



## Amy Beth Murphy

April 4, 1959 - January 18, 2022

Amy Beth Murphy, retired Auburn University faculty member and administrator, passed away January 18, 2022, at her home on Lake Martin. She was 62. She is survived by a special loved one, Jeff Black; brother Charles Kent Murphy (Debbie); sister Viva Ellen Murphy; beloved niece Mary Beth Baird; nephew William Lowery Baird II; her extended family, friends, and her Auburn family, including countless former students and mentees, all of whom she “loved dearly.”

Amy was born on April 4, 1959 to Charles F Murphy and Sarah L Murphy of Tanner, AL. She was a graduate of the Tanner High School Class of 1977. Upon high school graduation, she pursued a career in banking. When Amy was turned down for a promotion on a Friday because she didn't have a four-year degree, she resigned the following Monday, and enrolled at Auburn University the next quarter. There she completed a bachelor's and ultimately a graduate degree in accounting. Anyone that knew Amy won't be surprised by this anecdotal reminder of her trademark wherewithal and gumption. She was a trailblazer before she knew it. Traits like this are just a few of many that made her admired, appreciated, and adored.

Upon her first graduation from Auburn in 1988, she worked in public accounting where she served clients in banking and healthcare. Having some professional experience under her belt, Amy returned to Auburn, completing her master's degree in 1992. Her talent and love for Auburn was recognized by many, and in 1994 she was asked to serve as the Director of Graduate Programs within Auburn's School of Accountancy. Her career was reborn. For the next 25 years Amy taught courses in financial accounting and professional development, and was credited for innumerable contributions in the advancement of graduate accounting studies.

Amy was an agent for change at Auburn. Under her leadership she increased internship offerings to students, pioneered curriculum changes that allowed students to sit for their professional exams before graduation, and created five online programs that extended the university's reach. Her contributions led to improved exam pass rates and ultimately

garnered the program national recognition with a top ten ranking by US News & World Report. Auburn's seal highlights the university's pillars of research, instruction, and extension. Amy knew her subject matter front and back, enlightened those around her, and designed mediums to reach a broader community.

Amy lived a full life. She loved much and gave much. She was ambitious and loyal. To spend time with her was to know pure joy and to have experienced a lot of laughter. She will be greatly missed by the many who love her dearly.

Family and friends will gather to share stories and memories of Amy on Saturday, January 29, 2022 from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM at Lindsay Lane Baptist Church Foundation Center (located on the west side of the church), 1300 Lindsay Lane, Athens, AL 35613. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the Amy B. Murphy Memorial Endowed Scholarship in the School of Accountancy at the Harbert College of Business or your local animal shelter. Checks payable to the "Auburn University Foundation" can be mailed to 317 S. College St. Auburn, AL 36849. Online gifts can be made at <https://alumniq.auburn.edu/giving/to/amymurphy>.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

JAN **29**. 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM (CT)

Lindsay Lane Baptist Church Foundation Center  
1300 Lindsay Lane  
Athens, AL 35613

# Tribute Wall

GR

“ This is such heartbreaking news, the world has certainly lost a bright, positive spirit with Ms. Murphy's passing. I first met Ms. Murphy over 10 years ago while pursuing my undergraduate degree at Auburn University. I remember her having so much spunk, and her laughter was so infectious, as was her joy and passion for learning and accounting. She was instrumental in my decision to stay the extra year to pursue my masters degree through the Auburn MAc program, and I'm forever grateful to her for that. I will remember her fondly, and I send my sincerest condolences to her family and dear friends. - Gabi Bailin Rowe

Gabi Bailin Rowe - January 31 at 01:20 AM

DM

“ I am so saddened to hear this news! Amy was so kind and inspirational to me more than 20 years ago when I decided to pursue my master's degree in Accounting. I was one of the first people to enroll in the distance education program (what they called online) at that time and she made me feel confident that I would be able to succeed. I will forever cherish the impact Amy had on my life! My thoughts and prayers are with all of Amy's family!

Delia H. Moore  
Auburn University  
Class of 2002, MAc

Delia Moore - January 25 at 03:16 PM

JG

“ Amy was a special person and had tremendous impact on me and so many others in the Auburn family. My thoughts and prayers are with all of her family and friends.

Julie Gallina - January 25 at 01:28 PM

Temporarily  
CLOSED  
FOR SPIRITUAL  
MAINTENANCE

“ I am seeking hard to find words. There are no words to describe how Amy changed my life. I came to Auburn at the age of 30 in 1995. As a non-traditional, top of my class student, Amy was my first professional/academic mentor. She guided my every step, made sure I met the people of influence, advised on clothing and hairstyles, and gave me every opportunity to be the absolute best I could be. She genuinely cared. With tear filled eyes, I pray for her family. I pray for Gods comfort. I pray for all of us who were touched by this wonderful lady. God bless you.

Denise Howell - January 25 at 12:26 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amy Beth Murphy.*



January 24 at 04:04 PM

AS

“ *I am heartbroken by this news and I'm so very sorry for your tremendous loss. Amy was a wonderful person and SO many looked up to her. Luke 23:43 - And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."*

**Ashley Stephens** - January 24 at 03:58 PM

AM

“ *Interacting with Amy always brightened my day. She had such a pleasing personality and was always willing to assist in any possible way, she could. My deepest condolences to her family. She will be dearly missed. Amit Mitra*

**Amit Mitra** - January 24 at 01:16 PM

MM

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Praying for God to strengthen you during this difficult time, such a beautiful and sweet lady.*



**Margie Maddox** - January 24 at 09:53 AM

JC

“ *I was privileged to have Amy as a student at Auburn University many years ago and followed her career--she soared! A beautiful woman, inside and out. Prayers for those left behind. Dr. Jan Colbert (accounting)*

**Jan Colbert** - January 23 at 05:17 PM

SW

“ *Deepest love and care to the Murphy family. Servant well done. Rest in Eternity. Classmate Tanner High Class of 1977.*

*Dr. Sharon Waddle*



---

**Sharon Malone Waddle** - January 22 at 09:45 PM

NEVER TAKE YOUR  
LOVED ONES FOR  
GRANTED BECAUSE  
YOU NEVER KNOW  
WHEN THEIR HEARTS  
WILL STOP BEATING  
AND YOU WON'T HAVE  
A CHANCE TO SAY

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



---

**Tina Kilgo** - January 22 at 05:33 PM