

## Nash Cox

Nash Cox, a Frankfort native, has long been interested in local history, having grown up in a family with deep roots here. A graduate of Frankfort High School, she received a BA from Newcomb College, Tulane University, and an MA from the University of Kentucky--both degrees in English. After a stint working as an assistant editor at UK's Cooperative Extension Service, Cox taught English—literature and writing--at an independent day and boarding school for girls, The Baldwin School in Bryn Mawr, PA., and from 1965-1970 she was Head of the English Department.

In the early 1970s she was lured back to Frankfort to become Director of Performing and Literary Arts at the Kentucky Arts Commission. In 1974 she became Executive Director, a position she held until 1985. During this period the arts in Kentucky and throughout the country were blossoming, and she was active in state, regional, and national arts organizations.

After her marriage to Robert Lewis Shayon in 1984, she returned to Philadelphia where her husband was a professor at the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. They worked together on various projects including travel to many parts of the world interviewing religious leaders from the five major religions about the impact of television on religion. This effort culminated in a conference on "Religion, Television, and the Information Superhighway" in 1994 at the University of Pennsylvania. Cox and Shayon edited and published a collection of essays and co-produced a video of the conference.

Cox edited her husband's memoir, *Odyssey in Prime Time* (2001) and most recently edited *Portrait: Early Families of Frankfort Before 1860*. She is a past president of Liberty Hall Historic Site, a member of the Kentucky Historic Properties Advisory Commission, and on the board of Fons Vitae, a non-profit, academic press based in Louisville and focused on world spirituality. She has been an assistant producer on several films directed by her sister, Nell Cox.