

# THE PDI TIMES

*Spring/Summer 2023*

## JAY HAS SOMETHING TO SAY...

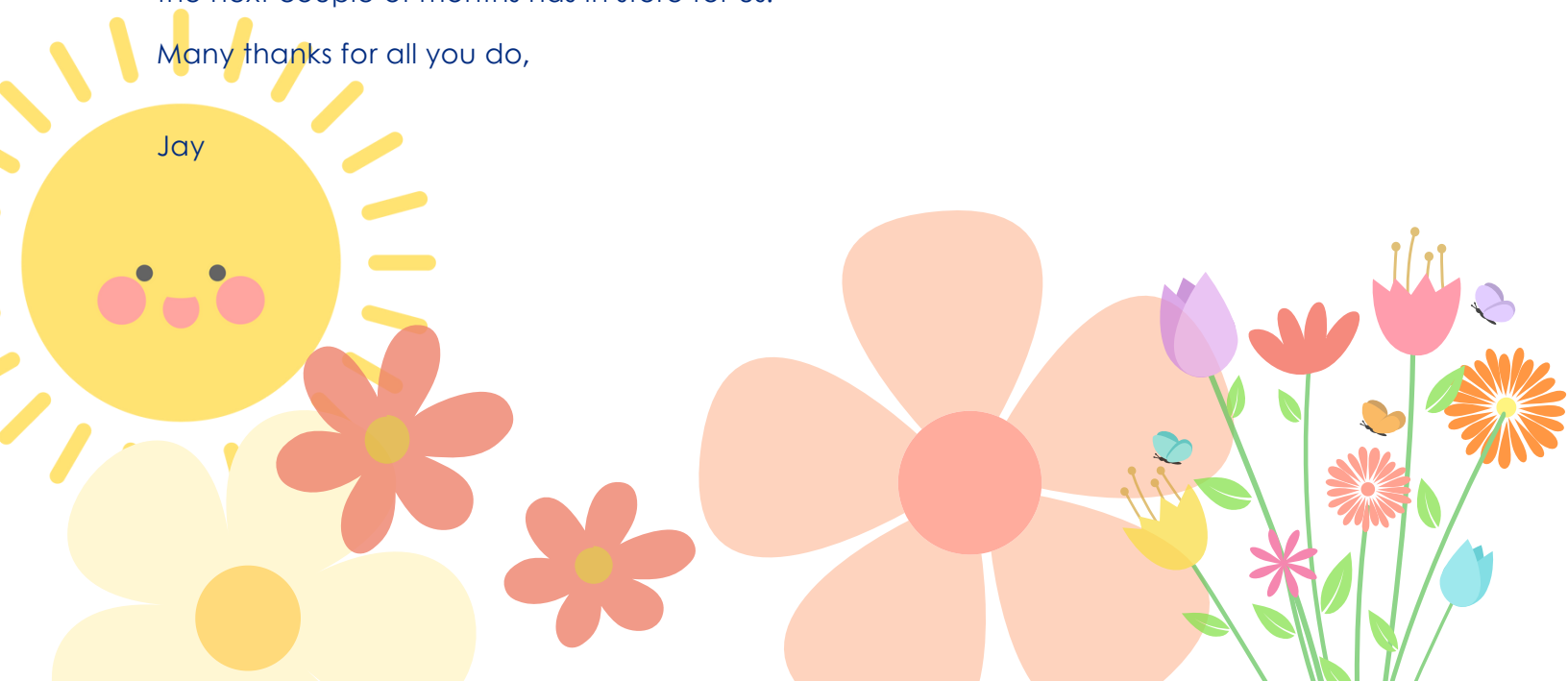
Wow, Spring is making way for Summer already! Where does the time go? These past couple of months we have recognized our Care Workers, Nurses, Teachers, and Maintenance Staff. We are so lucky to have all of you as part of our team!! Way to Go! The agency has also been focusing in on our Person Centered Training classes. I want to thank Amy Caudill and Rhonda Green for teaching these classes to our staff. They do a wonderful job and the reviews for the classes have been tremendous. Please look for new classes that are held every other month in Region 1 then in Region II. These classes help focus on what is truly important to all of us, those we serve.

I am proud to announce the agency has been re-accredited with the State of TN and the MCOs. On April 1st, we started a large pilot project to move us from paper to electronic records. It's going very well, and the staff has given us some great feedback. In the next couple of months, we will continue to roll out more homes and individuals to this format. This will make it easier for the agency as we move to the new state billing system. Speaking of that, I want to thank all of you who have been part of inputting into the Therap system. We have maintained our status with all your hard work in making sure we are timely and accurate in our data input.

The newsletter is full of wonderful activities that every aspect of the agency has been involved in for the past couple of months. Please take the time to review all the articles and pictures, it is amazing how many people the agency touches on any given day. I am so proud of the accomplishments of the individuals, staff, and the agency as a whole. Thank you all for your commitment and dedication to those we serve. I look forward to seeing what the next couple of months has in store for us.

Many thanks for all you do,

Jay






# Picnic in the Park



**REGION 2**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 9th**  
10 am - 2 pm at Maury Co. Park  
Jr. Order Pavillion



**REGION 1**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd**  
10 am - 2 pm at Dyers Creek Park  
Loop: DCRE, Site: 2



Make some unforgettable  
memories with friends!!





# FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!!!

Please keep up with everything going on in the PDI family by following us on social media. See photo albums from events, news, and more. Also, please show the pictures to our persons supported so they can see themselves and their friends. Don't miss out!!

[PDI Facebook](#)

[Buddy Ball Facebook](#)

[Common Ground Cafe Facebook](#)

[Common Ground Cafe Instagram](#)

[Kids Depot Facebook](#)

[Early Intervention Facebook](#)

[PDI Thrift Store Facebook](#)



It's Care Workers Recognition Month  
& PDI wants to

THANK YOU!



## From the White House

Our message this month to care workers across America is simple: The work you do matters. You are there for families when they need you most – providing comfort, strength, and compassion that inspire us all. Your devotion to the people and communities you serve represents the best of America's character, and we will always stand with you, ensuring you are seen, valued, and rewarded fairly for the work you do. - JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.



For all the care workers at PDI and elsewhere... it's Care Workers Recognition Month, and we'd like to thank you so much for your service and dedication to the individuals you support!



# Nurses' Appreciation Week

Fun celebrating Nurses Appreciation Week with THE 'Taco 'bout a Great Nurse parties'!!! We have the best nurses. Their knowledge and skills are next to none, and they demonstrate compassion and empathy for individuals they support at PDI everyday. Thank you to all our nurses. We truly appreciate you, this week and beyond!





# Maintenance Appreciation Day!!!



Happy Maintenance Appreciation Day to our crews. We truly do appreciate these guys for working so hard to take care of us around here - our vehicles, offices, homes, equipment, and anything else we need help with. They always do whatever it takes to get the job done, so the individuals we serve can get the support they need and deserve. (pictured above, REGIONS 1 & 3: CHRIS KLEINHANS, GEORGE GODSEY, AND CARLOS WILLIAMS PICTURED BELOW - REGION 2: JAY HEIDEL AND BRUCE ENTREKIN)



# KIDS DEPOT

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

& PRE-K GRADUATION



HAPPY TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK TO ALL OF OUR STAFF! WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR OUR TEAM. TO OUR KIDS DEPOT TEAM, THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH WORDS OR GIFTS IN THE WORLD TO SHOW HOW MUCH WE APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU! EVERYDAY YOU LADIES COME IN WITH BRIGHT SMILES AND READY TO LOVE ON CHILDREN LIKE THEY ARE YOUR OWN AND WE ARE SO THANKFUL! YOU GUYS NEED MORE THAN JUST A WEEK!







# PCT TRAINING GRADUATES



Meet the most recent graduates of our Person-Centered Thinking course: Felicia Carney, Laura Anderson, Sheba Taylor, Nadia Gold, and Michelle Messer. Shout out to Amy Caudill and Rhonda Green for being such knowledgeable and enthusiastic instructors! Congrats to all of you for continuing education to provide expert care to the individuals we support.



Congrats to this group of Person-Centered Thinking class graduates from Columbia, TN!

Graduates: Betesia Cheatham, Jeremy Riggs, Allisha Riggs, Mary Feters, Judy Bills, Brittney Black



# In The Spotlight

## DEMARQUIS SPRINGFIELD



DEMARQUIS SPRINGFIELD graduated Common Ground Cafe's job skills training program earlier this year and has recently landed a food service job at Wendy's. He's so happy to have earned this opportunity for increased independence. Please share your congratulations when you see him!





# Employees of the Month



**Jodie Cannon**  
September '22



**Dayton Purcell**  
October '22



**Chrisie Brown**  
November '22



**Frankie McKnight**  
December '22



# Employees of the Month



**Teresa Vaughn**  
January '23



**Robin Henderson**  
February '23



**Yolanda Pennix**  
March '23



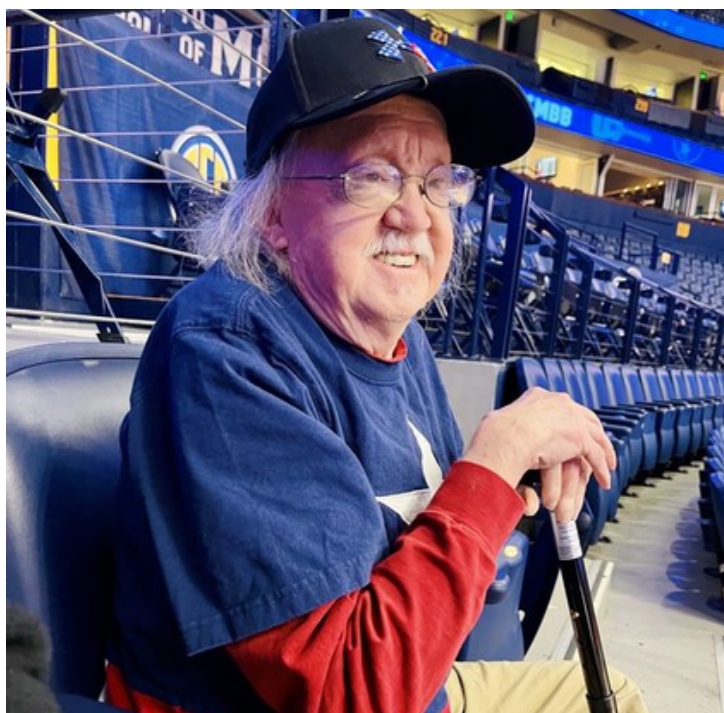
**George Godsey**  
April '23



# COOL FIELD TRIPS



NEW ROOMMATES. KYLE FOSTER AND RONNIE POWELL ENJOY A FRIDAY NIGHT AT PUCKETT'S, LISTENING TO LIVE MUSIC.



JIMMY SHEPHERD. EXCITED TO SEE THE SEC GAME AT BRIDGESTONE ARENA LAST NIGHT!



# COOL FIELD TRIPS



At the Stewart County Library, persons supported and staff attend the all-inclusive activities group and show off their artwork. They do this twice a week!!

Pictured left to right are:

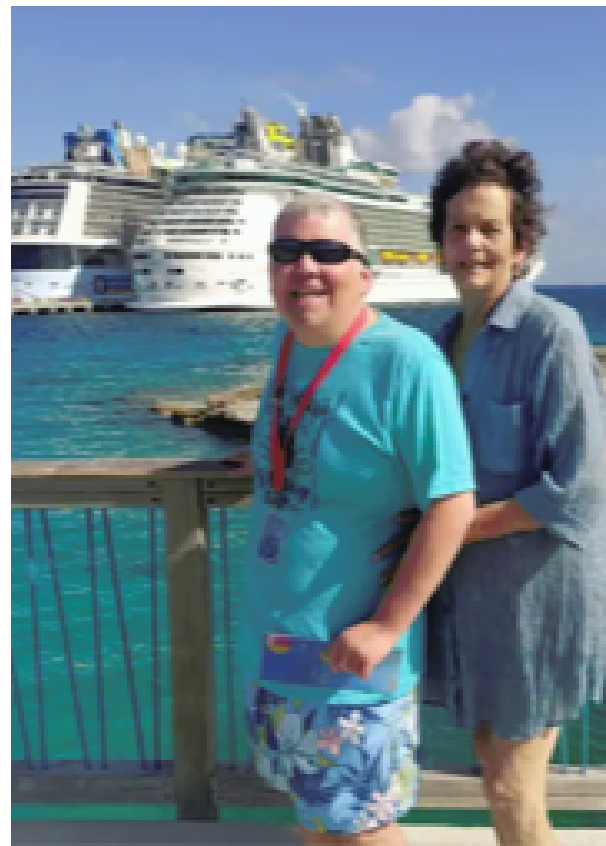
Jessica (staff), Michael Gray, Renea Cheshire, Donna (staff), Chelynn (staff), Gerald Johnson, Maggy (staff)



Johnny and Kevin really enjoyed meeting Clarksville Police Department and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office officers during the Tip-A-Cop event to raise money for Special Olympics.

# COOL FIELD TRIPS

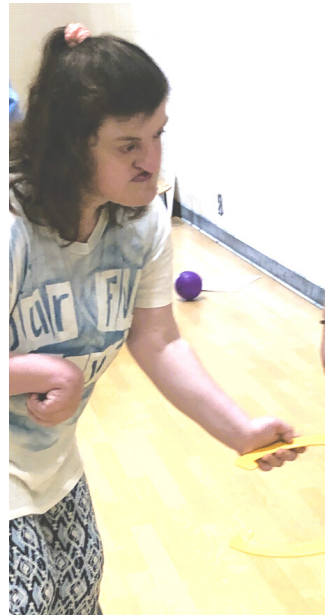
Matthew Hodge at Special Olympics with the APSU Softball Team



Matthew Hodge cruisin' along



# REGION 2 FIELD DAY!







**SUPERBOWL PARTY AT MCAD**



**CRAFTS WITH DAVID & DEL**





# Special Olympics







# Special Olympics







# PDI EARLY INTERVENTION

Our phenomenal Early Intervention staff attended the Building Best Practices conference in Murfreesboro which provided a wonderful opportunity to learn more great strategies to help our families we serve. We're so proud of this team!!



# NON\_PROFIT SHOWCASE, REGION 2

PDI REGION II PARTICIPATED IN THE NONPROFIT SHOWCASE IN MAURY COUNTY. 30 ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATED IN THIS EVENT! HERE WE HAVE OUR VERY OWN VP OF PDI'S REGION II, RHONDA GREEN, SPEAKING TO STUDENTS OF THE MAURY LEADERSHIP CLASS ABOUT HOW REWARDING IT IS TO BE ABLE TO SPEND EVERY DAY ADVOCATING FOR AND MAKING SURE THE PEOPLE WE SUPPORT GET TO LIVE THE THE LIFE THEY DESIRE!





# UNITED WAY



**Jay at Montgomery County Speaking Engagement**



**Congratulations to Jay Albertia, our President/CEO for receiving the 2022-2023 United Way Director's Award at today's Annual United Way Celebration & Luncheon! Way to Go Jay!!**

**PDI raised over \$6400.00 for our United Way campaign this year!!!**



United Way of the  
Greater Clarksville Region

*Dear Progressive Directions Inc.,*

*We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to Progressive Directions Inc. for your generous sponsorship of a table at the 2023 United Way of the Greater Clarksville Region's Annual Celebration. Your support and dedication to our community have significantly impacted the success of this important event.*

*We want to commend Progressive Directions Inc. for the remarkable work you do in our community. Your commitment to empowering individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities is truly inspiring. The programs and services you provide enable these individuals to lead fulfilling lives and reach their full potential. Your dedication and advocacy are invaluable assets to our community.*

*We would also like to extend our warmest congratulations to Progressive Directions Inc. on the success of your Common Grounds Cafe. This initiative not only provides a welcoming and inclusive space for individuals with disabilities to gain valuable work experience but also serves as a gathering place for the entire community. Your commitment to fostering inclusion and promoting opportunities for all is commendable.*

*I am grateful for Progressive Directions Inc.'s ongoing partnership with the United Way. Your support directly contributes to our efforts in education, healthcare, social services, and more. The impact of your generosity and dedication can be seen in the lives of individuals and families who have benefited from the programs and services provided by the United Way and its partner agencies.*

*Your dedication, advocacy, and the success of Common Grounds Cafe are true reflections of your commitment to making a positive impact in our community. Together, we can create a brighter future for all residents of the Greater Clarksville Region.*

*With heartfelt gratitude,*





20th Anniversary  
**Buddy Ball**

# BASKETBALL

We just wrapped another successful basketball season!!  
(See photo albums through links below)



MARCH 10



MARCH 17



MARCH 24



MARCH 31



APRIL 21



APRIL 28





# PROM

FULL ALBUM ONLINE





# HAPPY EASTER!



ALBUM: PDI Easter party with Clarksville Adventurers



BUDDY BALL EASTER PARTY PICS  
ALBUM 1 | ALBUM 2



**HAPPY EASTER!**  
**FROM KIDS DEPOT**



# GRANTS & DONATIONS



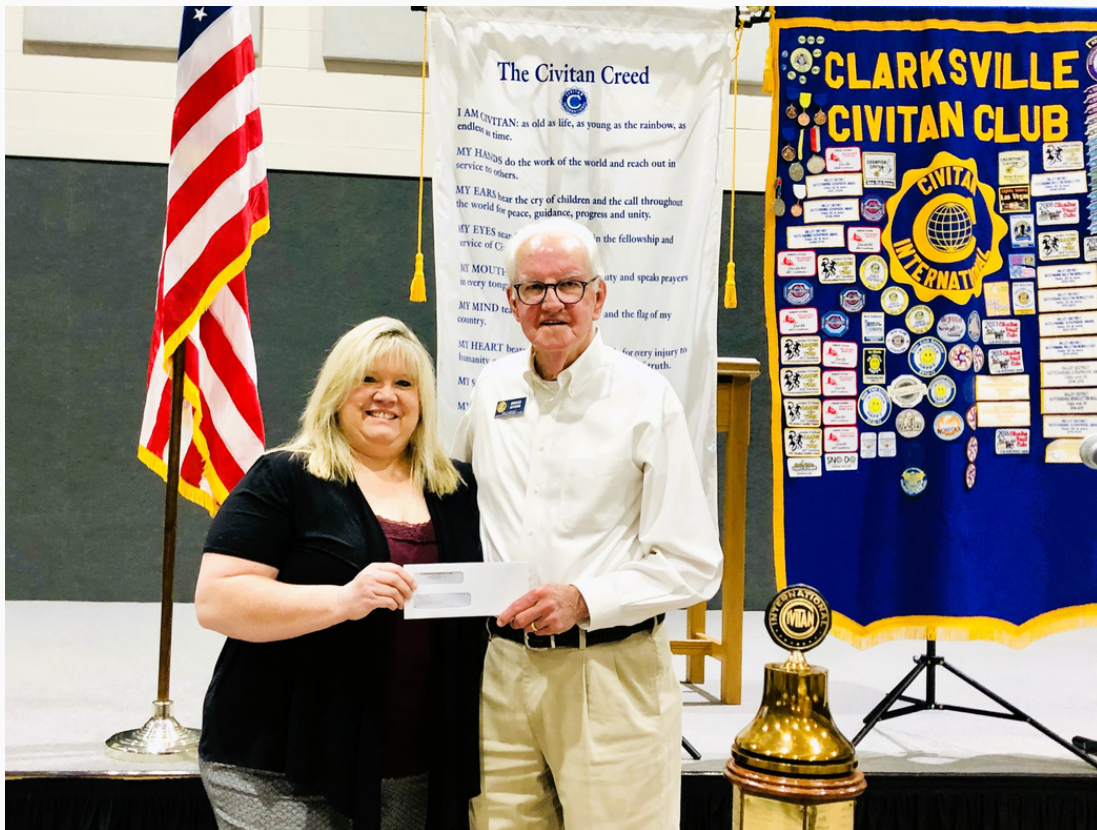
BUDDY BALL RECEIVED \$3460 FROM PREDATORS FOUNDATION



WASHTOPIA DONATED \$1500.00 TO COMMON GROUND CAFE



# GRANTS & DONATIONS



\$1200 FROM CIVITAN FOR BUDDY BALL

DANA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR \$1000.00 TO PDI

VETERANS UNITED GRANT FOR \$2000.00 TO PDI



# IN OTHER NEWS



## PROTECTION FROM HARM

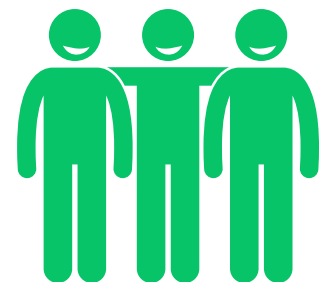
Remember... DIDD requires you to report any suspected incidents of abuse, neglect or exploitation to DIDD's Protection from Harm Unit at 888-633-1313 within 4 hours of observation or discovery. If you fail to report and the incident results in a substantiated case, you may be subject to disciplinary action along with the person(s) responsible for the abuse, neglect or exploitation.

## THE GREEN TEAM

As we demonstrate our commitment to sustainability, the agency continues its efforts to make positive changes toward energy efficiency a priority and ask for your help in doing so. There are things each of us can do to help further the cause. Here are some tips to reduce waste and improve efficiency at work, as well as at home:



- Turn off lights and electronics when not in use
- Recycle most paper, cardboard, plastic, metal and glass
- Adjust thermostat when away
- Upgrade to energy efficient bulbs and appliances
- Consider carpooling to work



If you are interested in learning more about recycling, resource conservation and sustainable living, check out this website for guides on money-saving tips and a better future for our kids. <https://mcgtn.org/green/sustain/resource-conservation>.









Check us out!

Veterans Plaza, Suite 102 (350 Pageant Lane, Clarksville)  
Weekdays 7am-2:30pm (kitchen closes at 2pm)

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

If you have something to share, please send it to:



**Julie Brown**  
[jbrown@progressivedirections.com](mailto:jbrown@progressivedirections.com)  
x4152

Share your stories, your pictures, your ideas.  
What would you like to see?





*In Memory of*  
*Jerry Staley Byrd*



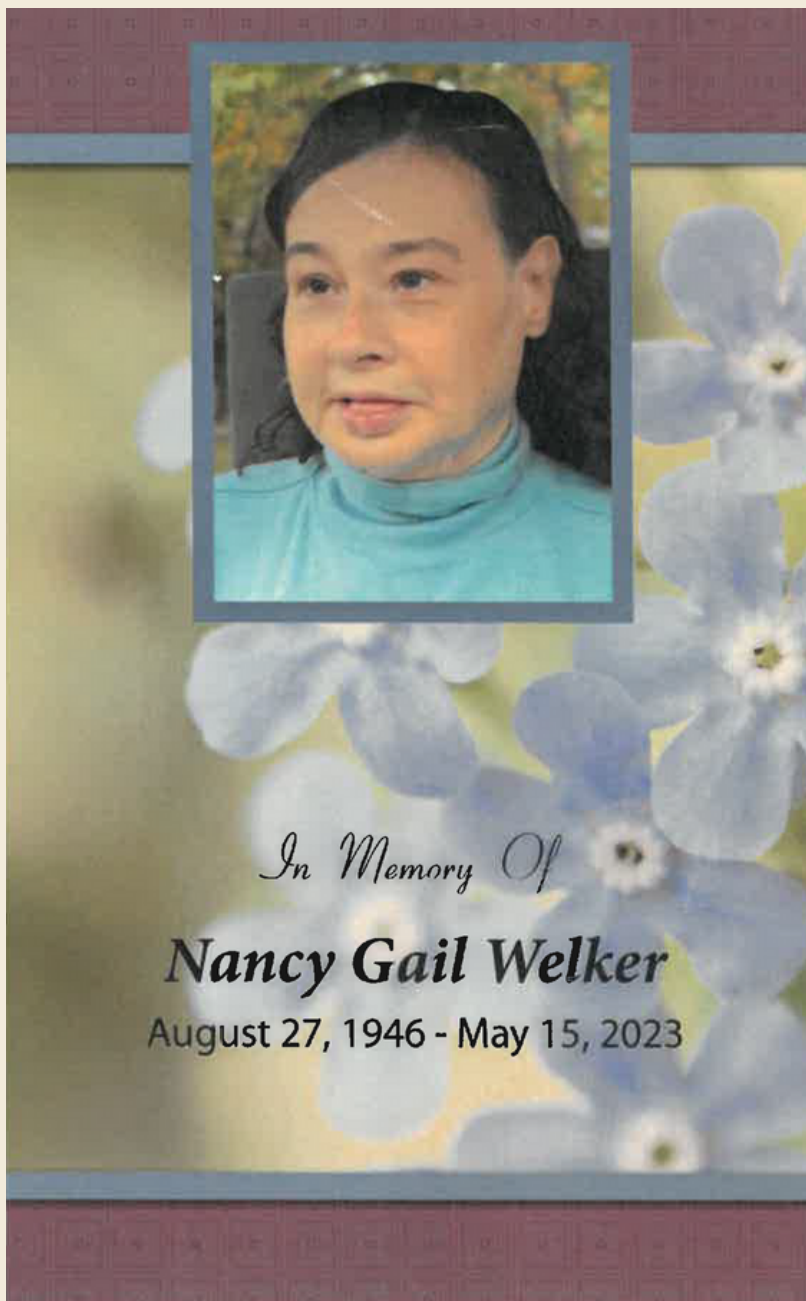
**JERRY STALEY BYRD**  
**JUNE 5, 1956 ~ APRIL 20, 2023**  
**66 YEARS OLD**

Jerry was born on June 5, 1956 in Indian Mound to Joseph and Dixie Byrd. He passed away on April 20, 2023. He loved going to Cracker Barrel, Walmart, and drinking Diet Dr. Pepper.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by brother, Joel Byrd. Jerry is survived by his sister, Aveta (Wayne) Dennis.

Please visit Jerry's online guestbook at [www.sykesfuneralhome.com](http://www.sykesfuneralhome.com) and share a memory with the family.





Nancy was born on August 27, 1946, in Dickson, TN, to Stuart Sr. and Nancy Welker. She passed away on May 15, 2023. Nancy, who always wore a smile, loved Barney and old western movies and television shows.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her siblings: Philip Welker, Betty Welker, and Stuart Welker, Jr.