



Susan M Smith

January 30, 1936 - December 15, 2020

Susan M. Smith, 84, of Rensselaer, Indiana, passed away Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at her residence. She was born in Rensselaer, Indiana on January 30, 1936, the daughter of Ralph and Edna (Axen) Amsler.

Susan married David L. Smith on March 16, 1954 in Columbus, Georgia and he preceded her in death in 1985.

Susan was a lifetime resident of Rensselaer and the owner of Smith Oil Company. Susan served as the City of Rensselaer Clerk Treasurer from 1982-1996 and then went on to serve as the first female Mayor of Rensselaer from 1996-2000. She was a member of the Rensselaer City Council from 2000-2004. Susan was awarded the highest distinction in Indiana, the Sagamore of the Wabash, in 2004 by Governor Joe Kernan.

Susan was especially proud of her grandkids and great-grandkids and loved spending time with them as much as possible. She really enjoyed following their sporting events. Susan herself enjoyed bowling and everyone knew she made the best chocolate chip cookies. Susan was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church and served as President of the United Methodist Women for several years. She will be remembered fondly by her entire community.

Susan is survived by her children, Robert L (Mary) Smith, Kimberly (Roger) Mathew, Dale (Samantha) Smith, Laurie Henry, Brian (Peggy) Smith, Shannon (Jim) Shanley; sister-in-law, Pauline Amsler; brother-in-law, Mike Smith; stepmother-in-law, Marge Carty; 19 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and several precious nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, brothers, James Amsler, Ralph Amsler Jr, John Amsler, one great-grandchild, and son-in-law, Preston Henry.

The family has chosen to have private services. Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Social distancing, maximum number of people will be enforced, and masks must be worn at all services due to current pandemic.

Cemetery Details

Memory Gardens of Rensselaer

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

Tribute Wall

LS

“ Lynn Standish lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Lynn Standish - December 28, 2020 at 01:40 PM

GL

“ Sue and her brothers were my cousins, and my sibs and I spent many happy times on the Amsler farm. Our Lawrence family came to the Axen family reunion several years ago, and it was wonderful to relive those wonderful times! With warmest regards to her family.

Gretchen Lawrence

Gretchen Lawrence - December 22, 2020 at 04:20 PM

NB

“ Our deepest sympathies on the death of your Mother. She was a very special lady and served her community and her church very well! Norris and Rita Barnett

Norris and Rita Barnett - December 22, 2020 at 02:35 PM

NC

“ My condolences to Susie’s family. I’m happy we were able to gather for a reunion, after so many years apart. Rest In Peace, Susan. Nancy Wagner Chapman. Class of 1953.

Nancy Chapman - December 21, 2020 at 08:34 AM

LH

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Sue was a special lady and sure all of you will miss her terribly. Larry and Garnet Huhn

Larry & Garnet Huhn - December 20, 2020 at 12:03 PM

KC

“ We remember when you started your political career. You were the only deputy to your dad, Ralph Amsler, when he was the Jasper County Auditor. At that time the auditor's office did all of the county's payroll and the hospital's payroll. From there, the rest is history. Also you, Nancy Eaglesbaugh (sp?) & Kenny were considered triplets as all of you were born within days of each other. You both have been very good friends ever since. It was exciting watching your political career soar. Seeing you in church each week was always an added pleasure. Rest in peace.
Our sympathy to your great family.

Kenny & Sandra Culp - December 19, 2020 at 12:32 PM

LK

“ Larry And Judy Koebcke lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Larry and Judy Koebcke - December 18, 2020 at 07:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Susan M Smith.



December 18, 2020 at 12:10 PM

YC

“ *Your Friends at Ferguson Columbus purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Susan M Smith.*



Your Friends at Ferguson Columbus - December 18, 2020 at 10:27 AM

RG

“ *It was a privilege to be neighbors of Susan for several years. She was such a kind and thoughtful person and with a wonderful family. She will be missed by so many whose lives she touched.*
Rose Marie and John Groppe



Rose Marie and John Groppe - December 18, 2020 at 01:50 AM

EP

“ *Elizabeth Prohosky lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Elizabeth Prohosky - December 17, 2020 at 06:56 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Susan M Smith.*



December 17, 2020 at 03:32 PM

JO

“ Sue was such a sweet lady and also was a wonderful businesswoman. She also gave selflessly of her time to so many causes. Her smile and laugh were so contagious to all around her. She will be so missed by all.
Janice Odom & Greg & Kelly Wright & family



Janice Odom - December 17, 2020 at 02:43 PM

CS

“ Carla and Brad Ulyat, Morgan Ulyat and Ivo Suarez purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Susan M Smith.



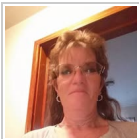
Carla and Brad Ulyat, Morgan Ulyat and Ivo Suarez -
December 17, 2020 at 02:04 PM



“ Susan will be missed, she was a beautiful woman. Carol Hubeny



Carol Hubeny - December 17, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“ Condolences to the family



Deb Campbell - December 17, 2020 at 10:57 AM

CG

“ *It was a pleasure to know Sue. She loved people and led an accomplished life. Her laughter came easy, she always saw the best in others and was an encouragement. You dear family, will be in our prayers.*
Chris and Cathy Grow



Cathy Grow - December 17, 2020 at 10:50 AM

BW

“ *Betty Worden lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Betty Worden - December 17, 2020 at 10:43 AM

KP

“ *Kristina Phillips lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Kristina Phillips - December 17, 2020 at 10:00 AM

MB

“ *Myles Beeching lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Myles Beeching - December 17, 2020 at 08:31 AM

RW

“ Sorry for your loss. I knew Sue most of my life. She was a good neighbor when I was a kid. As an adult we spent time at church, plays, eating out. We always had a good time and good talks. She accomplished so many things in her lifetime. She will be sorely missed by family, friends and the community. RIP Sue.



Regina Warfel - December 17, 2020 at 07:29 AM

HL

“ Homer And Theresa Lakin lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Homer and Theresa Lakin - December 17, 2020 at 07:14 AM

GK

“ Greg Kaufman lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Greg Kaufman - December 17, 2020 at 06:45 AM

RS

“ Rita J Sayers lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Rita J Sayers - December 17, 2020 at 06:32 AM

DW

“ *Dave & Becky (Ulm) Walter lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Dave & Becky (Ulm) Walter - December 17, 2020 at 06:19 AM

RN

“ *Rose Nesius lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Rose Nesius - December 17, 2020 at 12:15 AM

CF

“ *Kneeling in prayer for you Dale, your family. Tommy & Cathy Felker*

Cathy Felker - December 16, 2020 at 10:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Susan M Smith.*



December 16, 2020 at 10:01 PM

MM

“ To the Family of Susan Smith, you have my deepest sympathy for the loss of your mom, mother-in-law, grandmother and sister and aunt. She was a very kind person and was loved by many. She will be missed greatly.

Marcia Mathew - December 16, 2020 at 09:16 PM

GB

“ Gloria Baier lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Gloria Baier - December 16, 2020 at 09:06 PM

SM

“ Susan R Mathews lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Susan R Mathews - December 16, 2020 at 09:05 PM

GD

“ Such a beautiful person. You will be sadly missed by all who loved you.



GWEN DANTI - December 16, 2020 at 08:53 PM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Judy Burvan - December 16, 2020 at 07:11 PM

CI

“ *Coach Antonio McDaniel IUPUI purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Susan M Smith.*



Coach Antonio McDaniel IUPUI - December 16, 2020 at 06:20 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Susan M Smith.*



December 16, 2020 at 05:58 PM

DB

“ *Deric And Mindy Beier lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Deric and Mindy Beier - December 16, 2020 at 05:35 PM

NR

“ Nancy Rhoades lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Nancy Rhoades - December 16, 2020 at 05:22 PM

GS

“ Gary & JoEllen Sheffer lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Gary & JoEllen Sheffer - December 16, 2020 at 05:11 PM

ME

“ Marilyn Eckholm lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Marilyn Eckholm - December 16, 2020 at 04:02 PM

ME

Enjoyed working with Sue. She will be missed!

Marilyn Eckholm - December 16, 2020 at 04:04 PM

DH

“ *Sending our sympathy to your family*



Denny/Susan Healey - December 16, 2020 at 03:50 PM

JS

“ *Judy Siegrist lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Judy Siegrist - December 16, 2020 at 03:22 PM

RP

“ *You have my deepest sympathy in your great loss. She was a beautiful, nice lady and enriched many of our lives.*



Ruth Paulsen - December 16, 2020 at 03:08 PM

NK

“ *We are so sorry to hear about Sue . We always enjoyed our visits throughout the years with her and Dave . Prayers to you all .*



Noreen & Gale Kerns - December 16, 2020 at 02:52 PM

ML

“ *Martha Langley lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Martha Langley - December 16, 2020 at 02:39 PM

RL

“ *Rich And Sue Ludington lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Rich and Sue Ludington - December 16, 2020 at 02:38 PM

SL

“ *Shirley LeGrand lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith*



Shirley LeGrand - December 16, 2020 at 02:35 PM

SL

I am so sorry for your loss. I've known Sue for many years and bowled with her. She was a very kind lady and I know will be missed by many.

Shirley LeGrand - December 16, 2020 at 02:36 PM

SC

I've known Susan since back in the '50's when our husbands were in the National Guard together. She was a good friend and boss when I worked for her at the City. Will miss her smiling face. Sue Cambensy

Sue Cambensy - December 16, 2020 at 02:45 PM

DW

“ I’m so sorry for your loss, sue was such a nice and friendly person. I saw her about a week ago visiting with her grandchildren at the Willow Switch. RIP❤️❤️



Doug & Kathy Wilcox - December 16, 2020 at 02:32 PM

MC

“ Mary Jo Casey lit a candle in memory of Susan M Smith



Mary Jo Casey - December 16, 2020 at 02:29 PM

MA

“ A wonderful lady! Sue will be missed. Thoughts and prayers sent to her family.



Mary Alberts - December 16, 2020 at 02:11 PM