



## Mrs. Connie Penny

March 1, 1940 - April 13, 2017

Connie (Trammell) Penny, 77, returned to her heavenly home on April 13, 2017 after a valiant battle against health complications from surgery. Her devotion to her family and her firm belief in God supported her in this struggle and ultimately gave her peace.

Connie was born to the late Isaac and Oletta Trammell, in Wallace, AR on March 1, 1940. Connie was blessed with a large and loving family. She had a huge heart and loved her immediate and extended family greatly. She had great love for her daughter, Precious (deceased), and her son, Phil. She was so very thrilled at the birth of her grandsons, Maddox and Isaac Ash. She always put family before anything else and loved spending special occasions with her family during holidays and vacations to the beach.

Connie was a dedicated educator and had great passion for her chosen profession. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1963 with a degree in journalism. She taught journalism, literature and English at Texas High in Texarkana and Ashdown High in Arkansas. She helped many students produce many fabulous yearbooks over the years, capturing their high school memories. She received many awards throughout her life for professional accomplishments as a journalism teacher.

Connie is survived by her husband of 53 years, Phillip Penny; her son, Phil

Penny, his wife, Rebekah, her cherished grandsons, Maddox and Isaac Ash; her sister, Peggy Davis and brother, Michael Trammell. She is preceded in death by her daughter, Precious; her parents, Isaac and Oletta Trammell; her brother, Charles Trammell and sister, Dean Davis.

A celebration of Connie's wonderful life will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, with a visitation preceding the service beginning at 12:00 at the First Baptist Church in Ashdown. Interment will be at Marvin Cemetery in Wallace, AR. Reverend Butch Riddle will conduct the service. The family gratefully requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society or the Susan G. Komen Foundation, but prayers, condolences and memories are gladly accepted at <http://madden.funeralplan2.com>.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Connie Penny*

October 08, 2023 at 02:47 PM



“ *Beautiful lady. One of my favorite people to work w/at Texas High. So sorry for your loss Precious.*

**Peggy Robardey Gatlin - Bastrop, TX - Coworker** - August 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Connie Trammel always recalled with glee and delight the time she and a group of Ashdown buddies traveled to T-Town to see an up-and-coming performer named Elvis Presley perform.....and he borrowed her blazer! Her parents opened their home during our high school years for gatherings and even dancing; so much fun to remember. There wasn't a lot to do in a little town of only 1000 or so residents, and having a place to go on weekend nights was great. Connie always lit up a room with her humor and bright smile, and she gave back to everyone she knew. Given her personality, I imagine there was laughter and dancing at the Golden Gates when she arrived. My condolences to her family in their loss, knowing that the memories she helped create will sustain them in the days ahead.*

**Alice Henderson - Houston, TX - Friend** - August 05, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ Mrs. Penny was such a wonderful teacher, and she always took time with each and every student. She was a great teacher, mentor, and friend to so many people. She was so proud of her family, and we as students were so fortunate to have her presence in our lives. Please know that we are praying for her family and are so sorry for your loss.

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**Holley Robinson - Texarkana, TX - Friend** - April 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ She was the first person who wasn't related to me that actually made me believe I was smart, she believed I could do anything, and make sure I believed it too... The world is less without her.the best dyslexic therapist a girl could have! Wish I could have talk with her one better time. So sorry for your loss.

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**Carrie Slay (May) - Texarkana, TX - Student** - April 21, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Mrs. Penny was good person and teacher. She was my sister teacher tiger time and yearbook. Class 94. Rest peace Connie penny. Should going miss you so much. U always help each other out.

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**Amanda Grant - Texarkana, AR - Classmate** - April 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ My deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of Mrs. Penny, a teacher who truly shaped my career trajectory. I started Journalism on the Yearbook and was subsequently promoted to Academics Editor. Not only did Mrs. Penny introduce me to desktop publishing (which would lead to a proofreading job after college), but she instilled in me leadership skills, honed my love of writing, and most importantly, a standard of excellence. With Mrs. Penny, I traveled to UT Austin for the first time, where I would go on to graduate with an English degree. While I eventually moved to acting after college, my appreciation for print has remained, and many of my peers have gone on to careers in journalism and other creative fields. I will always remember Mrs. Penny as a sophisticated, knowledgeable, and above all, caring female role model who made a tremendous impact on me in that pivotal time of adolescence. I am so grateful to have been one of her students.

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**April Matthis - New York, NY - Student - April 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM**

BS

“ My heart dropped this morning when a classmate, Leah Rauch, texted me to tell me that our dear journalism teacher, Connie Penny had passed away. My best memories of Texas High School took place while working under her advisement for the Tiger Times newspaper and the always award winning yearbook. But Ms. Penny wasn't just a teacher, she was also a friend. She kept up with what we were doing and encouraged us to do our best and to think big. Her office door was always open whether you needed to talk about a story angle or to find a shoulder to cry on after the guy you asked to prom said no. We were so lucky to have someone like her in our young lives. She was an avid traveler and she took a number of students to New York City each year to pick up awards. It is because of these trips with Ms. Penny that I learned how terrifying taxi cab rides in NYC can be and I got to climb the Statue of Liberty. I also remember how we once had a great edition of Tiger Times that featured a centerpiece on gun violence which was something we all worried about in the mid-90s. Administration made us pull them from the shelves, but if I remember correctly, Ms. Penny told us to go and get our hard worked for edition and distribute it. She had such a zest for life and I doubt I would have gone on to become a reporter if it had not been for her influence. I'm so sorry I didn't do a better job keeping up with you after high school but you shall live in my memories and many others forever. God Bless you Connie. R.I.P. Love, Becky Bell, class of 1994

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Becky Bell - Omaha, TX - Student - April 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Mrs. Penny was a ray of sunshine in my life and the lives of so many others. You have our deepest condolences on her passing.

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Randy Wilson - Nutley, NJ - Student - April 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ So sorry to hear about Connie, she was a very special person. Janet

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Janet York - Blanchard, OK - Acquaintance - April 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ So saddened to hear of Mrs Penny's passing. She was a wonderful lady who so lovingly, wholeheartedly breathed self-esteem into my son, Marc, when he was struggling in Elementary school. She helped us to figure out that he was dyslexic. She loved on him and helped him to develop a "Can Do" attitude when it came to reading. They once read a story in her class entitled, "Thunder Cake." Marc being the sweet child he is, went home that evening and made "Mrs Tonnie Pineeee", as he called her, her very own Thunder Cake. Although he is now a Junior in High School, he still remembers her positive impact on him. He truly loved her, as she did him. Our prayers are with the Penny family during this time. God bless you all!

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Angie Dailey - Redwater, TX - Friend - April 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM