



Patsy Pampkin

October 18, 1961 - July 31, 2020

Patsy Pampkin 58, passed away on July 30, 2020 in Kingsport TN. Patsy was born in Louisville, MS., on October 18, 1961.

Patsy was preceded in death by her father, Levell Miller and her sister Annette Miller.

She is survived by her husband Marshall Pampkin, mother Katie Miller, brother Charles Miller, her sisters, Jennifer Harriston, Mary Madison, and Mattie McKnight. She is also survived by special niece Phoebe Lockett, and special nephew Marcus DeShawn Miller, and many more nieces, nephews and family.

Memories from a Big Brother

These are just a few memories of a proud big Brother. Thinking back, I remember the story of when Pat was born. I was nine years old. Pat was born in my parent's two bedroom house which was next door to our grandparents' home. After the birth I was dispatched to get a name for the baby from my grandmother. She told me to name her Patricia and we will call her Patsy. I returned and relayed the message. However, I reversed the message which became, Name her Patsy and we will call her Patricia. Thus the name on her

birth certificate is Patsy.

By the time Pat finished high school, I was in the Air Force and nowhere close to

Louisville. She was off to Rust College and doing well grade wise. She however felt her

future as a Rust College graduate did not meet her goals for the future.

She left Rust and began studies to become a registered nurse at Matty Hersee Hospital

School of Nursing in Meridian. She completed her studies and was certified in 1984. I

remember my son was graduating from Kindergarten the same night Pat was graduating

from Nursing School. My wife went to my son's graduation and I went to Pat's graduation.

Pat (because she was the baby of the family) was not expected to leave home but rather

stay close to Mother there in Louisville. To everyone's surprise, after leaving Mattie Hersee Pat Accepted a nursing position in Tuscaloosa, AL. I remember the trip helping Pat move to Tuscaloosa the first time. Pat had her first apartment, a brand new little Ford Escort, and

her first job. This is the young lady we thought would never leave home.

Things went well but Pat was always moving forward. I guess Tuscaloosa was too small

and limiting. Pat took a position in Birmingham. She did well there but she was obviously looking for bigger and better opportunities to advance. The next thing I knew

Pat took a position and moved to Atlanta. I remember jokingly telling her I guess her

next moves would be Chicago and New York.

It was in Atlanta she met Otis (her first husband), bought her first house, and realized she needed a Bachelor's degree to advance as she desired, she took all the necessary classes and completed the work and received her bachelor's degree in nursing from Brenau University in Gainesville, GA . I remember Hattie and I went to her graduation somewhere in the Georgia mountains (at least in my mind).

While in Atlanta, Pat decided to have weight reduction surgery. Always a meticulous researcher, Pat found one of the leading surgeons in the country and had the procedure.

Recovery was more difficult than expected or hoped. This impressed on Pat that she needed to be closer to family. She took a position in Mississippi and moved to Pearl,

Mississippi. While in Pearl she continued her education and received her Masters Degree from Alcorn State University. With her Masters in hand, she continued to excel and began teaching college courses both online and as a resident professor at a junior college.

Never being one to stop advancing, Pat started working on a Doctoral degree. Completing all the requirements, Pat received her PhD From University of Alabama Birmingham and became "Doctor Pat."

Doctor Pat needed a venue commensurate with her drive and education. She took a position at East Tennessee State University. She remained on staff there until the end.

Pat impressed upon nurses especially the young ones to keep studying and working to advance. I am told she was even trying to motivate the nurses attending to her prior to her last surgery.

Pat husband Otis passed away some time after moving to Tennessee. Otis battled with health issues for some time, going back even before they moved back to Mississippi.

Pat always took excellent care of Otis until his very last day.

I was very concerned with Pat being alone in Tennessee so far from any family.

I was surprised when it was reported to me that she had met someone. I was very

surprised when a few months later she told me they were going to elope. I immediately

asked her when? Pat told me "if I tell you it won't really be eloping". I said okay. Some

time later I got some of the most wonderful wedding pictures ever. Marshall has been a

true God send. He has taken care of Pat through all the times whether good or bad.

Marshall blended so well with Pat. When I would see them together it was as though

they had been together as long as Hattie and I have been together. They

seem to know
what the other was thinking. I remember Pat calling out to Marshall and he
knowing the
urgency or lack there of just by the tone in the word "Marshall". I loved the way
he
called her "Baby" in their discussions.

Pat was my Baby Sister. I was and I am very proud of her. Her
accomplishments are
numerous. I like everyone will miss her. But like everyone we must wrap
ourselves in
the wonderful memories Pat left for us. These are just a few memories of a
Proud Big Brother.

From Marshall....

Today I said goodbye to a woman that motivated me to love again and I
could share the world with. For A while she endured many medical
challenges.

Now she shall rest and want no more.

The world is missing Another Shining star Good night My Heart...

A private service wil be held on Wednesday August 5, 2020.

Tribute Wall

BB

“ I just found out Miss Patsy in which I called her had passed. The last time I called her she said she would call me back. I knew that was strange she never called. I am deeply sad about her passing. My thoughts and my prayers are with the family.

With Love,
Brenda Joyce Blake , EastPoint, Georgia

Brenda Joyce Blake - August 13, 2025 at 10:22 PM



“ Patsy Pampkin

January 29, 2023 at 10:28 PM

BH

“ Benita Hopson lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin



Benita Hopson - August 07, 2020 at 09:25 PM

LC

“ When I hear of someone passing away from ETSU, it breaks my heart because that's a member of the ETSU family. Although I do not know who Dr. Pumpkin is, I just wanted to share my condolences with her family, friends, and love ones who sincerely knew her. I'm deeply sorry about your loss and can only pray that you all take hearts. I pray for internal healing for everyone who cares about her. I also wanted to thank her for helping the nursing team be where its at. Her years of service will soon to open doors for me and I'm grateful to her and the rest of the teams who are working to make the nursing department everything it is now.

Lovette cooper - August 06, 2020 at 05:51 PM

 Mary Rollins

“ *Mary Rollins lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Mary Rollins - August 06, 2020 at 07:49 AM

DW

I am Patsy's cousin from PA. I think I met her at the Triplett Holmes Liddell Family Reunion in St Louisville. I remember her because she would always sending me encouraging words when I hosted the reunion in 2019 in PA. I am glad her brother posted such beautiful memories of her in her obituary. I felt like I knew her and I wish I had gotten to know her personally.

Dora Hughes Walker

Dora Walker - August 09, 2020 at 07:58 PM

LG

“ When Patsy came to ETSU I was assigned as her faculty mentor. I worked closely with Patsy on developing her teaching and research skills. It did not take much work though because she was so experienced, so determined and so driven, that she automatically took charge of her own development into a faculty member. Patsy had the highest of standards and was on a trajectory to become an academic superstar. But then, she became afflicted with a serious health problem that took away her energy. She hated that more than anything but continued to power on, overcoming it for many many years. She had the kindest heart and was a great coworker to all. We will miss you Patty.

Lee Glenn - August 05, 2020 at 06:52 PM

ED

“ I met Patsy when she came to interview for her position at ETSU College of Nursing. I met her wonderful family during the sad time after her husband's death. The love this family shared was evident and her brother was so protective. She had the biggest smile when she told us she was getting married. She and Marshall were so happy. I am so sad that she has left our world. She was a caring person who brought joy to many. She will be missed but remembered.



Ellen Drummond

Ellen Drummond - August 05, 2020 at 04:33 PM

EP

“ I knew Patsy when she was in the PhD program at the UAB School of Nursing.
I remember her as a dedicated student, passionate about her work as a nurse and an educator. She touched many lives with her caring and generous spirit.
My deepest sympathy to all of Patsy's family for your loss.
Erica Pryor

Erica Pryor - August 05, 2020 at 10:30 AM

JG

“ Patsy and I grew up together in Louisville, MS and we both attended Wesley United Methodist Church. I have many fun memories of our times together. This is not the end and I know that I will see you again!!!! My condolences and prayers to the family during this time.
God Bless!!!!

Jennell Greer (Dallas, TX)

Jennell Greer - August 05, 2020 at 05:07 AM

JB

“ Jeri Brehm lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin



Jeri Brehm - August 04, 2020 at 07:29 PM

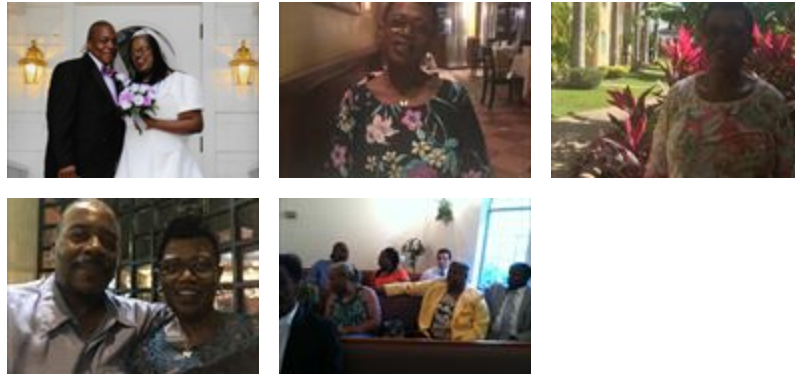
SB

“ Patsy was a kind, caring, happy person. I feel so fortunate to have met her, served on committees together .We both shared our love of dogs. She would admonish me for bringing candy to the meetings but would grin when she found her favorite kind. I will forever treasure the memories of her smile, her laugh, her kindness that she gave so freely. I will miss you my friend.
Susan Burns

Susan M Burns - August 04, 2020 at 04:35 PM



“ 14 files added to the album Memories of Patsy's love



Marsh Pampkin - August 04, 2020 at 03:13 PM

BP

“ BEVERLY PEPPERS lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin



BEVERLY PEPPERS - August 04, 2020 at 03:02 PM

AT

“ Condolences to Patsy's family and her ETSU family. She was a wonderful nurse educator and scholar. I knew Patsy during her PhD studies at UAB School of Nursing. She was a diligent student, and dedicated to her research.

Anne Turner-Henson (Retired Professor, UAB School of Nursing, Birmingham, AL)

Anne Turner-Henson - August 04, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Patsy Pampkin.



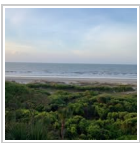
August 04, 2020 at 02:18 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Patsy Pampkin.



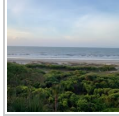
August 04, 2020 at 01:19 PM



“ Patti Vanhook lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin



Patti Vanhook - August 04, 2020 at 12:14 PM



Patsy's impact on our students, faculty, and staff is immeasurable. Her life will not be forgotten by many. Peace and comfort for Marshall and the family.

Patti Vanhook - August 04, 2020 at 12:20 PM

SH

“ *Sandy Halford lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Sandy Halford - August 04, 2020 at 11:42 AM

SH

Patsy and I taught the Community/Public Health course for several semesters. She and I shared not only a love for community health but had Mississippi connections. My prayers are with Marshall and Patsy's family.

Sandy Halford - August 04, 2020 at 11:46 AM

KT

“ *Maya Angelou's poem the Phenomenal Woman comes to mind as I reflect on Patsy. It was a privilege and honor to work with such a beautiful soul. My condolences and prayers to your family on this great loss.*

Kendrea Todt - August 04, 2020 at 11:14 AM

CH

“ *Christy Hall lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Christy Hall - August 04, 2020 at 11:07 AM

CH

Patsy was phenomenal. She and I sat together many times during our College of Nursing convocation ceremonies. We laughed about how hot our regalia was under the stage lights and how we both "melted" there. She was a genuine and true spirit, which is a rarity to find in people these days. I will certainly miss her presence in our College. My deepest condolences to her husband and family during this difficult time.

Christy Hall - August 04, 2020 at 11:10 AM

KT

“*Kendrea Todt lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Kendrea Todt - August 04, 2020 at 10:48 AM

JH

“*Jean Croce Hemphill lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Jean Croce Hemphill - August 04, 2020 at 10:37 AM

JH

I remember Patsy's gentle, kind, and giving spirit. Peace to her family and friends from those of us at ETSU nursing who are diminished without her.

Jean Croce Hemphill - August 04, 2020 at 10:40 AM

PH

“ *Patty Harnois-Church lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Patty Harnois-Church - August 04, 2020 at 10:27 AM

PH

Patsy came to ETSU a year after I did. I liked going around to meet the new faculty when I could. When I first met Patsy, it was like meeting an old friend again. We would share stories about similar experiences we had when we first arrived at ETSU. Patsy always remained calm. She had this smile that was somewhat devilish in nature but not mean. That's when I knew she was up to something good. I will miss her.

Patty Harnois-Church - August 04, 2020 at 10:37 AM

MC

“ *Myra Carew lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Myra Carew - August 04, 2020 at 09:56 AM

VH

“ *I did not know Patsy well as I work at the Sevierville campus. However, I can see the love and respect that the ETSU family had for Patsy. The emotion and love for her has been overwhelming and I would just like to send my most sincere condolences to you, your family, and your friends during this most difficult of times.*

Sincerely,

Victoria D. Hood-Wells

East Tennessee State University

Victoria Hood-Wells - August 04, 2020 at 09:35 AM

DF

“ I met Patsy while serving with her on a committee in the ETSU College of Nursing. She was such a special person with a sweet spirit, and a beautiful smile. We will truly miss her. My thoughts and prayers are with all her family.



Donna Fraysier - August 04, 2020 at 09:15 AM



“ I am a secretary in the College of Nursing. I got to know Patsy when she was Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and I was the staff support for that committee. She was a lovely woman who cared deeply about her students and her friends. She always had a smile and would lift me up throughout the day. May the Lord hold her in the palm of his hand. I shall miss her. Hugs to her loved ones.

Regina Rose - August 04, 2020 at 08:45 AM

WN

“ Patsy was a special member of our ETSU College of Nursing family. Her memory will live on. Our thoughts and prayers continue for Marshall whom she loved so much.



Wendy Nehring - August 04, 2020 at 08:02 AM

MW

“ *Melessia Webb lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Melessia Webb - August 04, 2020 at 06:20 AM

SP

“ *Shatika M Phillips lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Shatika M Phillips - August 04, 2020 at 12:10 AM

BD

“ *Bich Do lit a candle in memory of Patsy Pampkin*



Bich Do - August 03, 2020 at 10:57 PM