. I knew Reba Faye in her retirement years mostly, at DAR activities and the Newport / Cocke County Museum. And finally here, at Wellington we did things together. Everyone will miss her.

Jan Carpenter - March 19 at 08:06 PM

JW

Amy I want you to know your mom was an amazing lady, and a dear dear friend. We both loved to shop and get that Saturday morning biscuit. Loved her so much and will miss her terribly. Frances Byrd

Janice G WRIGHT - March 19 at 09:58 PM

SE

Reba Faye brought so much joy and love to all that knew her! I was blessed to know her through DAR. She's smiling on us from Heaven!! Love you, Reba Faye!!

Sheila Evans - March 20 at 02:43 PM

SS

“*Amy, condolences on the loss of your mom. Reba Faye was my 5th grade teacher long, long ago when Parrottsville Elementary moved the 4th-6th grade classes to Central. I enjoyed her class and learned so much about school and life. She was a wonderful teacher who touched the lives of so many young people over her 46 years of teaching. May her memory be a blessing.*

*Steve Strom
Raleigh, NC*

Steve Strom - March 30 at 01:46 PM

MM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. She lived such a vibrant life and remembered me and my brother every time I saw her. She was one of the hardest and best teachers that I every had the pleasure of knowing. I think of her often as I drive by her home and always remember her as a guiding star. She will be missed. Your family will be in my prayers.

Jamey and Melinda (Willis) McDaniel

Melinda (Willis) McDaniel - March 29 at 09:38 AM

BD

“ Almost 50 years later and I still have the fondest, most vivid memories of being in Mrs Sane's 5th grade class. What a wonderful representative of Cocke County and a true icon from the legendary pantheon of teachers at Parrottsville Elementary School. Her kindness and influence will continue to live on as will memories of her smile that would light up any room. RIP dear Mrs Reba Faye Sane. My heartfelt condolences to her family.



Bradley Denton - March 24 at 11:38 AM

TB

“ Mrs.Reba Faye was a bright light for our Parrottsville Community.. she always had the biggest smile every time I saw her. Mrs Reba Faye.. we all loved you and will miss your infectious smile and genuine kindness.. deepest condolences to her family.. May God's peace surround you all!

Tammy Presnell Binkley

Tammy Presnell Binkley - March 21 at 08:53 AM

LM

“ Amy, your mom had such an impact on my life. She will be missed. Prayers to you and your family.

Lisa Parks Mounkes - March 20 at 09:51 PM

SO

“ Amy, Maddie and all the family. I am so so sorry for the loss of precious Reba Faye. She and Herb were best of friends with my parents. Reba Faye was kind, compassionate and loving with a heart of gold. Heavens doors were wide open for Reba Faye to enter no doubt. What a wonderful Christian lady! She helped to mold soooo many lives through her church and teaching school. She was the best cook EVER! She loved to surprise people with her delicious cakes. Reba Faye was one true lady that loved her God and family unconditionally. She will be missed terribly. I will not be able to attend her service due to illness, but my heart is with you. I'm sorry I can't be with you during this heartbreaking time. I love you all, and I will continue to pray for strength and comfort from our Lord. Rest in peace my precious friend Reba Faye. You will not be forgotten. 💔



Susie O'Dell - March 20 at 11:31 AM

KV

“ Reba Faye was such a huge part of the community and will be very missed. We loved having her as a coordinator for our wedding, and she was always so excited to talk about all of the weddings she had a hand in. We are so sorry for your loss.

Kimmie and Zac Valentine - March 20 at 11:09 AM

DH

“ *Fond memories of Reba Faye and Herb through the years my husband Dave and I had the privilege to share with them as friends and church family. They took us under their wings in personal and spiritual care. RIP dear friend and join Herb in Glory.*



Debra Haak - March 20 at 09:11 AM

DF

“ *Dearest Amy, I am so sorry for your loss. Reba took me in and guided me in my first year of teaching at Parrottsville...she was also one of my mother's dearest friends...I loved that lady...always a pleasure to talk with her...I mourn along with you but smile at all the memories of her*

Daniel Ray Fancher - March 20 at 08:43 AM

FM

“ *Amy, I am so knowing that a beautiful soul just met her Holy Trinity. She was gifted with the most special gift a person, esp a Mother and teacher can have. LOVE. I know u need to take care of yourself, to try to stay well. I love u all, Sincerely, Franni Miller. Hugs and kisses her way.*

Franni Miller - March 20 at 02:32 AM

JW

“ *She's one of those people that you meet in life that's special. I enjoyed her so much as a teacher. The times I saw her it was always wonderful to see that smile.*

Jeffrey Winter - March 19 at 11:02 PM

GG

“ Prayers for the family.

Gary and Angie Gentry - March 19 at 09:39 PM

SS

“ Mrs. Sane was one of the best teachers I had. So sorry for the family's loss.

Steven Suggs - March 19 at 09:24 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Reba Faye Sane.



March 19 at 02:48 PM

MO

“ I am very sorry to hear of our loss. She was a great lady and one of the last of a generation that set standards. Take comfort in knowing she was loved by everyone and now can join the others.

Michael Ottinger - March 19 at 10:51 AM

CG

“ I hate to hear of the passing of Mrs. Sane. She was my 5th-grade teacher at Parrottsville, where her compassion, dedication, and a little paddling (LOL) and a lot of notes to my parents influenced my future in such a positive light. She was one of those educators who was able to turn a child in the right direction, both in education and personally. Later in life, when Mrs. Sane was helping with "Wonderful Wednesday", she came to know my son, and every time I would see her, she would always say, "he's nothing like you were", as we would both laugh about it. She was one of the best teachers that I had the privilege of learning from. With Love and great respect, I send my condolences to Mrs. Sane's family and know that she will be greatly missed.

Craig Gardner - March 19 at 09:11 AM

JT

“ This was the best teacher. She was lovely inside and out. She always had a smile on her face. I loved this sweet lady. Amy I am so sorry for your loss. Love you. Jewelene Travis

Jewelene "Jewjew" Travis - March 18 at 11:54 PM

FE

“ Mrs . Sane was my 5th grade teacher. I always loved her class. Praying for the family.
Love Felicia Evans

Felicia Evans - March 18 at 10:30 PM

AF

“ Reba Faye was a sweet and elegant lady. To know here was to love her. She will be missed. Prayers for her family.

Angel and Ronald Fowler - March 18 at 09:55 PM

BF

“ *Such a sweet lady, thoughts & prayers for the family.*

Brenda Fancher - March 18 at 08:44 PM

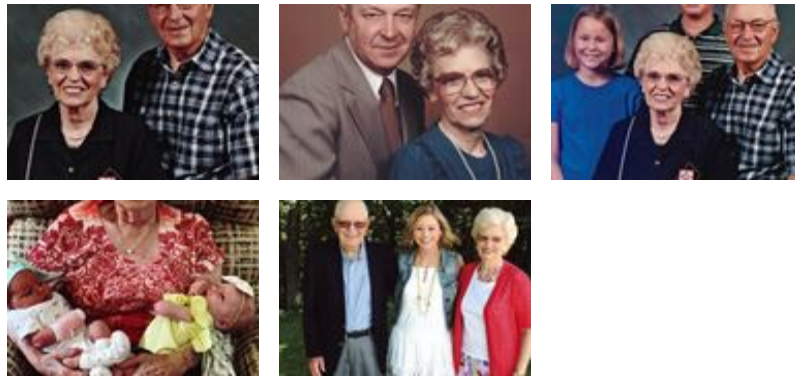
TH

“ *She was the sweetest lady! So sorry for your loss!*

Tammy Hopkins - March 18 at 05:20 PM



“ *76 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - March 18 at 03:17 PM

TF

“ *Reba Faye was the sweetest, kindest and most compassionate person ever. She meant alot to all of us. May God's loving Presence comfort you, His perfect peace restore you, and His promise of eternal life sustain you during this difficult time.*

With Heartfelt Deepest Sympathy,

Jabo & Tammy Francis

Smoky Mountain Home Health & Hospice

Tammy Francis - March 18 at 02:44 PM

DW

“ *Reba Faye was a wonderful person that made a positive influence in many lives. She was my 5th grade teacher and continued to be a big supporter as I later became an educator. She always greeted me with a smile, kind words, and encouraged me to keep up the good work. Praying for comfort and peace for the family during this time of loss.*

Dennis Wilds - March 18 at 12:21 PM

TD

“ *I hate to hear the news of the passing of Mrs Sane. I was one of those students that she inspired wisdom on. She was one of my favorite teachers at Parrottsville. She was a very beloved teacher, who even in the later years never forgot your name. She knew all of her former students. Mrs. Sane you will be missed by all....*



Tiffany P Dobbins - March 18 at 10:58 AM

AS

“ *She was a wonderful teacher. Always so nice. She made english work so easy to understand. I always loved how she was always so elegant looking. It just matched her heart and soul all around. Trueky a great teacher. Prayers.*



Alma James(Sane) and Melvin Sane - March 18 at 10:48 AM

VT

“ *So sorry to hear of Reba Faye's passing. She was always so sweet with a kind word and smile. Prayers for her family.*

Vicky Wilson Turner - March 18 at 10:45 AM

DG

“ Sending my Deepest Condolences to All of the family and friends 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️



Debra A Gann - March 18 at 10:17 AM

CC

“ Cathy L Copes purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Reba Faye Sane.



Cathy L Copes - March 18 at 09:26 AM

JW

“ Amy I'm so so sorry your going thru this . I'm praying for you & the whole family for peace & help to deal. I love you in Jesus

Janice G WRIGHT - March 17 at 09:14 PM

LG

I am so sorry to hear this. Please know you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers! She is now healed and in a beautiful place. Love to you. 🥺🦋🙏

Libba Grabach - March 18 at 08:58 AM

TB

“ What a wonderful teacher and kind person who patiently guided so many students, including myself. Sending everybody in the family my love. Blessed be.

Tre Berney - March 17 at 08:05 PM

DO

“ We are so sorry to read this. Herb and Reba Faye were part of our family for decades with connections through farming, teaching, and various organizations. She was such a delightful person, always ready for a chat and full of excitement for whatever her day promised. Her love for her family and friends was legendary. She even gifted our newborn grandson with a book soon after his birth. To have lived nearly 97 years is remarkable but her presence and influence will continue to be manifested for decades to come. She made a difference.

Duay and Kay O'Neil - March 17 at 05:41 PM

TT

“ Loved her so much. **GAIL TEAGUE**

Thressa Teague - March 17 at 04:25 PM

LR

One special lady for everyone who knew her in any way. Always so happy, kind and generous to everyone. One of the best teachers in the area and loved everyone. She will truly be missed. Amy and family so sorry for your loss.

Lorane Runyan - March 18 at 12:01 PM

DS

I am so sorry to hear of the death of this wonderful lady. She was my distant cousin and always made me feel welcome. When I moved to Parrottsville she was one of the first to come and welcome me. She was a beautiful soul inside and out. She will be missed by so many. Many condolences to the family.

Denette Sturm - March 19 at 11:22 AM