



Ms. Mary Lee Smith

August 6, 1944 - January 24, 2022

Sister Mary Lee Smith, 77, of Peoria, IL lost her battle to cancer and transitioned to her heavenly home at 10:46 am on Monday, January 24, 2022 at her residence surrounded by her family.

Mary was born to Pearl Davis and Alto Robinson, Sr., on August 6, 1944 in Drew Mississippi. After moving to Peoria and graduating from Manual High school, she received her Associates Degree from ICC then met her first husband William Porch in Peoria and they married November 26, 1963. Together, they had 4 children; Regina, William, Chataun and Chase Porch and raised her bonus child, Yvonne Robison. Mary later married her second husband, Euel Smith, on October 19, 1979 in Bloomington, IL and raised her bonus child, Shawn Watkins.

Mary worked at Pepsi Cola in her earlier years and later retired from Caterpillar Tractor as a material technology laboratory specialist in 2003 after 30 years of service. Mary was a caring mother, grandmother, sister and friend. Sister Mary always found time to maintain a family environment at home and share her time and giving spirit for over 50 years at Star of Hope where she served on the Children's and Bereavement Ministries and Sunday School. She volunteered at Nursing Homes. She was a loyal friend and dedicated her time in taking care of family and friends that needed it. Mary was quiet-spoken and very private; but had the biggest smile that warmed a room whenever she

entered. Her favorite saying is “Everything is going to be alright, just trust in the Lord.” Mary was a phenomenal cook, known for her barbequing. Most weekends and all holidays you could always find her in kitchen cooking or in the back yard grilling. Mary had a passion for the upkeep of her yard and spending time with her family.

Mary leaves to cherish her most precious memory her loving and devoted children which includes Regina Porch of Alexandria, VA, William (Talisa) Porch of Killeen, TX, Chataun Porch of Munchie, IN and Chase Porch of Alexandria, VA; a bonus daughter, Yvonne Robison of Los Angeles, CA and a bonus son, Shawn Watkins of Pearland, TX; one sister, Mary (Henry) Slaughter-Facen of Pooler, GA; 7 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She is preceded in death by her parents; 2 brothers, Eugene Shipp, Sr., and Alto Robinson, Jr.; and 5 sisters, Dorothy Jackson, Frances Robison, Bessie Sawyer, Gladys Bryson, and Idara Harris-Grier.

A funeral service is scheduled for 11 am on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at Star of Hope Full Gospel Baptist Church with a visitation beginning at 10 am. Bishop Joseph Johnson will officiate. Mary will be laid to rest at Parkview Cemetery.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at simonsmortuary.com.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the Illinois Cancer Care PC 8940 N. Wood Sage Rd, Peoria Il 61615 on Mary L. Smith behalf.

The family would like to give special thanks for the prayers, love and support provided by Aunt Joyce Howard, her niece, Johnnie “Fruity” McDaniel, Ms. Amelia Nickels, Ms. Rose Hopson, Ms. Nancy Jackson, and their families.

The service will be live streamed on Simons Mortuary's Website or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Simons-Mortuary-232095303487150>

promptly AT THE TIME OF THE SERVICE.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, social distancing is encouraged to be consistent with recommendations from the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA), funeral home directors have been instructed and should follow CDC guidelines on gatherings, including those directly related to funerals, visitations, or graveside services. *In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we ask that everyone in attendance: wear a face mask and refrain from hugging, kissing and shaking hands (as hard as it is to see someone you care about and not touch them). *It is our responsibility as a Funeral Directors, to do everything we can to advise families in order to honor our beloved Families and to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

Cemetery Details

Parkview Cemetery

2001 N University St
Peoria, IL 61604
(309) 688-0733

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Star of Hope Full Gospel Church
417 W. Romeo B. Garrett Avenue
Peoria, IL 61605

Celebration of Life

FEB 5. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Star of Hope Full Gospel Church
417 W. Romeo B. Garrett Avenue
Peoria, IL 61605

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Mary Lee Smith*



Simons Mortuary - February 04, 2022 at 01:54 PM



“ *Ms. Mary Lee Smith*

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Ms. Mary Lee Smith*

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *Absence from the physical but present with the Lord . Praying for the family 🙏🙏 You will be missed aunt Mary Lee. 💜💜💜💜*
Renita

Renita Dickerson - February 05, 2022 at 11:03 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Lee Smith.*



February 05, 2022 at 05:13 AM



“ *During times of loss, we begin to experience so many types of emotions. We're angry, were mad, were sad, and drained because we want to understand why. We're regretful because we feel like we could have done more or done things differently.*

All of the feelings that we feel are all feelings that we're allowed to have because we're grieving. Everyone is allowed to grieve, and it's not going to look the same from one person to the next. Grieving at the loss of someone that you love/ loved regardless of the last time you talked to them or spent time with them. Grieving because at some point in their life, they made a difference in your life. Grieving because it doesn't matter how they lived their live, but that they are now gone.

While we're grieving, we can try to find peace in knowing that you aren't suffering anymore and knowing that now you are sitting at the thrown with our heavenly father!

We all love you and we're all grieving the loss of of you in different ways. Until we meet again in heaven...💜 Renita Dickerson

Renita Dickerson - February 04, 2022 at 05:57 PM

RG

“ Rika & Nicky Grier-Fairley purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Ms. Mary Lee Smith.



Rika & Nicky Grier-Fairley - February 04, 2022 at 04:34 PM

EW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you Regina and your entire family on the death of your mom, Mrs Mary Smith. May God grant you peace, comfort and strength. Your Co-worker US Army Contract Support Element (CSE), Ft Belvoir, VA



Eunice Wright - February 04, 2022 at 10:20 AM

RH

“ Rena Webster Horton lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Lee Smith



Rena Webster Horton - February 03, 2022 at 07:51 AM

LF

“ Love, Tyrone Thomas and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Mary Lee Smith.



Love, Tyrone Thomas and Family - February 02, 2022 at 10:30 PM

Janet
Watkins

“ Love you and miss you aunt Mary. 🥰🥺💜

Janet Watkins - February 02, 2022 at 08:48 AM

Claudine
Parks

“ May you Rest In Peace. Love and support to the family. Your cousin's in Detroit, MI. The Parks family.

Claudine Parks - February 01, 2022 at 04:48 PM



“ Loved One Vertical Blanket was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Lee Smith.



February 01, 2022 at 04:26 PM



“ I love you Aunt Mary and always will.
R.I.H.P



Joyce Smith - January 29, 2022 at 10:36 PM



“ Sacred Garden Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Lee Smith.



January 27, 2022 at 10:29 PM

MR

“ *Marietta Rodgers lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Lee Smith*



Marietta Rodgers - January 27, 2022 at 03:11 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Lee Smith.*



January 27, 2022 at 02:16 PM

CC

“ *Corey Cornish lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Lee Smith*



Corey Cornish - January 26, 2022 at 02:38 PM

JM

Aunt Mary, precious memories will always be in my heart ❤️, you were such a blessing in my life, may God comfort and strengthen your children and all the family

johnnie mcdaniel - January 30, 2022 at 11:15 AM