



## Juanita "Nete" Smith

March 26, 1945 - March 23, 2022

Juanita "Nete" Smith, age 76, of Rensselaer, Indiana, passed away on Wednesday, March 23, 2022. She was born on March 26, 1945, the daughter of Hargis Hopkins and Myrtle Allen.

Nete married John Smith on June 16, 2018, in Rensselaer and he survives. She worked as a factory employee at Sealy Springs for eighteen years and the former Northway Products in Rensselaer for sixteen years. Then she worked at St. Joseph's College for five years. Nete enjoyed woodworking and remodeling. She also liked to cook, and she was a very avid card player. Most importantly, Nete loved to spend time with her family. She will be missed dearly.

Nete is survived by her husband, John, of Rensselaer, IN; children, Etta Marie Russell of Greenwood, Toney (Ida) Cotner Jr. of Rensselaer, Donita (James Lewis) Cotner of Rensselaer, Jodie (Rich) Marino of Las Vegas, and Lorie (Jarod) Barber of Rensselaer; siblings, Silas "Pete" Hopkins, Daisy (Delbert) Craft, and Beulah McEwen, all of Rensselaer; twenty grandchildren; twenty-four great grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren.

Nete was preceded in death by her parents; son, Edward Lee Cotner; daughter, Daphne Meyer; former husband, Toney Cotner Sr.; eleven brothers and sisters.

Friends may call on the family on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM CDT at Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer. A Funeral Service will be held on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10:30 AM CDT at Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer with Pastor Andy Martin officiating. Interment to follow at Memory Gardens of Rensselaer.

The family has requested memorial contributions in the form of random acts of kindness and by “paying it forward” to your fellow human beings.

# Cemetery Details

## Memory Gardens of Rensselaer

Memory Gardens  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5125  
info@jacksonfuneral.com

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 29.** 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

## Funeral Service

**MAR 30.** 10:30 AM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>



# Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Juanita "Nete" Smith.*

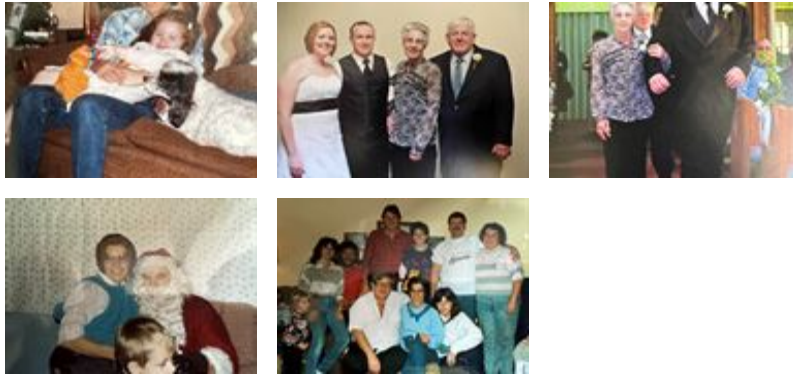


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March 28, 2022 at 07:32 PM



“ *76 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Jackson Funeral Chapels** - March 28, 2022 at 04:16 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Juanita "Nete" Smith.*



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March 28, 2022 at 09:24 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Juanita "Nete" Smith.*



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March 28, 2022 at 09:14 AM



“ *Donna Nemeth lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



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**Donna Nemeth** - March 27, 2022 at 09:21 PM



“ *George Schultz lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



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**George Schultz** - March 25, 2022 at 07:55 PM



“ *I grew up with Nete ,at baileys corner,till i moved away when i was 14 yrs old, later on in life i found her again on the internet,and we enjoyed playing dominoes and gin online,i 'am now 77 years old.She was a beautiful person inside and out.*

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**George Schultz** - March 25, 2022 at 07:54 PM

CC

*“ I knew Juanita from working at Verizon . She came in and we instantly clicked. She would call me on my personal number and ask me to come help her with her other devices and I would because I really enjoyed the time we spent together and the conversations we would have. This deeply saddeneds me. She was a absolutely wonderful friend.*

**Carlie Cooper** - March 25, 2022 at 05:51 PM



*We have known Nete for many years I worked with her at Northway and Sealy lived next door for years I have always enjoyed the time I spent with her she was a hoot and we loved her my kids called her gma Nete and she is also the gma of my beautiful niece Destini and my nephew Nathan she's will be sorely missed*

**Priscilla Doege** - March 28, 2022 at 02:49 PM

CH

*“ I've loved you my whole life, and I will miss you the rest of mine.*

*Forever...Christal*

**Christal** - March 25, 2022 at 04:23 PM



CW

*“ Carol Williams lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*

**Carol Williams** - March 25, 2022 at 11:13 AM



ML

“ *Martha Langley lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



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**Martha Langley** - March 25, 2022 at 10:57 AM

JM

“ *Jerry Miller lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



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**Jerry miller** - March 25, 2022 at 07:17 AM

RR

“ *Simply one of the best.*

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**Renee Russell** - March 25, 2022 at 12:54 AM



“ I came in late to the party and have only known Nete for a little less than 10 years, but what a wild and raucous ride it’s been. She was always up for an adventure whether a trip to Bailey’s, the thrift store, a visit to Chicago, or down to our place in AR. She was willing to try just about anything, though I never got her out to the track for a ride-along, and some of our “adventures” I will never share with another soul. We worked side by side on many projects and time flew because we usually spent the day laughing. I never heard her say an unkind word about anyone. As various friends and family members navigated their lives hurdles she was always encouraging and hopeful and tried to lend help and advice in ways that allowed them to get their footing and move forward. Everyone loved her, and I swear she knew everyone in the county (probably because she was somehow related to all of them!) I learned a lot from Nete. She was always happy to show me how to do something I’d never done before and laugh her butt off as I made a mess of it. She was always there when I needed a hand or an ear to just listen. We spent too much time living 90+ miles apart and touching base by phone. I always said I was a bad friend for not getting in touch sooner and she always said “Nah, you’re just busy”. She was endlessly forgiving. I often said she was the yin to my yang. She was the good and I was the evil. But she’d say she had a wicked streak too. Though I only knew her for a relatively short time, we sure squeezed a lot in. I count her as one of my best friends and will miss her terribly. God speed Nete! Don’t get into too much trouble up there without me.



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**Kathryn George** - March 24, 2022 at 08:51 PM

AM

“ *Amy lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



**Amy** - March 24, 2022 at 08:43 PM

JM

“ *Judy Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



**Judy Mitchell** - March 24, 2022 at 08:27 PM

MC

“ *Mary Jo Casey lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



**Mary Jo Casey** - March 24, 2022 at 07:09 PM

RO

“ *Rosalene lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Nete" Smith*



**Rosalene** - March 24, 2022 at 06:18 PM

BJ

“ *Juanita took care of my mom. For quite awhile we will miss u rest in the Arms Of Jesus Betty Sammy Jones*

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**Betty Jones** - March 24, 2022 at 06:11 PM