



Gram, Momma, Carol, animal lover, gardener, chef, boo-boo fixer, always there when we yell "Momma"! Katy Adam's mom, Carol Bland



Happy Mother's Day - Love you so much Mary Lois Ray, the Boys



Joyce Kennedy, Emily Weathers Kennedy, and Mary Eleanor Weathers celebrating Mother's Day at another favorite local restaurant.

The Perfect Day

By Emily Weathers Kennedy

Let me describe to you the perfect day. I rouse the Southern Queens from their morning routines to get them to ready themselves for the day. I pick them up, one by one, and we head south. Our destination is Trowbridges, Florence AL. I know that it is their favorite spot. It has been my mother's since college, my mother-in-law's since she joined our little fold.

Sometimes our little of band chicken salad lovers includes my cousin and aunt when she is able. Nowadays we take my mother's cousin and best friend along with us. Anyone who comes can be a Southern Queen, our self-described moniker. But you must reminisce about the old days. About folks in the area, alive and gone. You must laugh and carry on like you are teenagers again. For I, your chauffeur, soak in your every word, trying to hold onto my past, your past.

My elders all need help maneuvering, so I take them in the restaurant, carefully holding to their arms. They are precious, these women, and I don't want them injured on my watch. All settled, we eat and talk and indulge in orange pineapple ice cream for dessert. I make a note to myself to bring a recorder next time, and I think that I'm the luckiest person I know. I have the privilege of having my mother and my mother-in-law right here with me, just down the road a piece.

Happy Mother's Day to Mom and Mother, my champions, my buddies, my Queens.



Support the Lawrenceburg Animal Shelter Adopt, donate, volunteer. Call 242-3511 or 762-0450.

77 GARNER ROAD, LEOMA

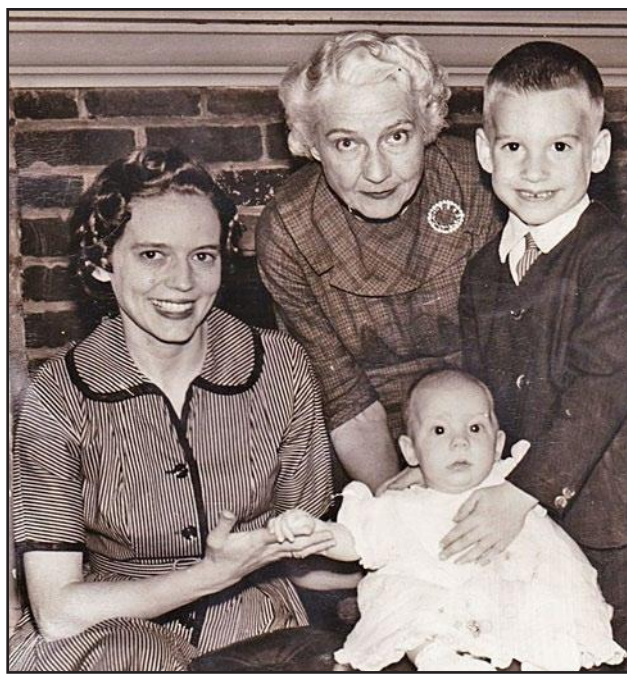
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Mamma, Grandmother Elizabeth Finney, brother Delk and me. - Elizabeth Kennedy Blackstone's mother, Betty Finney Kennedy.

She has always been the fun one.

She would not want me to name numbers, but let's just say my mother, Elizabeth (Betty) Ridley Finney Kennedy, is well into her 80's. Her mind is clear as a bell but she is not as physically strong as she once was. She spends the greater part of her days in one comfortable chair or another and only ventures out of the house (right next door to mine) on rare occasions.

Knowing this, it might surprise you to know that from her chair, through the combined use of her cell phone and her land line (no smart phone tech and no computer mind you) she continues to run point for my father, my brother and his wife, the farm, my husband and me, the five grandchildren, the great granddaughter and no doubt the second great grandchild (who is to arrive any day). There is a line about Dolly in a song from the musical "Hello Dolly" that has always reminded me of my mother: "I have always been a woman who arranges things, like furniture, and daffodils, and lives."

Just like Dolly, I can name 5 couples without even trying who owe their marital bliss to Mamma's introduction and encouragement. But she doesn't limit her people skills to matchmaking. Her quick mind is often hard at work on a variety of ways to "improve things" - aka stir things up and make all our lives a bit less mundane.

She keeps in close touch with all of us and helps out and advises when she thinks she can make our lives happier or our loads lighter. I guess a detractor might call her a bit intrusive but those who love her fiercely (and that includes all of us) know she simply has a keen and sincere interest in our happiness and if her loyalty is to you, then you are lucky indeed.

I think she gets away with it because she is just so much fun and she uses that super power to benefit those she loves. I am reminded of yet another Broadway leading lady - Auntie Mame. Mame was quoted as saying "Life's a banquet and most poor suckers are starving to death!" I have often wondered who said it first, Mame or Mamma.

A few cases in point:

I had a pony, who was a bit more puppy than pony, and on a few, just a few, occasions she allowed me to show our guests a little parlor trick I taught him - I would call and he would jump 3 feet up on our brick terrace and come on into the literal parlor and say hello. To horrified guests, my mother would deadpan that "Oriental rugs are good for children and pets. They don't show dirt."

The old first generation computers we used at the Daily Herald punched out teeny, tiny dots (ticker tape I guess?) and the trash at the paper was full of them. Waste not, want not Mamma would gather it up to use as confetti to throw at our annual New Year's Eve party. Looking down at the ancient boards in our house and the way the little dots would get caught between them, one lady asked Mamma how she ever got all of them cleaned up? "Oh, we never really do," she smiled. "It's such a comfort to look down in July and remember all the fun we had in January!"

When I was studying for the bar exam, I was a COMPLETE wreck, high strung, inconsolable, and most decidedly - no fun. One night Mamma came in my room when I was still studying about 3 a.m. Unfazed, she told me to put on my coat over my nightgown and she did the same. She drove me downtown and at a pretty quick pace we rode BACKWARDS around the square TWICE. I was speechless - too busy looking out for Columbia's finest to haul me off to jail in my nightgown with my mother, also in her nightgown, to say much. "That's what my mother and I did when things got too serious", she explained.

I slept like a baby that night and passed the bar. The story was one of many that gave me a lot of insight into my grandmother (I never really knew her) who clearly had an enormous impact on her daughter, my beloved Mamma, before she died in 1962.

Given her nature, you would think my mother a stranger to adversity. You would be wrong. She lost her only sibling, her brother, in France in World War II. She lost her parents at young ages. She fought cancer and won. Through it all, her inclination to live life to the fullest and encourage others to do the same has been her hallmark - a pretty great legacy to live up to for my own Elizabeth (Eliza, 16).

Much love to my mother, my departed grandmothers, and my mother-in-law.

- Elizabeth Kennedy Blackstone, Mothers Day 2016.

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Happy Mother's Day to my hero, Mitzi Lee Sweet. Love Always, LaShawn

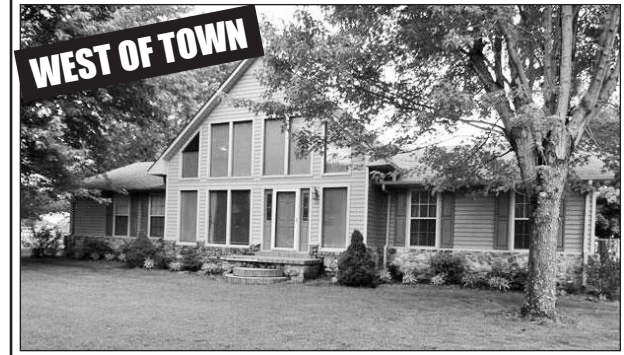


Happy Mother's Day to Wanda Bivens! From Your Children: Jan, Donnie, Rose and Leisa! - Donnie Howell's mom

Happy Mother's Day!



1232 Admiral Circle
MLS# 1703021 - Location, Location. Beautiful brick house, new metal roof, 3 1/2 baths, and utility room. Great private back yard with long concrete driveway. Must see. Call Faye Grover 931-242-0876.



1220 Ethridge Red Hill Road
MLS# 1638388 - Looky Looky, what a deal! 1 1/2 to 2 acres, 4 bedrooms, plus a room for a beauty shop or another bedroom. Beautiful country view. Call Mike 931-244-5571.



MLS# 1715108 - 1310 Military Street, Loretto - This building used to be a church but converted to residential. It could be commercial, the large auditorium still there. Call Faye 931-242-0876.

MLS# 1715625 - 527 Clax Branch Road - Beautiful 5 acres that has electric, gas, well water at road. Inground pool, place for a basement. Ready to build. Call Faye 931-242-0876.

MLS# 1725118 - 100x186 lot south of town before Prosser Road. Residential lot but could be commercial. Call Mike 931-244-5571.

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MLS# 1724400 - Grover Drive - This lot joins Summertown Hwy. at the side in the back. City water and sewer. Call Faye 931-242-0876.

MLS# 1724267 - Summertown Highway - 100x175.5 building lot. City water, sewer, and natural gas at road. Call Faye 931-242-0876.

732-738 Columbia Highway - 18 1/2 acres in city limits all but 5 acres. Ideal for large truck stop and other businesses. City water, sewer, and natural gas goes by property. Call Faye 931-242-0876.

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