



# Rebecca Jean Cunningham

SEP 29, 1946 - NOV 24, 2016



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## Rebecca Jean Cunningham

SEP 29, 1946 - NOV 24, 2016

Rebecca Cunningham, 70, passed away November 24, 2016. She was born September 29, 1946 to Robert and Juanita Casteel in Little Rock, Arkansas. A graduate of White Hall High School in White Hall, Arkansas, she later earned an undergraduate degree from Henderson State University and a Master's from the University of Arkansas. Her favorite jobs were being a mother—she adored her two sons and was not shy about bragging about them—and teaching English at Pine Bluff High School in Arkansas. While a student in White Hall, “Becky” was the first female Student Council president, and was also honored with Homecoming Queen, 1964. She acquired her love for speech and drama at White Hall and portrayed Emily in “Our Town” which led her to pursue speech, drama, and music in college. At Henderson she performed in numerous plays and musicals where many people enjoyed her dramatic talents and her beautiful voice. One of her all-time loves was her participation in the MIL Singers (Meaning in Life Singers) while in college. She was a vocalist in this group which performed at college campuses, churches, and even Haight Ashbury in San Francisco, demonstrating the love of Christ thru a musical story. Lifetime friendships were formed within this group and Becky loved each of them. Becky’s life will be forever cherished by her sons, Jeremiah Cunningham (Jen), and Zachary Cunningham (Amy) from Louisville, KY, and brothers Robert Casteel (Frances), Donald Casteel (Mary Lynn), Allen Casteel (Melanie). She is also loved by numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial Park Funeral Home at 5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis, Tennessee is handling her arrangements. There will be a graveside service for family and friends 11:00 am, Monday, November 28, preceded by meeting in the Gathering room at 10:30 am. The family requests any memorial donations in Becky’s honor be sent to the Alzheimer’s Association, [www.alz.org/donate](http://www.alz.org/donate).



## Tribute Wall

**Rebecca Jean Cunningham**

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RC

**Regina Cain** posted:

I am so saddened to learn of Ms. Cunningham's passing. She made me fall in love with writing. Ms. Cunningham was an awesome and loving teacher.

January 12 at 8:55 AM

DL

**D. L.** posted:

WOW she was truly a beautiful woman inside and out. I learned a lot from her and perfected one of my skills due to her. Rest in Love..

November 30 at 4:56 AM

LA

**Latoasha** posted:

She was a very sweet person that cared for her students!!

November 27 at 6:34 PM

MB

**Mary Beth Bowman** posted:

Becky and I were roommates at college. Our biggest struggle was keeping our room clean. We were both active in BSU and spent many hours talking, singing and enjoying our friends there. She had a great voice and my love for the theater came from her and others performing in plays at Henderson. After college we would sometimes connect at her mother's Mexican Restaurant in White Hall. She will be missed and my memories of her will continue.

November 27 at 2:31 PM

GS

**Gail Bubbus Spadoni** posted:

Billy and Gail Bubbus Spadoni, Bryant Ar

November 27 at 10:49 AM

LM

**Leigh Ann Domon-Musselwhite** posted:

She was a gem!

November 26 at 6:42 PM



## Tribute Wall

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NR

**Nancy Russ** posted:

I remember Becky's contagious laughter and beautiful voice. In addition to her contribution to the MIL singers, she often sang for BSU vespers. One of my favorite memories is a duet she sang with Lydia Duckett (now Evanson). I hope she is singing with the angels now. Nancy Russ (her Baptist Student Union director at Henderson).

November 26 at 4:43 PM

MM

**Monica Minyard** posted:

This is one memory that still makes me smile: when Rachel & Zac were planning on going to their first formal dance together (his military ball), Rachel had a beautiful sleeveless ivory gown with metallic gold thread running through it. Her tattoo showed when she wore the dress (a small 4-leaf clover on her right shoulder). She worried & fretted about Becky seeing the tattoo & how she would react. She thought about covering it with a bandage or sweater. The week before the dance, I finally called Becky and told her about the tattoo. She laughed & laughed. She thought the situation was funny, but she was also touched to find out how much Rachel cared about her opinion. She was a good friend to our family. Please accept my condolences, but I am glad she is at peace, even though a little light & warmth leaves this world with her passing.

November 26 at 2:35 PM

JR

**John Russ** posted:

I have good memories of Becky during her years at Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR., in the 1960's. She had a beautiful singing voice and a wonderful laugh. She was active in the campus Baptist Student Union. She was also a member of a singing group called the MIL (Meaning in Life) singers. The group sang in churches and other venues throughout Arkansas and across the country. Becky was a "bright light" to many of us during our college days. John Russ Little Rock, AR. (501) 221-9813 RussIFC@aol.com

November 25 at 12:19 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Rebecca by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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