



## Mary Lou Oxley

September 28, 1927 - December 1, 2017

Mary Lou Shawver Oxley of Teays Valley, went to be with her Lord and Savior on December 1, 2017 at home.

She was born September 28, 1927 in Charleston to the late Otis C. and Clara Rae Cottrill Shawver.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her, husband Blanchard Ray Oxley, daughter Becky Hale Chapman, and granddaughter Olivia Rae Jividen.

Mrs. Oxley graduated from Hurricane High School, WV State University, and later obtained a master degree from Marshall University. She retired after 32 years of teaching in Putnam County, mainly Hurricane High School.

She was a lifelong member of Mount Vernon Baptist Church where she served in various positions including Sunday School teacher, choir member, Sunday School superintendent and American Baptist Women.

Surviving her are her daughters, Donna Oxley and Kandy Jividen both of Hurricane; grandchildren, Malia Jividen of Hurricane, Travis Hale of Dearborn MI and Jason Hale of Allen Park, MI; great-grandchildren Brendan, Jackson and Drayton Hale all of MI.

Funeral service to honor the life of Mrs. Oxley will be 1:00pm Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Hurricane with Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Johnson officiating. Burial will follow in Mount Vernon Cemetery, Hurricane.

Friends may visit 6:00pm until 8:00pm Monday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made in her name to: Sanctuary Fund c/o Mount Vernon Baptist Church, 2150 Mount Vernon Road, Hurricane, WV 25526.

Visit her tribute page at [www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com](http://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com) to leave an online condolence.

Chapman Funeral Home, 3941 Teays Valley Road Hurricane WV is honored to handle Mrs. Oxley's arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Vernon Cemetery

2150 Mount Vernon Road  
Hurricane, WV 25526

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chapman Funeral Home Hurricane  
3941 Teays Valley Road  
Hurricane, WV 25526  
(304) 757-7531  
info@chapmanfuneralhomes.com  
<https://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com>

## Funeral Service

DEC 5. 1:00 PM (ET)

Mount Vernon Baptist Church  
2150 Mount Vernon Road  
Hurricane, WV 25526

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Lou Oxley*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *Denise Royce Burdette Morano / HHS1988*



**Denise Morano** - October 21, 2021 at 12:12 PM



“ *Mrs. Oxley was one of the best teachers and just the loveliest people I've ever known. I am lucky to have known her and my thoughts and prayers are with her family.*

**Kathy Howell** - December 06, 2017 at 06:23 PM

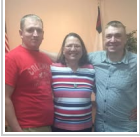


“ *I was so sorry to learn of your mothers passing. I will miss her greatly as will many others. She was a terrific teacher, classy lady (with never a hair out of place), surely a good mother, and a fine example to the rest of us. I loved bumping into her when out and about and seeing her on her riding mower. She was always a great joy to me.*

*Sincerely,*

*Connie (Smith) Gibson*

**connie gibson** - December 06, 2017 at 04:48 PM



“ *Mary Lou was always so upbeat and friendly when she came to our pharmacy. She made me smile and brightened my day many times. What a special lady.*  
*Judy Watson*

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**Judy Watson** - December 06, 2017 at 09:27 AM

MR

“ *Mrs. Oxley was one of my favorite teachers. I always felt fortunate to have her then, in high school and as I went through college, and now, as I help proofread my kids papers and homework. What a wonderful lady. Such a positive, lasting impact on so many.*

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**Michelle Walroth Ramey** - December 05, 2017 at 10:43 PM

DL

“ *One of my favorite teachers in school and such a love for all her students. I would say she was one of the hardest teachers but I learned so much from her in the classroom as well as outside. She was such a genuine, tender hearted, and sweet lady and she will missed. All I can say is she is home now and resting with that precious smile of hers - One sweet day, we will see her again! May God bless all of you during this time!*



*Loves, Hugs, Prayers, and Blessings-*  
*Debbie (Hart) Lilly*

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**Debbie Lilly** - December 05, 2017 at 09:04 AM

PC

“ Mrs. Oxley was my freshman English teacher. She was the hardest teacher I have ever had, I can remember taking papers for my college classes back for her to proof for me. She was always happy to help me in anyway, she was an amazing lady that I greatly respect and am thankful for having been able to know her.  
Penny  
Class of 1991

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**Penny Chambers** - December 04, 2017 at 09:42 PM

HG

“ Mrs. Oxley was a wonderful lady and I always enjoyed doing work for her. She will be missed. My sincerest condolences to your family.

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**Howard Gregory** - December 04, 2017 at 07:58 PM

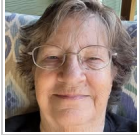
TH

“ Sorry for your loss, She was a tuff but good teacher, she was tuff because she wanted you to listen and learn so when you left her class she knew that you was learning, which was what was important to her, that you was learning not rather You liked her or not, but that you was learning so you could go somewhere in this World when school was over, it was for our good  
Tara Thompson Hicks



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**Tara Hicks** - December 04, 2017 at 05:26 PM



“ *I'm so sorry for the loss of your mother and grandmother. I had Mary Lou for a Brownie leader when I was only 7 years old back in the mid 50's and I have never forgotten how good and kind she was to me as a child. I'm sure she will be greatly missed. May she rest in peace until we are all united with loved ones in heaven.*

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**Evelyn Marlow** - December 04, 2017 at 02:07 PM



“ *Cheryl and Debbie-The Hartman girls purchased the Truly Beloved Bouquet for the family of Mary Lou Oxley.*



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**Cheryl and Debbie-The Hartman girls** - December 04, 2017 at 01:56 PM



“ *She was my favorite teacher in Jr High at Hurricane. She was a great teacher and a wonderful person. I offer my sincere condolences to her family.*

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**Sherri Gibson Hensley** - December 04, 2017 at 11:17 AM

JK

“ I first met Mary Lou Oxley when they were having the Teays Valley Ladies Teas in the Teays Valley/Hurricane area. They would have the Ladies Teas one Saturday each month and at a different church each month. Mary Lou was nearly always there, and I would go over to where she would be standing and talking to someone, and Mary Lou would ALWAYS greet me and give me a nice gentle hug!! I admired her and thought she was the most beautiful lady from the very first time I met her!! She was always so kind and interesting, and I loved talking to her. Mary Lou was a gracious and beautiful lady, and she will be MISSED greatly!!  
My prayers go out to her precious family that GOD will comfort them at this very difficult time! I feel honored and blessed to have known Mary Lou!!! I know she is in Heaven with our wonderful Lord and Savior forever more!  
God bless.....  
Joyce Knotts

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**Joyce Knotts** - December 04, 2017 at 11:05 AM

SC

“ She was a wonderful, classy lady. She was not just one of my teachers at the jr high and high school, but also a friend to my family. Mary Lou was a constant figure with my sister's family, during the formative years with her sons, all the way to Kelli's passing in 2013. You will be greatly missed, Mrs. Oxley.

*I am remembering the family in my prayers.*

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**Shelli Disney Calhoun** - December 04, 2017 at 10:19 AM

CC

“ Mary Lou was a role model to me. I have counted Donna amongst my closes friends for years. My prayers of love and comfort for Donna!!!!

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**cindy chapman** - December 04, 2017 at 09:41 AM



Michelle  
Pauley

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. Your mom was such a sweet lady. I know she will be greatly missed.* ”

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**Michelle Pauley** - December 03, 2017 at 09:13 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Oxley.* ”



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December 03, 2017 at 09:09 PM

BD

“ Mrs. Oxley was my 8th AND 9th grade English teacher. As an 8th grader, I struggled through her demanding class and joyfully celebrated ending the year having survived with a "C". As the summer before my Freshman year approached it's end, rumors started trickling in among the future class of '85 that Mrs. Oxley was transferring to the high school and would be teaching 9th grade English. This being long before cell phones, internet, and social media, rumors were not easily confirmed and soon were forgotten. To my complete horror, day one of high school and guess who was on my schedule for College Prep English...Mrs. Oxley. After my initial shock, I managed to excel in her class, finishing with an "A". She didn't do anything different to change my grade, but I did. I recognized her standards and expectations weren't going to waiver and that I had to meet them or else. She was firm but fair, always there if you wanted to learn, but never a pushover for excuses or do-less behavior from her students. I was proud of my "A" because I knew it was earned. I think she had a major effect on me as I later became a teacher. I had other teachers and courses I "liked" better, but few that I learned more from or had more respect for, at least after I grew up and matured myself. I was lucky to have her twice as a student and also as a coworker at HHS before she retired. Godspeed, Mrs. Oxley.

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**Bill Dimsdale** - December 03, 2017 at 08:48 PM

SH

“ What a wonderful lady. One of the Sweetest I've ever known. Donna And Kandy I am so for your loss.

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**Scott and Connie Henderson** - December 03, 2017 at 06:40 PM

MP

“ I worked with Mary Lou at Hurricane High School in the late 80s. I adored her. She was funny, energetic, intelligent, and caring. What a loss to the world, but what a legacy she has left behind. Mel Pitts

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**Mel Pitts** - December 03, 2017 at 04:00 PM

JS

“ She was, without a doubt my favorite teacher that I ever had. And the hardest. Her demanding standards not only taught me English, but they also taught me the value of hard work to achieve a goal. I also had her for two years. In the beginning I worked hard to maintain my GPA. By the second year that I had her, I worked hard to not disappoint her. From elementary school all the way through graduate school, I never had another teacher that expected as much, and that I respected and liked as much as Mrs. Oxley.

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**John Samples** - December 03, 2017 at 03:31 PM

GJ

“ I had and took advantage of the opportunity to thank Mrs Oxley on many occasions after graduating from Hurricane High School for being kind enough to spend extra time getting through to the ones of us that struggled to be good students . She and I butted heads like sheep but in the end I received an education in language arts from one of the finest teachers and most respected Christian ladies I've ever met .

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**Glen Erwin , Jr** - December 03, 2017 at 03:03 PM

JC

“ Mrs. Oxley was an outstanding teacher and a better human being. She will be missed greatly. Rest In Peace.

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**Jay Chapman** - December 03, 2017 at 02:46 PM

AC

“ So many wonderful memories of Mary Lou for our family. She has left a legacy here beyond what I think even she could know. Her thoughtfulness, amazing heart to serve, and love of the Lord showed from the life she lived and legacy she leaves in all who knew her. We will greatly miss her.



Angie Conn - December 03, 2017 at 02:26 PM



“ I was in the choir with her, oh how she sang praise to the Lord, sorry for your families loss, what a special lady!!

Jo Glenn - December 03, 2017 at 01:18 PM

LH

“ What student would ever forget Mrs. Oxley. She expected a lot from her students and we worked harder because of it. She and Mrs. Sterling were two teachers we all respected. Mrs. Oxley also smiled and laughed easily. She was one of a kind and will surely be missed.

Linda Taylor Harshbarger

Linda Taylor Harshbarger - December 03, 2017 at 11:02 AM

MB

“ What a wonderful woman she was! She was instrumental in my choice of profession and truly an example of the word "Lady." Her smile, wit, and faith were a blessing to the thousands of students with whom she came into contact. I will certainly miss her smile and her wave as I drove by whilst she was mowing her lawn. God bless you, Mrs. Oxley. You know you were loved by many. Go sing with the angels.

Michael Beckett - December 03, 2017 at 08:15 AM

JS

“ Mrs. Oxley was my favorite teacher. She made every student in her class feel important. I loved when she had us diagram sentences, the longer the better. Some of my fondest memories are the parties we had at her house. She was a very special lady and will be missed by so many.

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**Jane Davis Schiebel** - December 03, 2017 at 08:13 AM

DN

“ My heartfelt sympathy to the family for your loss.

Mrs. Oxley was a favorite teacher of mine. She cared deeply about what she did and that showed in the classroom.

Bless her heart I can still hear her correct my use of lie and lay. She will be missed.



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**Deborah Dent Nutter** - December 03, 2017 at 07:41 AM

VB

“ Inspiring English teacher who helped develop my love of learning, writing and my own 32 year teaching career. I still remember specific lessons where she would pull out pictures from magazines and give us a short time limit to make up a story and then write about it. She shared her passion and left indelible prints on the lives of many. Well done.

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**Vickie Johnson Bayliss** - December 03, 2017 at 07:34 AM

VR

“ Vicki Ross sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Lou Oxley



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**Vicki Ross** - December 03, 2017 at 07:11 AM

SH

“ Such a sweet lady, wonderful Christian woman, and the best teacher Putnam County could ever have. RIP sweet lady....until we meet again.



Sherry Hayes

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**Sherry** - December 03, 2017 at 06:38 AM

JS

“ So very sorry for your loss, Kandy and Donna, but Heaven has certainly gained a great Christian. Mary Lou was always a wonderful friend and role model to me when I first started teaching. We had lots of wonderful laughs together!

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**Janice Sayre** - December 03, 2017 at 05:42 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Oxley.



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December 02, 2017 at 11:24 PM



“ Mrs. Oxley was my homeroom teacher. When I saw her at my workplace, she told me she regretted being so hard on her students and for being “mean”. I assured her that she was always very firm but also fair and that many students cared for her and appreciated the work she did to teach us.



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**Jamie Totten** - December 02, 2017 at 11:14 PM

JS

“ Mrs. Oxley was my favorite teacher. I loved when she had us diagram sentences, the longer the better. As a teacher I taught my students to do that too. They were the only class in our school who did. I’ll also remember the great parties we had at her house. Fifth grade was the best because of her.

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**Jane Davis Schiebel** - December 02, 2017 at 10:59 PM

AB

“ Kandy I am so sorry for your loss. Your mother was a wonderful lady!! God bless you and your family!

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**Alisa Beabout** - December 02, 2017 at 10:56 PM

SB

“ Steve And Lisa Burgess lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Oxley



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**Steve and Lisa Burgess** - December 02, 2017 at 10:56 PM

LM

“ *Lisa Miller-linville lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Oxley*



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**lisa miller-linville** - December 02, 2017 at 10:41 PM

LM

“ *Mrs. Oxley was my 9th grade advanced English teacher. She was a wonderful women and has touched the lives of many. I will remember her always. Rest In Peace Mrs. Oxley.*

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**lisa miller-linville** - December 02, 2017 at 10:38 PM

KG

“ *If you went to Hurricane High and had her for English, you know she was tuff. She was a sweet lady. She will be remembered by my students at Hurricane High.*

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**Kelly Grimmatt** - December 02, 2017 at 10:28 PM

KJ

“ Ms. Oxley was my 9th grade English teacher. As a senior, I was her teacher’s aide. She once handed me a stack of papers to grade and a red ink pen. I asked her if she had a key made so that I could grade the papers. She said, “Can’t you figure out those answers?” I replied, “Nooooooo!” I still chuckle when I remember the look on her face when I said that. She had very high, yet attainable standards for her students. She taught me so much about grammar, and she introduced me to the novel *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, which is still a favorite.

*She touched so many lives. I can say with great certainty that the quality of my life is better because she was my teacher. Prayers to her loving family.*

*Kelli Jeffries  
Class of 1996*

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**Kelli Jeffries** - December 02, 2017 at 09:04 PM

BD

“ Mrs. Oxley was my 9th grade English teacher. Those that had her know that she was demanding but very caring and fair. She was one of my favorite teachers and I learned as much from her as any teacher I ever had. Blessings, Peace, and Love to her family and friends. I hope she’ll forgive me for any grammatical error on this post...I believe she would, but I know for certain that she would have me correct it. She won’t be forgotten.

*Bill Dyer*

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**Bill Dyer** - December 02, 2017 at 08:33 PM



*Very well said.*

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**Toney Stowers** - December 02, 2017 at 08:51 PM

LC

“ *RIP Mrs Oxley. You were a fabulous teacher and one who will be remembered. Seen you a few years back and it amazed me you still remembered me and my brothers. You'll be missed!*

Libby Leadmon Connery - December 02, 2017 at 07:52 PM

Amy  
Browning  
Ashworth

“ *What an amazing lady. She touched so many lives. She was one of the toughest teachers I ever had... And I can thank her for that everyday. The world was a better place because she was in it. Thank you Mrs Oxley!*

Amy Browning Ashworth - December 02, 2017 at 07:47 PM

Amy  
Browning  
Ashworth

“ *Amy Browning Ashworth lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Oxley*



Amy Browning Ashworth - December 02, 2017 at 07:43 PM

JM

“ *Donna , Kandy and other family members: I have many fond memories of Mary Lou. She was what a Christian is all about, not only in word but in action. No doubt She was one of the best teachers that Putnam County ever had. I look forward to meeting her again in Heaven. Jim McGehee*

Jim McGehee - December 02, 2017 at 07:42 PM

SK

“ So sorry for your loss. She was loved by many who passed through the halls of Hurricane High School. Such a wonderful lady.

Susan Fizer King - December 02, 2017 at 07:28 PM



Oh My how I loved Mary Lou, she was such a wonderful Christian Lady, she visited me during all my tragedies, she inspired me with her faith in Christ and sang for my boys funerals , she had a wonderful talent for music and had all my 3 boys in Class, Donna and Kandy this world was a much better place just for your mother being in it. She prayed for me many times and I will miss her dearly. Kathaleen Erwin

Kathaleen Erwin - December 03, 2017 at 08:50 AM

DH

Mary Lou was in my life since the day I was born. She and my mother, Gladys, were best friends even though mom was 10 years older. We grew up with her girls and shared so many memories from church, picnics, and many other good times. My sympathy to her daughters and loved ones. She will be missed greatly at Mt. Vernon. That wonderful old church is where my mom and she began their friendship. She was a good Christian, a lady, and a memorable educator. She loved us and we loved her right back. She did not hesitate to correct our grammar whether in school or around the dinner table. She has lived on that hill since I can remember. Her faith never faltered even though she went through many losses and trying times. I will remember always her ringing laughter and her beautiful singing. She was always in choir and sang many solos. Farewell, beautiful lady.

Debbie Hanna - December 04, 2017 at 02:10 PM