



## Jerry Gayer Dick

December 2, 1927 - February 20, 2019

JERRY GAYER DICK, AGE 91

and a resident of Franklinton died Wednesday morning February 20, 2019 at her home. She had been lovingly cared for during the last months by her husband of 69 years, Carl Dick and her family. Jerry was a music educator and choral director for many years in the Washington Parish School System, as well as music director of First Baptist Church of Franklinton. During her many years with the church, she began a handbell choir and senior adult choir. "Miss Jerry", as she was affectionately known, touched thousands of people of all ages with her musical talents. She never stopped teaching and learning.

Jerry was a longtime member of the Waverly Club and a 50 year member of Delta Kappa Gamma. She was chosen as Franklinton Citizen of the Year in 1995 for her service to the community. Jerry was involved with the Franklinton Community Theater and countless performances in churches and schools throughout the parish and at the Washington Parish Free Fair. She spearheaded the effort that led to the Keyboard Praise piano performance event held for several years. Jerry enjoyed quilting and always loved spending time with her family.

Survived by:

Husband: Carl Dick of Franklinton

2 Daughters and Sons in law: Carla and Dr. Robert "Bobby" Stafford of Folsom,  
Marsha and Richard Newman of Franklinton

4 Grandsons and Spouses: Russell and Kelly Stafford of Covington,  
Scott Newman of Arlington, TN,  
Greg and Megan Stafford of Baton Rouge,  
Ricky and Kellie Newman of River Ridge

5 Great-grandchildren and Spouses: Brooks Newman,  
Natalie Newman,  
Jack Stafford,  
Candice Ditcharo and fiancé Phillip Palisi,  
Casey and Justin Duplantis

5 Great-great-grandchildren: Kadence, Kaelynn, Kyndall, Giovanni, Oliver

Also survived by numerous beloved nieces and nephews and other family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents Charles J. Gayer and Ida Corkern Gayer, 2 sisters and brothers in law Helen G. and Arlie Passman, Earline G. and Joe Lewis, sister in law and brother in law Evelyn and Charles Cassidy, brother in law and sister in law George and Marie Dick and a niece Carol Cassidy Bush.

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home Friday February 22nd from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm. Visitation will continue Saturday at First Baptist Church of

Franklinton (950 Self Street, Franklinton) from 9:00 am until 11:00 am. A funeral service will be held in the church at 11:00 am Saturday with Rev. Paul Watts, Rev. Joey Miller, and Dr. Joe Baugh officiating. Burial will follow in Ellis Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to First Baptist Church of Franklinton or the Music Department of Franklinton High School.

A special thank you to Dr. Chris Foret and Hospice Specialists of Louisiana for their care and support.

Pallbearers: Russell Stafford, Greg Stafford, Scott Newman, Ricky Newman, Mitch Bueto, Scott Dick

Honorary Pallbearers are Mike Cassidy, Dr. Rob Brown, Frank Brown, Barrett Brown, members of the FBC Handbell Choir, members of the FBC Senior Singers, and her classmates of the Gleaners Sunday School Class.

Obituaries can be viewed online at [www.crainfh.com](http://www.crainfh.com)

# Tribute Wall

JJ

“ Ms. Jerry was the kindest person I've ever known. I never heard her utter an unkind word about anyone or anything. She inspired me to be more like her each time we talked. I never visited Franklinton without going by to see Ms. Jerry. I spent so many hours at her house after school practicing for different events. Her days never ended at 3 pm. She gave from her heart and with a song in her heart. I will miss her being present in my life, but she will never leave me--she is in my heart and in my soul and in my whole being. I am so very thankful that I was blessed with knowing her and knowing that she loved me back. Thank you, Mr. Carl, Marsha, and Carla, for sharing your mother with all of us. I pray that you will be comforted knowing how much she was loved and with all the wonderful memories of her. Her service was so beautiful and I felt her presence with us as we sang for her. God Bless you and your families.

*Judy Corkern Jensen*

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**Judith C Jensen** - February 28, 2019 at 05:08 PM

SB

“ *Im sorry to hear about your mother. Praying for family.*

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**Scott Brumfield** - February 27, 2019 at 08:20 AM

BK

“ **MARSHA SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR MOTHER. YOU ARE IN MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS. B.KENNEDY**

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**brenda kennedy** - February 26, 2019 at 06:01 PM

JS

“Mrs. Jerry was an incredible role model and bigger than life when I was a little girl. She was everywhere, at school, at church and all over the community, spreading her magic and lifting us up. All of us. I couldn't carry a tune, but somehow she found a way to weave me (and others like me) into the choir to add our part and make us feel good about it. I know she had an amazing impact on so very many. Heaven is so fortunate to have such a talented angel joining them. Peace and comfort to Carla, Marsha and Mr. Dick.

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**Janet Magee Fabre Smith** - February 24, 2019 at 04:22 PM

EE

“We love Music for the buried hopes, the garnered memories, the tender feelings it can summon at a touch.” (Samuel Rogers)

*Miss Gayer gave us songs. For me that began when I was in Enon Elementary School and continued at Franklinton High School, Girls who had never seen an octavo were soon singing in three-part harmony, wearing billowy evening gowns for concerts, and attending festivals at Southeastern where judges critiqued our performance.*

*The impact Mrs. Dick had on my life was such that I chose Music Education as my own profession. What a blessing and inspiration she has been to her students! What lovely, fragrant memories I have of her, the always gracious, kind, and encouraging Christian lady!*

*Exie Jo Corkern Elmore*

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**Exie Jo Corkern Elmore** - February 24, 2019 at 03:26 PM

DF

“ For as long as I can remember, Jerry was a friend of whom all of us were fond. She was a childhood "matriarch" whose approval all of us sought. Carl, I pray for God's comfort and blessing on you and the girls. Your very old friend, Dudley

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**Dudley Fricke** - February 23, 2019 at 10:44 AM

FC

“ Another Icon that makes growing up in a small town special has passed. So much talent and so much love and so willing to share with all. Long years ago we taught together and visited when I came back through. Blessings and love to the family.  
Finley Corkern

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**Finley Corkern** - February 23, 2019 at 09:13 AM

CN

“ She taught music at Enon High School when I was a youth there. Loved her to pieces. She was a sweet lady. I haven't seen her since school days but remember her as always happy and very pleasant. Prayers for the family.

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**Carolyn Jones Nance** - February 22, 2019 at 07:59 PM

RS

“ Mrs Jerry, an absolute matriarch of our entire community, and especially our church family, the epitome of the word "lady" and a precious treasure to all of us. She will be sorely missed, but I can only imagine the beautiful heavenly homecoming! The loving embrace of our Lord and Savior, Mrs Jerry arm in arm with Jesus. It's what she lived for and it showed in everything she did. My prayers are for her wonderful loving family in the days ahead.

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**Renee Sandifer** - February 22, 2019 at 06:07 PM

SB

“ *Saddened for your loss of your Mother Marsha... Deepest Sympathys!*

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**Sharon Beckett** - February 22, 2019 at 11:59 AM

MB

“ *Enjoyed Mrs. Jerry so much as our high school choir director. i learned to sign and appreciate music through her. You will be missed Mrs. Jerry.*

*Mike Brumfield  
FHS class of 1972*

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**Mike Brumfield** - February 22, 2019 at 11:03 AM

BF

“Febary twenty-tooth, Two Oh Won Nine.

*My thoughts go back about 63 year.*

*I was a Second Grader at Frankleton Grammar School.*

*I was busy in my desk when the Lady came in.*

*She began what would awaken within me a Love and a Need for Music!!*

*She brought “toys” that caught my interest.*

*These were blocks, sticks, triangles, cymbals, bells, and whistles.*

*One day, I was the only kid to have a cap on in class. She noticed!!*

*Our eyes met as she approached. “Mr. Fisher, you are inside. You must remove*

*your cap.” Now, the night before, I had attempted to cut my hair...*

*Failure!!*

*She allowed me to put my cap back on.*

*She had the patience of Job. I caved after awhile.*

*Of all my Teachers, she controlled me the best!!*

*After all, she taught me how to sing with an “inside voice” and make Peanut Butter and Banana Sandwiches!!*

*Years later, she would help me with “Church Singing”. She was always ready with the perfect answer to every question I would have.*

*Favorite Song: The “Lord Bless You and Keep You” (with 7-fold Amen) by far!!*

*Whether a member of a Choir or Leading one, I Always applied those lessons*

*learned from the Master!!*

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**Billy Ray Fisher** - February 22, 2019 at 08:16 AM

SL

“ Miss Jerry is spreading her sunshine and joy in Heaven as she continues her mission of Making a Joyful Noise. What a role model she was for all of us. God Bless her and her family.



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**Sylvia LaPointe** - February 21, 2019 at 10:56 PM

DG

“ I have so many memories of the wonderful person and musician Ms Jerry was. Festivals, Concerts, Music making was all in her person and being. She conveyed the love of music and life and it will not be forgotten. Requiesat in pace. Donald

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**Donald George** - February 21, 2019 at 10:48 PM

EK

“ I truly loved Miss Jerry. She was such an example of a Godly woman. She had a way of getting people to do things. One story I love to tell about her is that when Jason was a teenager she needed someone to play the trumpet in a special program at church. She came to me and asked if Jason would do it. I said, “I don’t think so Miss Jerry he is in that teenage phase but maybe if you ask him.” Well... she didn’t ask him she told him and he readily agreed. Only Miss Jerry could accomplish such a task against a willful teen. Miss Jerry will forever be in our sweet memories. May God bless you, her family, as you mourn this great lady. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Edna Kennedy** - February 21, 2019 at 10:40 PM

JT

“ I loved Miss Jerry from the first moment I met her. She had such a positive influence on my life. I loved the choral festivals where our ensembles always received superior ratings! Girls chorus and mixed chorus didn't seem like classes because Miss Jerry made them so much fun. I was always honored when Miss Jerry chose me for a part in an ensemble, play, or musical. She had confidence in me that I didn't have in myself. She pushed me to see that God gave me a gift. I thoroughly enjoyed singing for her in Revelation Singers and Youth Choir even though I was a member at Enon. Miss Jerry was such a perfectionist that it made it difficult to sing for a director that didn't strive for perfection! Today, I still hear Miss Jerry's voice in my head telling me how to pronounce certain words so they don't go flat or sharp! I hear Bible verses that remind me of songs we sang in high school! Of course my favorite memories with Miss Jerry were the variety shows and musicals. South Pacific was my favorite. She let me be "Bloody Mary" even though I had been sick with the flu and could barely sing! I will definitely miss her! I'm praying for Mr. Carl, Carla, and Marsha! Thank you for sharing your sweet wife and mother with the entire parish!

Jeannie Kay Tate - February 21, 2019 at 10:04 PM

TB

“ Mrs. Jerry was a great lady inside and out!!! She was so very talented and she was a wonderful teacher. She always encouraged us to do our very best!! Praying for the family in this difficult time. She will be missed.



Terri Brignac - February 21, 2019 at 08:29 PM

JM

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with each one of Miss Jerry’s family. May you have the peace of knowing what a truly wonderful teacher and beautiful person she was inside and out. There are things she taught me that has always stuck with me through all these years. Rest In Peace beautiful lady you will be missed.*  
*Jackie Matherne Moore*

Jackie M Moore - February 21, 2019 at 06:53 PM

SR

“ *The best mixed chrous director ever. Rest in peace beautiful lady.*

Shanda Rushing - February 21, 2019 at 06:09 PM

PC

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all the family. I loved Mrs. Jerry so much. She was such a wonderful person. I hope all the good memories will get you through this sad time.*  
*Love,*  
*Paulette Bulloch Crain*



Paulette Crain - February 21, 2019 at 05:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jerry Gayer Dick.*



February 21, 2019 at 04:29 PM

LS

“ *Lib Stafford Scheuermann lit a candle in memory of Jerry Gayer Dick*



Lib Stafford Scheuermann - February 21, 2019 at 04:23 PM

LS

*We will miss this Lady*

Lib Stafford Scheuermann - February 21, 2019 at 04:24 PM

BB

“ *Heaven has gained a beautiful angel.*

Brenda Berthelot - February 21, 2019 at 04:00 PM

GH

“ *Rest in peace and Heavenly praise and song 'Mz' Jerry! You touched so many lives down here and just went home into so many welcoming arms. Your legacy will be remembered! "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."*

Grady Howell - February 21, 2019 at 03:04 PM

LD

“ *Seldom does anyone have a teacher who is with them from first grade until graduation. Miss Jerry was with many of us. Her influence on our lives was great. She was a wonderful role model. We all considered her a friend. Heaven is joyously celebrating her arrival and I am sure she is leading the choir. My sympathies to her family. Know that many of us had a light go out in our lives yesterday.* 🙏🙏🙏

Linda Stringfield Day - February 21, 2019 at 02:28 PM

MG

“ *A true Southern Belle! Mike and I were so blessed to have her as our Choir Director! Thanks be to Jesus for precious memories! Prayers going up for her beautiful family!*

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**Mike & Betty Gill** - February 21, 2019 at 01:29 PM