



## Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers

September 9, 1944 - May 28, 2019

Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend, passed away peacefully at home on May 28th, 2019, at the age of 74, after being diagnosed with a rare fatal neurological disease one month ago.

Dr. Mayers is survived by her husband, Kenneth Mayers; daughter and son-in-law Elise and David Bouchner and grandchildren Matthew and Sydney; daughter and son-in-law Marcy and Jason Laviage and grandsons Morgan and Zachary of Houston, TX; son and daughter-in-law Scott and Elizabeth Mayers, and grandson Reid; sister and brother-in-law Cynthia and Hank Greenwald of Metairie, LA; sister and brother-in-law Sherry and Alan Berlin of San Diego, CA; brother and sister-in-law Lester and Beth Grossman of Aurora, IL; sister-in-law Marjorie Mayers of Houston, TX; along with a host of beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and nephews, and dear friends. She is preceded in death by her parents Maurice and Pearl Grossman of New Orleans, LA.

Dr. Mayers was born on September 9th, 1944 in New Orleans. Her family moved to Utica, NY, her father's birthplace as a young child, but returned in 1950 to New Orleans to be near many of their close extended family. She attended Allen Elementary School, McMinn Middle and graduated from Fortier High School in 1962. In high school, she was active in B'nai Brith Girls (BBG), a Jewish teen organization.

She attended Syracuse University in New York in 1962-63 and returned home to help care for her younger siblings during her grandmother's illness. She transferred to LSU where she received a BS in Elementary Education in 1966. She taught at McDonough 14 Elementary in New Orleans and Dufrocq Elementary and University Terrace in Baton Rouge. Her students often complained because she "made them think!"

While at LSU for her undergraduate studies, she met Kenneth Mayers. They married on June 11, 1967 and moved to his hometown of Lafayette, Louisiana in 1969, where they raised their three children.

She received her Master of Education with a major in Elementary Education from USL (now ULL) with a 4.0 GPA in 1976. She went on to obtain a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from LSU in 1995. From 1985-1990, she was an Instructor of Developmental Reading in Junior Division at USL. She joined the USL faculty of Curriculum & Instruction in 1990 as an Instructor, became an Assistant Professor in 1996, and an Associate Professor in 2007. She was advisor to Kappa Delta Pi, the Education Honor Society, and to the Jewish Students Association on campus. She retired from ULL in 2018.

Dr. Mayers was a committed volunteer. She was President of the Lafayette Parish Bar Auxiliary, both the Lafayette and Louisiana Jaycee Jaynes, and Faith House Chairman of the Board. She was a long-standing Junior League of Lafayette Member, Board Member, Sustainer and Advisor, and active in both Ascension Day School and Episcopal School of Acadiana parent clubs throughout the academic years of her three children. She was Co-Chairman of the first Acadian Fair and Trade Show which developed into the Festivals Acadians. In 1984, she reigned as Empress Josephine in the Krewe of Bonaparte while Kenneth served as Emperor Napoleon.

Dr. Mayers was recognized for her endless volunteer contributions with numerous honors, awards and recognitions including Faith House Woman of the Year Award, Junior League Sustainer of the Year Award and ULL Outstanding College of Education Alumni Award. She was recognized with numerous honors from the local, state and national level of the Jaycee Jaynes including the 1980 Outstanding Jaycee Family of the Year, Outstanding Young Women of Louisiana and in 1985 earned the highest honor as United States Jaycee Women's Congress and Life Member.

"In every area where she invests her talent and energies, the community is well rewarded," stated by the Lafayette Parish Bar Auxillary for the Acadiana Volunteer Activist award which she was presented in 1987.

In addition to teaching on faculty at USL/ULL and serving the university on countless committees and projects, she also started her own business that prepared well over a thousand high school students for success on the ACT/SAT college entrance exams for almost 30 years.

One of her greatest contributions was to the Jewish community in Lafayette. Her life's passion was to keep Judaism alive in Acadiana. For over four decades Dr. Mayers was a steadfast leader of both Temple Shalom and the former Yeshurun Synagogue. She served multiple tenures as President, various Board Member roles and Head of the Religious School including this past year. Without a permanent Rabbi, Dr. Mayers served many

other informal and formal roles including leading services, organizing Passover Seders and other religious events, and keeping up the building. She was the go-to community spokesperson, often representing the Jewish community in ecumenical events, lecturing to interdenominational groups, elementary schools, Theresian groups, and was frequently in the paper and on the news.

The family would like to thank Hospice of Acadiana, especially Jonathan Bourque, RN and Senior Helpers personal care attendants Ashley Abraham, Theresa (Joan) Farrar, Kronski Joseph, Kim Trahan, and Samantha Duhon who have cared so much for Dr. Mayers and her family over the past few weeks.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday May 29th at 2:00pm at Temple Shalom followed by a short graveside service at Hebrew Rest Cemetery, officiated by longtime family friend, Rabbi Judith Siegal of Temple Judea in Coral Gables, FL.

Upon her diagnosis, and at her request, Dr. Mayers' children and grandchildren began a #edyesproject #givingforgrammy inspired by her commitment to sustaining Jewish life continue in Acadiana. For this reason, in lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to Temple Shalom, P.O. Box 53711, Lafayette, LA 70507, specify Rabbi Fund.

View the obituary and guestbook online at <http://www.mourning.com>

Martin & Castille-DOWNTOWN-330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-234-2311

# Cemetery

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## Hebrew Rest Cemetery

W. University Ave.

Lafayette, LA, 70506

# Events

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**MAY** **Funeral Service** 02:00PM - 03:00PM

**29**

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Temple Shalom

603 Lee Avenue, Lafayette, LA, US

# Comments

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“ My deepest sympathies to Dr. Mayers' family. I knew Edye as a young mother, like myself, living on the Mannering St. neighborhood probably not long after she moved to Lafayette. Her contributions to her faith community and to the Lafayette community will be a living testament to her vision of service. To Marcy, the little girl, who lived down the street, your mom's spirit will remain with you always. Love - Lynne Suire (Rachel's mom)

Lynne Suire - June 01, 2019 at 10:15 AM

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“ Stephen B. Sonnier and all of your CEO Roundtable purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers.



Stephen B. Sonnier and all of your CEO Roundtable - May 31, 2019 at 12:44 PM

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“ We are saddened by the loss of your wonderful mother. May her memory be a blessing to all of you and may God give you strength and courage . Her legacy will endure forever.

Love,  
Cindy and David Senior and Family

cindy Bass - May 29, 2019 at 10:09 PM

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“ With prayers, SLCC Foundation Board of Directors purchased the Delightful Dieffenbachia for the family of Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers.



With prayers, SLCC Foundation Board of Directors - May 29, 2019 at 12:02 PM



“ I am sorry for the loss of your loved one. May the words found at Deuteronomy 31:6 be of comfort to you at this time.

**Danielle** - May 29, 2019 at 11:35 AM

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“ Thank you, Dr. Mayers, for being a good professor for me. Rest in peace.

**Joseph Torres** - May 29, 2019 at 08:25 AM

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“ Baruch Dayan HaEmes. May you all be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

**Harold Geiger** - May 29, 2019 at 07:42 AM

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“ We who knew Edith knew her as one who lived in full to the calls of life. When illness came to those in her family, we marveled how she gave of herself to their care, quietly and steadfastly and still continue on with her teaching, her service to the Temple, and the many charities which she worked with. Freud once asked what were the ends of life responded: “To love and to work”. Edith Mayers lived a life abounding with love and accomplishment.

**Maurice du** - May 29, 2019 at 06:19 AM



“ Thank you Dr. Edith Mayer's for living your life with much love for people and your work. May you legacy live on forever. Condolences to your family for the loss of your love one. RIP Dr. Mayers.

**Esther Washington Duffy** - May 29, 2019 at 11:50 PM



“ So very saddened by news of Edie's passing. Because of her dedication to Temple Shalom and Jewish education, she touched so many lives, mine included as well as my son and step-childrens. No doubt her legacy is huge Praying for God's Peace and Comfort to her family and all who knew her and grieve her passing

**Karen Kaplan** - June 08, 2019 at 12:59 PM



“ Words can not describe the overwhelming sadness in just discovering that Edye had passed. She was not only a good friend but a wonderful mentor and spirit guide. She embraced life in the fullest and generously involved others in the process. Life in Lafayette would have been very different without her friendship. No doubt, her legacy is not only all she did, but her wonderful husband Kenny, her children, and her grandchildren. May all of you find comfort in having shared her life and her great love for all of you.

Ferris Crane /Chaya Crane (Hebrew name)

**Chaya Crane** - August 28 at 02:42 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Edie's sudden illness and death. What a tragedy. She was such a lovely, intelligent lady. Prayers of peace and comfort to the Mayers family.

Lisa Hanchey

**Lisa Hanchey** - May 28, 2019 at 11:59 PM



“ Edith placed many of her students with me for their field experience. She took a keen interest in her students and wanted them to experience teaching before they actually did their student teaching. It was evident that she was totally committed to her profession and to helping her students become outstanding teachers. She was well respected and admired for her professionalism and her boundless energetic involvement in many organizations and causes. I always enjoyed her visits to my math classroom and looked forward to having her students assigned to me. She will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Marcella Baudoin, Math Dept., LHS - May 28, 2019 at 08:49 PM

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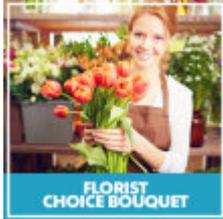
“ Edye was a faithful friend. One of the forces behind Yeshurin Synagogue and Temple Shalom. A loving wife and mother who lived encouraged and supported her children. (A good cook too.)

claudia trevithick - May 28, 2019 at 07:25 PM

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“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers.



May 28, 2019 at 07:18 PM

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“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers.



May 28, 2019 at 06:18 PM

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“ Dr. Mayers was such a great professor. Her classes were tough but she was always there to assist and guide every student she taught. She was a great leader and will be missed by all who knew her. My prayers go out to all of the family in this difficult time. May she rest in peace.

**Ryan Martin** - May 28, 2019 at 05:59 PM

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“ My love and prayers to all the family. I am so sad , I will miss my dear friend .She was my rock when I needed encouragement. Patsy Spedale

**Patsy Spedale** - May 28, 2019 at 04:38 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers.



May 28, 2019 at 04:30 PM

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“ I am so sadden to hear this news. I was a returning student to ULL, and as an older student Dr. Mayers took me under her wing. I adored her class. She also would attend many of my theater performances years after I graduated. She was also very supportive of my endeavors. During the semester, she had major surgery. She was back in the classroom within weeks. I was astounded that she could stand there and teach while recovering. To the family, please know that she was loved by so many

**Shane Guilbeau** - May 28, 2019 at 04:04 PM

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“ Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers.



May 28, 2019 at 03:26 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Edith Grossman Mayers.



May 28, 2019 at 01:01 PM

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“ So sorry for your families loss. You are in my prayers.

**Susan Begnaud** - May 28, 2019 at 12:50 PM



“ May peace come to the family of Dr. Mayers. She was a wonderful person. My prayers go to all of you.

**Pat Thompson** - May 28, 2019 at 01:22 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Edge's sudden illness and passing. I knew her as an ESA volleyball mom (my daughters Jeanne and Valerie played VB with Marcy), as a UL Lafayette colleague, and as a fellow member of the Friends of the Humanities. She was a lovely woman who was always so positive and engaging. My condolences to Marcy and the rest of the family. Anne Broussard

**Anne Broussard** - June 04, 2019 at 10:54 AM