



Loyd Cleve Gass

October 17, 1938 - October 3, 2024

Loyd Cleve Gass, age 85, of Dade County, Trenton, Georgia, passed away peacefully at his daughter's home on October 3, 2024.

Loyd was born on October 17, 1938, to Fred and Minnie Gass of Sand Mountain. After graduating from Davis High School, Loyd attended Berry College where he met and married Betty Williams, the love of his life and mother of his two daughters, Amy and Laura Beth. Both Loyd and Betty graduated with degrees in education and worked passionately in education until their retirement. Loyd served Dade County faithfully as a school teacher, principal, and ultimately as superintendent. He was very active in the Lions Club, a founding member of the Trenton-Dade Optimist Club, and Chairman of the organizing committee of Citizens Bank & Trust. Through his career and these civic organizations, Loyd spent his life working to improve the community's educational system for educators and students alike.

One of Loyd's proudest moments was being selected from a group of 40,000 community heroes by the Olympic Committee to run as one of the torch bearers from Athens, Greece to Atlanta, Georgia, for the 1996 Olympic Opening Ceremonies. When Loyd and Betty finally retired, they enjoyed traveling to all 50 states and continuing their work on Sandy Acres Farm, which has been in Loyd's family for over 100 years and is still being run by his daughter, Laura Beth Cunningham and her husband Scott.

Loyd was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Williams Gass, and his sister, Beatrice Brock.

He is survived by his current wife, Virginia Hicks Coley Gass; his daughters Amy Lee Ann Gass and Laura Beth Cunningham (Scott Cunningham); step-children, Hugh Michael Coley & Wendy Rapagna; his two grandchildren, Jacob Levi Gass and Ashley Jordan Bennett; and a niece and nephew, Harry Brock and Myra Hufstetler.

Services will be held at Ryan Funeral Home on Tuesday, October 8th at 3:00 PM. Burial will follow in Brown's Gap Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Monday, October 7th from 4 PM to 7 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Trenton-Dade Optimist Club, an organization that Loyd and Betty both felt strongly about and who present an annual Loyd & Betty Gass Scholarship for Future Educators to a student at Dade County High School. Please mail donations to: Trenton-Dade Optimist Club, Inc. P.O. Box 1121, Trenton, GA 30752. Online condolences may be shared at ryanfuneralhome.net.

Arrangements are entrusted to Ryan Funeral Home & Crematory, Trenton, GA.

Cemetery Details

Brown's Gap Cemetery

Highway 301 South
Trenton, GA 30752

Previous Events

Receive Friends

OCT 7. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ryan Funeral Home and Crematory
11415 S Main St
PO Box 506
Trenton, GA 30752
(706) 657-7525
steven.ryan@ryanfuneralhome.net
<https://www.ryanfuneralhome.net/>

Funeral Service

OCT 8. 3:00 PM (ET)

Ryan Funeral Home and Crematory
11415 S Main St
PO Box 506
Trenton, GA 30752
(706) 657-7525
steven.ryan@ryanfuneralhome.net
<https://www.ryanfuneralhome.net/>

Tribute Wall



“ 98 files added to the album Life Tributes



Ryan Funeral Home - October 07, 2024 at 01:12 PM

SW

*Thank you Loyd for your dedication and service to the Dade County School System. Your encouragement and support was greatly appreciated by so many of us who taught in Dade County. Prayers for all the family
Sheila Wright*

Sheila Wright - October 07, 2024 at 02:59 PM

BC

“ *He was a good man to work for. My thoughts go out to all the family.*



Bonnie Cayce - October 04, 2024 at 09:33 PM

GH

“ *Loyd taught at Davis HS when I was there. He was more than a great teacher, he was a role model who changed my life. He was a good man who'll be missed.* ”

garry hundley - October 04, 2024 at 09:03 PM