



Cynthia "Cindy" Ann Novak

May 30, 1951 - May 12, 2024

Cynthia "Cindy" Ann Novak of Athens passed away peacefully Sunday, May 12, 2024, in her home with her loving husband. She was born in Ephrata, Pennsylvania on May 30th, 1951, to Thelma and John Luckenbill. She attended primary schools in the Ephrata area and graduated from Cocalico High School in 1969. In her youth she worked at the Cinderella Knitting Mills in Denver, PA where her father also worked. She studied elementary education at Shippensburg University, graduating in December of 1972 and later finished her master's degree through Elmira College. She taught for one year with the Cumberland Valley Schools before relocating to Athens to work for the Athens School District. It was this move that made it possible for her to meet the love of her life Michael "Mike" Novak. She worked for 34 years at Athens teaching students in elementary through middle school. Passionate is an understatement when describing her teaching career. She would spend hours stitching the mobiles she made for her students that highlighted their achievements. It was also through teaching that Cindy was able to make many wonderful lifelong friends. Cindy loved NASCAR, specifically Jeff Gordon. She and Mike traveled across the country to experience many different racetracks and yearly to Dover, with cherished memories of Elvis impersonators and the Rusty Rudder. She also shared a love for the Philadelphia Phillies, and attended numerous games with her parents, husband, and children.

Cindy was an avid reader, which was a love she instilled in her students.

Counter cross stitch was her artistic form with stunning stitcheries ranging from the Last Supper to the birth announcements of her grandchildren. Foremost for Cindy was family. Grandma Gigi loved her grandchildren. Whether it be playing with them, teaching them, or reading with them, she always made sure they knew she loved them. Cindy was predeceased by her father, John, and mother, Thelma. She is survived by her husband of 48 years Michael, brother, John Luckenbill with husband Steve Klunk, sons Matthew (Desiree) Novak, Jeffrey (Alison) Novak, brothers in law, Steve and George, and grandsons Preston and Bradon Novak. In addition, she was loved by many other family members, students, coworkers, and friends.

The family will receive friends Thursday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home 314 Desmond St. Sayre, PA. A memorial service will be held Friday, May 17, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home with Rev. Daniel Toomey, pastor of the Church of the Epiphany, Sayre officiating. The family will also receive friends at the funeral home following the memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Guthrie Hospice, 421 Tomahawk Road Towanda, PA 18848 or the Spalding Memorial Library, 724 S. Main St. Athens, PA 18810. Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting www.bowenfuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home
314 Desmond Street
Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 888-2113
info@bowenfuneralhomes.com

Service

MAY 17. 10:00 AM (ET)

Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home
314 Desmond Street
Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 888-2113
info@bowenfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall

ML

“ *Cindy was such a kind and beautiful lady. She will be missed by many. She put her whole heart into everything she did and shared that passion with her students and friends. She is now finding eternal rest & peace in the arms of her Savior. Our love and prayers go out to her family. Such a beautiful presence will be greatly missed.*

Michael & Denise LeBlanc - June 09, 2024 at 08:03 PM

ST

“ *My sincere condolences to the entire Novak family on Cindy's passing. Cindy was a pillar of the Athens School District and was loved and admired by all of her students and her colleagues. She was kind and generous, and above all, a loving soul. May Cindy sleep in the arms of the Lord forever.*

Stephen Tubbs - May 20, 2024 at 06:19 PM

AB

“ *Cindy was a lovely woman and seemed so happy and loved. Sincere sympathy from Jim and Alice Fedorka Bennett to the whole family.*

Alice Bennett - May 18, 2024 at 06:28 PM

JH

“ *Mike and family , my deepest sympathy for your loss.*

John Holton - May 18, 2024 at 06:39 AM

MT

“ So very, very sorry for the loss of Cindy..she was such a special lady & will be greatly missed. Thoughts, prayers & hugs!

Mary Juda Tokos - May 17, 2024 at 07:38 AM

CH

“ My deepest sympathy, to Mike , Matt and Jeff and family,
Thinking of you all in your loss.



Claire Holton-Lizon - May 16, 2024 at 09:16 AM

MJ

“ Mike Matt and Jeff so very sorry to hear of your loss prayers are sent ur way

Mary johnson - May 15, 2024 at 11:45 AM

JP

“ Cindy was a wonderful colleague. She was kind, friendly and generous with her time and teaching techniques. Her smile was contagious and genuine. Blessings and prayers to her family. They now have an angel watching over them. Rest in Peace, Cindy.

Judy Polinski - May 15, 2024 at 07:22 AM

JM

“ Jeff, Alison and Family-
So very sorry to hear about your mom. She was such a wonderful lady, and I have fond memories of her during my teaching days at Lynch. Sending you prayers and hugs.

Julie Marhefka - May 15, 2024 at 05:39 AM

LM

“ Jeff, Allison and family I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of your mother! May all the great memories hold her close to your heart during this very difficult time! In my thoughts and prayers Linda May

Linda May. 4th grade aid for jarrett M - May 15, 2024 at 12:24 AM

LB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Novak family during this difficult time. Mrs. Novak was a great teacher and wonderful person. She helped me out so much in elementary school. She and a few other teachers are one of the reasons that I became a schoolteacher. Mrs. Novak will be missed by everyone. I always loved the smile that she had, because it wanted to make you smile. God Bless you all during this difficult time. Lori (Vanderpool) Brown

Lori Vanderpool Brown - May 14, 2024 at 09:12 PM

JW

“ Judi Wolcott lit a candle in memory of Cynthia "Cindy" Novak



Judi Wolcott - May 14, 2024 at 06:07 PM

JW

“ Mike sending Prayers for you & your Family during this very difficult time...I was Heartbroken when I heard about Cindy--she was such a sweetheart & so kind---God Bless you all.

Judi Wolcott - May 14, 2024 at 06:06 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cynthia "Cindy" Ann Novak.*



May 14, 2024 at 02:39 PM



“ *Kurt, Cindy, Kathryn, Jennifer, Cindy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cynthia "Cindy" Ann Novak.*

Kurt, Cindy, Kathryn, Jennifer, Cindy - May 14, 2024 at 02:39 PM



“ *To Jeff and Matt, our deepest condolences to you and your families.
-Penney, Scott, Elizabeth and Emily Geiss*

Scott Geiss - May 14, 2024 at 10:53 AM



“ *Mike and family,
We are so deeply sorry to hear of Cindy's passing. May the fond memories that you shared, along with family and friends, help comfort you in the days ahead. She will be your angel watching over you.
Love, hugs and prayers,
Nick and Patti Ball*

Nick and Patti - May 14, 2024 at 09:15 AM

TS

“ So sorry for your loss... Cindy was an amazing teacher and person... My daughter loved having Cindy for looping in school. Very sweet lady... She will be missed... Sending Hugs... Toni Shaw

Toni Shaw - May 14, 2024 at 06:53 AM

CM

“ For Jeff and Alison. I am saddened to hear that you lost your Mom, especially on Mother's Day and yet our Lord knew she needed to rest so He opened His arms wide to cradle her and give her the rest and the blessings she so richly deserved. Helen Keller once said: "What we have once enjoyed we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us"... I pray that you find the Strength to face Tomorrow in the Love that Surrounds you Today...

Charlene McCann - May 13, 2024 at 11:39 PM