



Elaine M. Smith

February 22, 1947 - April 10, 2021

Elaine M. Smith, age 74 of Monroe, LA, died Saturday, April 10, 2021, at her home in Monroe, LA.

She was born on Saturday, February 22, 1947, in Highland, IL, the daughter of Luke and Dorothy (nee Sedlacek) Neudecker.

On Saturday, April 12, 1969, she married Donald R. Smith at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church - Marine, IL, who survives.

She was a member of the Master Gardner Program-Through Cooperative Extension Services; NE Louisiana Plants Society; and Herbs Society.

She was born in Highland, IL; grew up in Marine, IL and graduated from Triad High School in 1965. She graduated from Eastern University, Charleston, IL, in 1969 with a home economics degree; graduated from SIU Carbondale in 1977 with a home economics teaching master's degree. She and her family lived in Greenville, Belleville, Broken Arrow, OK, and Monroe, LA, since 1993. She taught at Belleville W. as a home economics teacher; operated a cooking school at Tulsa, OK; Executive Director of Tulsa Garden Center; Activities Director at Monroe Housing Authority; Centri Link Telephone Director for the non-profit division; Education Coordinator for Biedenharn Museum & Garden. She enjoyed all aspects of plants, growing, learning, and teaching.

Survivors include:

Husband - Donald R. Smith, Monroe, LA

Son - Benjamin C. Smith, West Monroe, LA

Grandchild - Riley C. Smith

Sister - Jane A.(William "Bill") Kueker, Troy, IL

Sister - Mary K. Barbata, Maryville, IL

Brother - John L. (Kay) Neudecker, Fulton, MO

Sister - Judy E. Dunbar, Bonham, TX

Brother - Paul J. (Lisa) Neudecker, Marine, IL.

She was preceded in death by:

Father - Luke J. Neudecker - Died 3/14/1994

Mother - Dorothy A. Neudecker, nee Sedlacek - Died 8/26/2011

Brother In-Law - Joseph "Joe" Barbata

Brother In-Law - Ric Dunbar.

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Thursday, April 15, 2021, and from 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM on Friday, April 16, 2021, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 16, 2021, at Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church in Marine, IL, with Rev. Fr. Paul Habing, Pastor, officiating.

Interment will be at Saint Elizabeth Catholic Cemetery in Marine, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Elizabeth Catholic Church.

Tribute Wall



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elaine M. Smith.*



April 15, 2021 at 10:16 AM



“ *Northeast Louisiana master Gardeners purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Elaine M. Smith.*



Northeast Louisiana master Gardeners - April 14, 2021 at 02:41 PM



“ *On behalf of the Northeast Louisiana Master Gardeners Association and the LSU AgCenter's Cooperative Extension Service, I extend most heartfelt sympathies Don and the rest of Elaine's family. She was a valued member of our group for years, and we owe her a debt of gratitude for her years of volunteer service. We will keep Elaine's memory and good thoughts for her family in our minds in the days ahead.*

Kerry D. Heafner - April 14, 2021 at 01:09 PM

GF

“ Gary Smith, Diane Rothchild and family purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Elaine M. Smith.



Gary Smith, Diane Rothchild and family - April 14, 2021 at 07:54 AM

CR

“ Cyndy Robertson purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Elaine M. Smith.



Cyndy Robertson - April 13, 2021 at 04:59 PM

CT

“ Elaine was always a ray of sunshine in any room she was. I was so thrilled when she and Don surprised us at our church in Arenzville, Illinois several years ago now. I was always sorry that she and Don lived so far away and that we couldn't do more things together as couples. She and I shared rides to SIUE one year with Donald. I was never aware of anything but a friendly relationship between her and Don at that time, but when she transferred to EIU in Charleston, the relationship really took off. I was so very honored to be one of Don's groomsmen at their wedding 52 years ago. It is with a mixture of sadness and joy that I realize that this ray of sunshine has joined the celestial galaxy of God's heaven.

Chuck Trent - April 13, 2021 at 01:10 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Elaine M. Smith.*



April 13, 2021 at 11:34 AM



“ *Linda P. purchased the Finest Farewell Spray for the family of Elaine M. Smith.*



Linda P. - April 12, 2021 at 07:47 PM