



## Cathy Crank

October 27, 1963 - January 3, 2006

Services for Cathy Geneen Crank, 42, Whitehouse, are scheduled for 10:00 A.M., Thursday, January 5, 2006 at Stewart Family Funeral Chapel with Dr. Shawn Corzine officiating. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery under direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. Mrs. Crank passed away early Tuesday morning with her loving family by her side at her home in Whitehouse. Cathy was born on October 27, 1963 in Gilmer. She grew up in Spring Hill near Longview and lived in the Tyler area for over 20 years. Cathy was a graduate of Spring Hill High School, Kilgore Jr. College and U. T. Tyler with a Computer Science degree. She taught vocational education at Jacksonville High School and later at Whitehouse High School until she was unable to teach due to her illness. Cathy was an involved member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and enjoyed serving with children's activities. She loved to shop, travel and spend time with her families. She especially enjoyed traveling with her family and usually planned the trips as well. Cathy is survived by her loving family including her husband of 18 years, Steven Hansel Crank of Whitehouse; children, Ashley Crank and Jennifer Crank of Whitehouse; parents, Richard and Gaynell Zimmers of Harleton; brothers, Jackie "Butch" Youngblood and wife Kalisa of Kilgore and Paul Zimmers and wife Tammy of Gilmer; sister, Cristy Payne of Longview; father and mother-in-law Hansel and Margaret Crank of Tyler and brother and sister-in-law Kevin and Linda Crank of Sachse and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Pallbearers will be Don Reel, Andy Bellah, Johnny Lollar, Mike Adams, Danny Barnes and Kent Miller. The

family will receive friends from 6:00-8:00PM Wednesday at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy., south Tyler 75703. Memorials in honor of Mrs. Crank may be made to the American Cancer Society, 1301 S. Broadway, Tyler TX 75701 and Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX 75701 or charity of your choice.

# Tribute Wall

MZ

“Where do I begin? Mrs. Crank was my favorite teacher I ever had. She was always laughing, giving us fun things to do like watch movies or stuff envelopes during class and just being herself. Every year through out highschool I got to enjoy being in Mrs. Cranks class! I would walk in the first day and say "guess what Mrs. Crank?!! Your stuck with me again!!" We would laugh and then she would hug me and we would go through the rest of the year having a great time! I got the opportunity to see Mrs. Crank in November and I was so happy to have gotten the chance to sit with her and tell her again how wonderful she was! We got to laugh about class again and remember how much fun we had. Mrs. Crank is one of the strongest women I know. I went through a rough time my sophomore year and of all the counselors or teachers that were in the school she was the only one I could talk to. She always knew what to say or just when to hug me to make me feel like everything was going to be okay!!! I will never forget all the wonderful things that Mrs. Crank did for me as long as I live she will remain in my heart forever. Mr. Crank, Ashley & Jennifer, I just want all of you to know how much your wife/mother was loved. She was such a wonderful, inspiring woman inspite of everything that was going on in her life she always stayed so strong and calm through it all. I had the opportunity to be with her every year of my highschool years and she made my days so much better just by being there. Thank you for letting me share happy times with her it means the world to me to have gotten the chance to spend so much time with her. I think of Mrs. Crank as the best mentor I've ever had or better yet sort of a second mom!!! Thank you for making her so happy in her life because she in turn made me so happy in mine. My door is always open for you girls if there is anything you need please call me. 504-782-0584. I love you guys, God Bless, and my thoughts and prayers are with you ALWAYS.

Love,  
Mary Zanolini

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Mary Zanolini - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ As Jennifer's first grade teacher, I was privileged to know Cathy. She was a devoted mother who always had her girls' best interests at heart. She was involved in all aspects of their education, with strong support from Steve. Jennifer, your mom loved you dearly and I recall conversations over the last few years when you and I would talk and I asked about your mom. Your face always broke into a big grin. Remember the things your mother taught you and know that she loved you with all her heart and was very proud of you and Ashley. I will keep your family in my prayers and may each day bring you a little more peace.  
Becky Ables

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**Becky Ables** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Steven, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
  
TCEQ  
Region 10/Beaumont Office

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**Kim McInnis** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ Anyone who knew Cathy knew her strength. Most of us wonder how we would have handled what she went through these last five years. I would hope that I would have handled it a fraction as well as she did. Cathy never complained and always showed concern for others above herself. She was positive and optimistic and never gave up. What a legacy to leave for her family. We knew Cathy because she was Ashley's mom and then she and Steven became our friends. We were truly blessed to have known her.  
Ashley, Steve and Jennifer, we love you and will keep you in our prayers.

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**Amy Drott** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ I would like to extend my deepest sorrow for you and your family. You all are in my prayers. If you need anything, please let me know.

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**Lana Modisett** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ There are several things that I will never forget about Cathy. She always had a smile for everyone she met, she had the most contagious laugh, and she made you feel special. I admired her strength and determination in her battle with cancer. It is comforting to me to know that she is in heaven and she is sharing that precious smile with everyone there and maybe, just maybe, she has had a chance to visit with my Charlie. Steven, you and Ashley & Jennifer are in my thoughts an prayers. Love you.

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**Bill O'Sullivan, Jr.** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you. We know you have been through so much the past 5 years but your courage, strength and faith have been amazing. Ashley, thanks for your wonderful smile every Sunday morning. Take care and we love you all.

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**Tracy, Vicky & Jace Ainsworth** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ So sorry to hear of the Crank families loss. I taught with Cathy in Jacksonville at the High School. We were computer teachers together along with Jason Duplichain and Sue Frost (art teacher). She was a lovely person whom I enjoyed being friends with. I will miss her.

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**Sara Miller** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *This is for Ashley. I love you. I will always be here for you. You are such a special young lady, and I will never forget your faithfulness in adding your mother's name to our prayer list each and every Sunday in our Sunday School class. I admire your courageous attitude in the face of trial and loss no one so young should have to experience. Just remember that God never makes a mistake, and His plans for us are always better than anything we can plan for ourselves. ---Ms. Melinda*

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**Melinda Lollar** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I was privileged to teach with Cathy at Jacksonville High School in the computer department for 5 years. She was a wonderful mentor and teacher who students loved and respected. When I student taught in the fall of '93 with Sara Miller, Cathy was pregnant with Jennifer; I remember her being so big the first time I met her! Then the next year when I came to work as an employee of JISD, she was skinny! Cathy loved Steven and the girls SO MUCH. You could see the love for her family and friends in her smile and happy disposition.

What I will always remember about Cathy are the fantastic organizational skills that she possessed. She was a constant planner! She kept our department organized and running smoothly (and that was no small task with the likes of Denise Jackson, Sue Frost, Ed Ehring, Sara, and me!). She was great with the budget, purchase orders, etc. Those were special times for me. And I know that she was the same at home. I was always amazed at the vacation planning, trips with her mom and sister, and Christmas shopping that she would do. I would just shake my head and say, You have your Christmas shopping done? It's not even November! Everything was done well in advance and you knew if Cathy was doing it, it was going to be done right.

Steven, I can't imagine the heartache that you, Ashley, and Jennifer must be feeling. I love you guys and will remember you in my prayers. I am sorry that I have done what often happens when people are no longer in contact with each other on a daily basis, and that is to get so involved in your own world that you lose touch with people who have meant so much to you. Cathy was a special lady who I will always remember fondly. I thank you guys for opening your home to Lisa and me when we married in '97, showering us with "honey do" gifts. And then again with a baby shower to welcome Alyssa in '98. That was so special.

We love Cathy and will miss her. Thank God that we as Christians know that there will come a day when we will have the best-ever

*family reunion. May God give you comfort and bring her sweet spirit to you in the tough times ahead.*

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**Joannie and Lee Brundrett** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *I know Cathy will be missed by her family and friends. You are in my prayers as you go through this time.* ”

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**Karan Hunt Wilkes** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Cathy's Family. I know she will be missed. Cathy and I went to school and church together in Longview. I will never forget the time at youth camp when she and Pamela (Jackson) Allen tried to see how many cheese balls they could stuff in their mouths.* ”

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**Diane Gilley** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Sincerely, Robin and Billy Hunt* ”

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**Billy and Robin Hunt** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ *My deepest sympathies are with you and your family.* ”

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**Jennifer King** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Ashley and Jennifer,

*I didn't know your mom but from what I have heard from others and what I have read she was awesome! You will always have those great memories of her. Just remember, she is no longer in pain and is now in the presence of our Lord. I will continue to pray for you, your dad and all of the family.*

*Love you,*

*Coach Hammontree*

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**Rickey Hammontree** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ *Our prayers are with you and the girls, Steve, as you grieve this loss of a wonderful wife and mother. May the hope of heaven lighten the burden that you must feel. We will continue to lift you and all the family up in prayer.*

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**Greg and Lisa White** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *We are so sorry for you and the childrens loss and hold you in our prayers.*

*Your friends in Christ*

*Scott and Brenda Harris*

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**Scott and Brenda Harris** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MZ

“ Most folks knew Cathy as just 'Cathy'. I, however, knew her affectionately as 'ZOOM'. I think my Dad (John Zeigler) actually gave her this nickname.... because she was always 'zooming' around in that little yellow truck she used to drive. I can still see that truck in my mind like it was yesterday!

We sure had some great times when you stayed with me, didn't we?!! Memories that come to mind: Trapping you and your sister in the 'tomb' with the blower!! Staying the weekend in Harleton at your folks place watching scary movies and playing the Clue video game. And then there was the trip in your Mom's "land yacht" to Dallas that one weekend with 2 of my friends. Didn't we go to Wet & Wild or something? Oh man, and the night you drove us to the Ratt concert in Shreveport and that girl got sick on you? YOU WERE A SAINT ZOOM!!!!!!!!!! Let me repeat - YOU WERE A SAINT to have put up with Mark Zeigler during those years! Ha Ha.

Seriously though, THANK YOU SO MUCH Cathy for taking care of me AND putting up with me during some pretty difficult years of my life. I know I was a real challenge, but I wanted to thank you with all my heart for your incredible heart, your love, your grace, your smile, your patience, and your joy. I loved it when you stayed with me, and will always cherish the memories! We really had a blast. Thanks for impacting my life in such a big way!

I only wish we could have grabbed a cup of coffee and caught up before you went home to be with our Lord Jesus...

Love you ZOOM, thank you for everything, AND WILL SEE YOU WHEN I GET HOME ONE DAY TOO....

In Christ,  
Mark Zeigler

Steve, and the girls - please know I will be praying for you guys.

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**Mark Zeigler** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ *Dearest Crank Family....Our prayers are with you during this most difficult time. May the love of God be with you today and in the days ahead. We have had the blessed opportunity to know Cristy and she asked for prayer so many times for Cathy. What a sad time this has been for all of your families these last few months....God's love and grace will carry you and your families through this valley....just remember to lean on HIM!*

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**Terry Gage** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *I want to express my thoughts and prayers to Cathy's family. She was such a wonderful person and friend. I had the opportunity to go to school with Cathy at Spring Hill. When I started there in 3rd grade she was the first little girl to come right up to me and become my friend, which she has remained all of these years. I have so many great memories that I will always cherish. May God watch over everyone of you through this difficult time.*

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**Annette (Stuckey) Peterson** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Stephen and girls,  
Where do I begin? Cathy was such an inspiration for me! She shared so much of your everyday life with us, Jason and I. Those will be cherished memories for me for the rest of my life. I've never had a closer friend to share my teaching experience with, we laughed and cried, faught for and accomplished many things while working together. I've never enjoyed teaching with anyone as much as she and Jason. She was the laughter that filled our hearts with joy and made coming to work fun and easy. Thank you for sharing her with me. She will always be with me. I love you guys!  
Sue Frost

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**Judy Barber** - January 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM