



Catherine Ann Callan Pursley

June 4, 1940 - March 6, 2025

Catherine Ann Callan Pursley, 84, of Griffin, died Thursday, March 6, 2025, at The Woods Senior Care.

Born in Philadelphia, PA, June 4, 1940, a daughter of the late John Patrick and Isabelle Scott Callan. Ms. Pursley was a graduate of Georgia State College for Women where she earned a bachelor's degree in history and later graduated from West Georgia College, where she earned a master's degree in education.

She retired from Griffin High School where she taught Gifted and Honors students AP and World History. She formerly led the Academic Team and was also formerly a Cheerleading Coach. She was Star Teacher seven times.

Ms. Pursley was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by sisters, Gloria and Patricia Callan.

Surviving are her children, Kevin Pursley and wife Laura of Grand Rapids, MI and Erin King of Griffin; grandchildren, Grant Pursley, Grace Pursley, Laurie Callan and spouse Mary and Delilah King; brother, John Callan and wife Karen; sisters, Mary Ellen Schnider and Jackie McConnell; and several nieces and nephews.

Private services will be conducted at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Reverend Father Dennis Juan officiating.

The family will receive friends Monday, March 10, 2025, from 3-5PM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Reception Hall.

For online condolences please visit www.haistenmcculloughfuneralhome.com.

Haisten McCullough Funeral Home, 1155 Everee Inn Road, Griffin is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **10**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart RC Church
3123 MacArthur Dr.
Griffin, GA 30224

Tribute Wall

GC

“ I'm not going to open the Pandora's Box of our memories, but we sure had fun with our parties, dancing, and Griffin High storytelling. RIP, my friend. I will miss you. Love Georgia

Georgia Champion - March 16, 2025 at 06:22 PM

RB

“ Purley was one of the best teachers I ever had. She was tough, but she taught me so much, not only about history also about being a student and a scholar. I never forgot her and thought of her often. Rest in Peace, Purley.

Rebekah Boulton - March 10, 2025 at 04:00 PM

LK

“ Love John and Karen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.



Love John and Karen - March 10, 2025 at 01:33 PM

TB

“ Todd B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.

Todd B. - March 10, 2025 at 01:26 PM

T(

“ Dearest Kay, teaching with you at Griffin High School remains one of the great joys of my life. Your dedication to our mutual students, your professionalism, your love of academic pursuits, your constant good advice, and our mutual belief in the power of a great sense of humor will always be cherished memories of mine. We bonded over our love of learning, our ethnic backgrounds, our Roman Catholic faith, and our belief in our mutual students’ potential. I am grateful for all those blessings. But, above all, what I loved most about you was your genuineness. In a world so often filled with fakes, charlatans, and imposters, you were the REAL DEAL. We both believed in telling it like it was, and letting the chips fall where they may. I loved that about you, then and now. You called it like it was, no matter what, and the world was better because of it. Thank you for being my example, my colleague, my inspiration, and my friend. I will miss you.

Todd D. Benz, GHS faculty (1994-2000) - March 10, 2025 at 12:49 PM

RS

“ I taught with Kay at Griffin High School. She was always so friendly and always had a kind word to my students. Sympathy and prayers to the family.

Regina Stephens - March 10, 2025 at 12:31 PM

WC

“ Wendy Garman Collins planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.

Wendy Garman Collins - March 09, 2025 at 07:35 PM

WC

“ Wendy Garman Collins purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.



Wendy Garman Collins - March 09, 2025 at 07:35 PM



“ What I loved about her is that she always asked about our children and how they were doing every time I talked with her! Such a special lady with a huge heart for education and her students!

Trudy Gill - March 09, 2025 at 04:38 PM

JW

“ I was fortunate to have her as my teacher twice in high school. Her devotion to her students and preparing them for the world after high school had a really positive and long-lasting impact on me. Almost everything I've done, professionally speaking, over the last twenty years could be traced, in some way, to my experiences in her classroom.

J. Franklin Williamson - March 09, 2025 at 02:20 PM

QM

“ Kay was one wonderful lady. She inspired us all. This world is a better place thanks to Kay Pursley. We're all going to miss you.
Quimby Melton

Quimby Melton - March 09, 2025 at 11:34 AM

HJ

“ Howard Mark Johnson lit a candle in memory of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley



Howard Mark Johnson - March 08, 2025 at 06:29 PM

CC

“ Kay was special to each member of my family in so many ways. We shall always remember her with love and respect. Sincere condolences to her family.

C. J. Chewning - March 08, 2025 at 02:34 PM

LT

“ Love, the Friends 2.0 Thread purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.



Love, the Friends 2.0 Thread - March 08, 2025 at 07:11 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.

March 08, 2025 at 12:44 AM



“ We called her "Purley" as students. She was a wonderful teacher and a gift to many.

Sarah Sambol - March 08, 2025 at 12:39 AM

TF

“ The Beaton and Gallagher Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.

The Beaton and Gallagher Families - March 07, 2025 at 08:57 PM

TF

“ The Beaton and Gallagher Families purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.



The Beaton and Gallagher Families - March 07, 2025 at 08:57 PM

ST

“ Very sad for the passing of Kay. We shared alot of good times in past years and will always remember our late night talks. My deepest sympathy to all of you.

Shirley Travis

Shirley Travis - March 07, 2025 at 06:15 PM

ST

“ Shirley Travis purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Catherine Ann Callan Pursley.



Shirley Travis - March 07, 2025 at 06:00 PM