



Lee Jack Kaufman

January 17, 1936 - March 12, 2021

Dr. Lee Jack Kaufman, 85 of Bluefield, WV, passed peacefully, March 12, 2021, surrounded by his family following a brief illness.

Born in Sutton, WV, he was the son of the late James Boyd Kaufman and Bessie Hashman Kaufman. He graduated from Sutton High School in 1953. He received a degree in Music Education from Glenville State College and served as band director at Sutton High School and then Floyd County High School in Floyd, Va. He furthered his education at the University of Virginia earning his Master of Education degree and a Doctorate in Education.

Dr. Kaufman moved his family to Bluefield, WV, in 1970, and began his career at Bluefield State College, where he served as a Professor of Education for 34 years. Throughout his career he influenced hundreds of teachers, many of whom served in our local school systems. He was recognized for his many accomplishments in the field of education including the U.S. Jaycees War Memorial Fund Scholarship, the Harrison Ferrell Excellence in Teaching Award, and the Phi Delta Kappa Outstanding Educator Award. He was also a proud West Virginia 4-H All-Star.

Dr. Kaufman was an active member of Trinity United Methodist Church where he served on many committees and enjoyed singing in the church choir. He played in the East River Mountain Town Band for 21 years. He traveled throughout the East coast attending Shape-note sings.

Jack and Mary Alice enjoyed traveling the world. They visited 18 countries and all 50 states. They loved traveling with their children and grandchildren,

and they took all their grandchildren to Europe.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mary Alice McHenry Kaufman, two daughters Pamela Browning and husband Todd, Betsey Shaw and husband Mike, all of Bluefield, WV. He had five grandchildren in whom he delighted: Emily Smith (Matt), Michael Browning, Andrew Shaw (Beth), Allison Shaw and Ashton Shaw. He was blessed with five great grandchildren: Grey Smith, Hadley Smith, Madeline Browning, Carter Browning and Wesley Shaw. Also surviving are two brothers, Robert Kaufman (Ann) of Phoenix, AZ, and Argyle Kaufman of Bridgeport, WV; and eight nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends at Trinity United Methodist Church, 401 College Ave, Bluefield, WV, on Friday, March 19, 2021, from 6-8pm. The funeral will be Saturday, March 20, 2021, at 11:00am at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Trinity United Methodist Church Choir. Mercer Funeral Home is serving the Kaufman family.

Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the family of Dr. Lee Jack Kaufman.

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery

Princeton, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 19. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Trinity United Methodist Church
401 College Avenue
Bluefield, WV 24701

Funeral Service

MAR 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

Trinity United Methodist Church
401 College Avenue
Bluefield, WV 24701

Tribute Wall



“ *Lee Jack Kaufman*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *My condolences go out to Mary Alice & family . I'm so sorry for your loss . Mary , you were the the principal at Mercer school when I substituted in the cafeteria so many times . You were one of the nicest principal I had ever met . Always smiling and kind to everyone . I also worked at Bluefield High under Todd Browning and Bluewell Elementary I met Pam . You have a beautiful family . Hearts are broken , God is the healer Love & Sympathy , Pam Thomas*

Pam Thomas - June 27, 2021 at 08:59 PM



“ *As a student of Dr. Kaufman in the student teaching block at BSC ('77), there were some words of wisdom that he shared with us that I passed on to many of my colleagues and educators as a Music Teacher for 40 years. I would say "Dr. Kaufman said.." and they would acknowledge that it was sound advice. I pray that God will comfort you in this time of bereavement.*

Mrs. Terrelyn M. Gillespie, retired Music Educator

TM Gillespie - March 31, 2021 at 11:54 PM

GS

“ *Betsy and Family,
So sorry to hear about your father. He was a good man, and is on a journey to a much better place. We will have you and your family in our prayers.*

*Greg Spry
Roanoke, VA*

Greg Spry - March 21, 2021 at 09:37 AM

CF

“ *Mary Alice, Pam, Betsy and family!
So sorry for your loss....
I will cherish our memories of 4-H as well as the times I stayed at your home.... He was always making me laugh and I pray that you will always hold the beautiful memories you all shared in your hearts.... May God bless each of you in this time with peace*

Cindy Satmary Froy

Cindy Satmary Froy - March 20, 2021 at 07:18 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



March 19, 2021 at 11:40 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



March 19, 2021 at 11:10 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



March 19, 2021 at 07:26 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



March 19, 2021 at 06:52 AM



“ *Joshua and Seth Kaufman purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



Joshua and Seth Kaufman - March 18, 2021 at 11:58 PM

MJ

“ *Mary J. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



Mary J. - March 18, 2021 at 09:03 PM

PJ

“ *Mary Alice and Pam please know that your Alpha Delta Kappa sisters are with you at this time. Prayers to your entire family.*
Peggy Johnson

Peggy Johnson - March 18, 2021 at 07:49 PM

EH

“ *Mrs. Kaufman, Pam, Betsy, and families,*
We are so sorry for the loss of your husband, father, and grandfather. He was so well liked and respected in the community and I know his passing will be felt by many. On a more personal level, his role as husband, father, and grandfather will certainly leave a big void. May your many memories of wonderful times together and a life well lived help to comfort you in the difficult days ahead. Please know that we hold you close in our hearts and our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Love, Elaine, Bill, Christopher, and Katie Hincer

Elaine Hincer - March 18, 2021 at 07:31 PM

KK

“ Kelly Kaufman purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.



Kelly Kaufman - March 17, 2021 at 10:54 PM

AK

“ Argyle, Wanda and Kevin purchased the Loving Grace for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.



Argyle, Wanda and Kevin - March 17, 2021 at 09:33 PM

JP

“ Dr. Kaufman was one of my instructors in teacher education at BSC A very good teacher and a fine individual. Condolences to his family and may he rest in peace.

John Pinter - March 17, 2021 at 05:24 PM

CP

“ Cousins Larry and Lois Kaufman Piper purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.



Cousins Larry and Lois Kaufman Piper - March 17, 2021 at 11:52 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



March 17, 2021 at 10:17 AM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.*



March 17, 2021 at 08:44 AM



“ *Mary Alice and Family, Jack was one of my best helping friends in our years at BSC. Karen and I realize how difficult it is for you. We are so sorry and will keep you in our prayers. Jim and Karen*

Jim Ohara - March 16, 2021 at 06:36 PM



“ *Terry and I are so sad for your loss. We certainly enjoyed traveling with you and your family and going to the concerts he was in. Love and prayers Terry and Peggy Wells*

peggy wells - March 16, 2021 at 11:46 AM

VW

“ *My thoughts and prayers continue to be with you, my friends.*

Vickie Witt, Boones Mill, VA

Vickie Witt - March 15, 2021 at 08:54 PM

JL

“ *Enjoyed the time he spent playing in the clarinet section with his beautiful buffet clarinet. He also played saxophone for many years as well as sang solos with the band. He had a beautiful voice! We will miss him in the clarinet section.*

Jennifer Luppold - March 15, 2021 at 06:43 PM

DN

“ *Thoughts and prayers to all of you. I'll always remember his smile and kindness to everyone.*

Debbie Noechel-Roupe 💜

Debbie Noechel-Roupe - March 15, 2021 at 06:11 PM

GA

“ *I am so sorry for yal's lost.my thoughts are with u.well be praying for u all"love u"*



Gwenda k. Anderson - March 15, 2021 at 05:28 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Lee Jack Kaufman.



March 15, 2021 at 04:11 PM



“ Mary Alice and family. I am sorry to learn of Lee Jack's passing. My family and I have many good memories from the high school reunions. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this difficult time. Kerstin VanGilder

kerstin VanGilder - March 15, 2021 at 11:43 AM



“ I was a classmate of Lee Jack's in our young years and a lifetime friend. He was a true gentleman in every sense of the word and a benefactor to so many. My prayers and love go out to Mary Alice and the family because I know Lee Jack was a wonderful husband and father. He will be greatly missed by many, many folks. Hugs from Sally Brown Higginbotham, Class of 1953, Sutton High School.

Sara Higginbotham - March 15, 2021 at 05:33 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the whole family! My mom and I send our love to Mary Alice as well in such a tough difficult time. May God shine his light up on you all!
❤️ - Donnita Lawrence & Krysta McPherson

Krysta McPherson - March 14, 2021 at 05:01 PM

LP

Mary Alice and family. Such a loss to our family. So many memories of Lee Jack, Argyl and Robert and their singing. He shared his talent in so many ways and was such an inspiration to others. Although we were not close in age or distance he was a special cousin I loved. May God comfort you and give you peace.

Larry and Lois Kaufman (Toody) Piper

Lois Piper - March 17, 2021 at 11:39 AM