



Helen Cowart Lightsey

January 8, 1947 - September 14, 2023

Nobles Funeral Home and Crematory announces the funeral service for Ms. Helen Cowart Lightsey, age 76, who passed away on Thursday, September 14, 2023, surrounded by her loving family under the care of Hospice of South Georgia. Ms. Lightsey was a retired educator of thirty-eight years with the Appling County Board of Education at the Appling County Elementary Complex where she taught Special Education. She was fluent in sign language and her passion was helping children communicate. Ms. Helen grew up playing many sports including basketball and softball, later coaching softball alongside her son Andy. She was an avid Atlanta Braves fan and loved watching her Georgia Bulldogs. Ms. Helen's main love was her family and witnessing to people about her relationship with Jesus Christ.

Ms. Lightsey is preceded in death by her husband, Lindon Lightsey; her parents, Jesse and Maggie Spivey Cowart; and two brothers, Billy Cowart and Jerry Cowart.

Surviving are her four children, Andy Dowdney (Janey), Misty Avera (Chris), Craig Lightsey (Wendy) and Kevin Lightsey (Tania); fifteen grandchildren, Jessy Johnson (Derek), Sydney Rinaldi (Tyler), Hadley Avera (Billy), Drew Dowdney (Jayden), Micah Avera, Adison Avera, Brynlee Kate Avera, Caleb Karnoutsos, Mallory Wheeler (Jacob), Tyler Avera (Jessie), Ryan Freeman (Chelsea), Alex Ward (Brandon), Chesnee Freeman, Davin Lightsey, and Emma Lightsey; three sisters, Lila Everett (Winston), Jan Whitley (Larry), and Deanna Cowart; several great grandchildren, nieces and nephews; and a

special friend, Bill Riggle also survive.

The funeral service will be held on Sunday, September 17, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. from the Baxley Church of God with Reverend James Lightsey and Reverend Lamar Lee officiating.

Interment will follow in the Memorial Freewill Baptist Church Cemetery.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2023, from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at Nobles Funeral Home.

Active Pallbearers are Micah Avera, Drew Dowdney, Tyler Avera, Billy Chaney, Tyler Rinaldi, Derek Johnson, Evan Johnson, Caleb Karnoutsos, Jacob Wheeler, Ryan Freeman, and Davin Lightsey.

Honorary Pallbearers will be all in attendance, the staff of Hospice of South Georgia, and the current and former employees of the Appling County Elementary Complex.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that donations be made to Hospice of South Georgia.

Nobles Funeral Home and Crematory is honored to serve the family of Ms. Helen Cowart Lightsey.

Tribute Wall



“ Nobles Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Helen Cowart Lightsey



Nobles Funeral Home & Crematory - September 14, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Andy and Misty, I just recently heard of your mom's passing and I wanted to reach out and express my deep condolences to you both. I'm sure you don't remember me, but I was a speech-language pathologist for the ACPS school system from 1985 to 93. in the last few years of my time at ACPS, I became the teacher for the hearing impaired, which is where I met your mom. She became my assistant, and I have some very fond memories of her during that time. She had a beautiful heart and we had so many good laughs over those years.

in 2021 I lost my mom, so I understand the enormity of your loss. I will never forget her and I hope that you and your families will find comfort and the good memories that you all have of Helen. Bless you all.

Cindy

P.S. I have attached a photo of your mom and Catherine at my wedding in 1993.

Cindy Dedmond Johnson - January 05, 2024 at 01:10 AM

JC

“ Please accept my deepest condolences for your loss. Helen was such a joyful person. Words cannot begin to express my sorrow for your family's loss. May your heart and soul find peace and comfort.



Jennifer (Stuckey) Collins - September 21, 2023 at 06:33 PM

DC

“ So sorry for your loss. Ms Helen was a kind , sweet lady and loved by everyone that met her. She will be greatly missed .



Diane Collins - September 17, 2023 at 03:44 PM

NC

“ Neal, Teresa, and Charlie has purchased Palm Plant for Helen Lightsey

Neal, Teresa, and Charlie - September 17, 2023 at 01:29 PM

NL

“ I am so sorry to hear about Helen. She was such a sweet person. Prayers for her family, I know she will be missed.

NANCY LEWIS - September 17, 2023 at 10:59 AM

JA

“ May God bring comfort to this family. We will cherish our memories. No words are adequate at a time like this! With sympathy, love, and prayers

Jim and Cathy Ammons - September 17, 2023 at 12:39 AM

KJ

“ Kayla & Joshua has purchased Peace Lily for Helen Lightsey

Kayla & Joshua - September 16, 2023 at 11:27 PM

MH

“ To the family of Mrs. Helen, be encouraged and look to the hills from whence cometh your help. Cherish each memory. Praying for you all!

M. Howard - September 16, 2023 at 08:06 PM

AJ

“ Praying for all of the family and just know she is completely healed and in the arms of Jesus!!!



Anne Jackson - September 16, 2023 at 06:22 PM

PS

“ Andy, Misty and your families I am so sorry for the loss of your Mom. She was a very special lady, always had that beautiful smile and loving heart. Y'all will miss her terribly but be grateful for all the beautiful memories she left you with. Farewell sweet friend! 💔🙏

Pat Symasek - September 16, 2023 at 05:59 PM

PH

“ My prayers for Helen's family.



Patricia Haynes - September 16, 2023 at 04:38 AM

JG

“ I just know Uncle Lindon hugged her tight when she entered into Heaven. She was so loved and was so loving. She will be missed dearly.



Jeannie Griffin - September 16, 2023 at 02:27 AM

LW

“ So sorry about Helen. Y'all are in my prayers. Love to you all.



Laurel Warren - September 16, 2023 at 12:26 AM

GG

“ Hold on to your beautiful memories of Helen and let them comfort you during this time of deep sadness. Praying for the family.

Genevieve Garnes - September 15, 2023 at 10:24 PM

BT

“ Sweet sweet Helen, I'm so sorry for your loss Misty and family. May God be with you through this journey, He is always in control. I love you all 😭🙏

Brenda Turner - September 15, 2023 at 08:52 PM

R(

“ You were always a sweet, special lady, my friend. You will be missed!

Robert F. Altman (Red) - September 15, 2023 at 08:21 PM

JJ

“ *Sorry for your loss.* ”

Jeanette Morris Jones - September 15, 2023 at 08:17 PM

DA

“ *so sorry for the loss* ”



delane mincey allen - September 15, 2023 at 07:27 PM