



Judy Smith Smith

April 1, 2020

Judy Smith Smith, 82, passed away peacefully April 1, 2020.

A native and lifelong resident of Murfreesboro she was the daughter of the late Ewing Edward and Mozelle McCullough Smith. She is survived by her high school sweetheart and husband of 64 years, Thomas E. "Tommy" Smith, IV; sons Rhett (Hopelyn) Smith of Naples, FL, Scott (Kaye) Smith of Sullivan's Island, SC, daughters; Libby (Andy) Wilkins of Bowling Green, KY, and Shannon (Laws) Bouldin of Murfreesboro, and one sister, Milly Peters of Aiken, SC. She is also survived by her beloved grandchildren; Ewing (Bonnie) Smith, Peyton (Meg) Smith, Allie Smith, and Rebecca Blank of Nashville, Ralston Smith and Nell Smith of Sullivan's Island, SC, Chip (Mollie) Wilkins of Bowling Green, KY, Ann-McCullough (Bud) Wilkins Cook of Summerville, SC, Mac Bouldin and MaryGrace Bouldin of Murfreesboro, eight great-grandchildren and numerous dearly loved nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by one brother, Ewing "Tommy" Smith, Jr. and one sister, Nancy Smith Sellers

A graduate of Murfreesboro Central High School and Middle Tennessee State University, she was a gifted student who went on to earn a Masters degree from the University of Tennessee all the while with four small children at home.

Judy had a remarkable career as the Dean of Women at Middle Tennessee State University until her retirement in 1993. She spent her years in this position as a tireless champion for her students. Her careful and insightful advice was highly sought by the students in her care. She continued to have students reach out to for her wisdom and guidance long after their college days were over. She took particular delight in her role as advisor to both the Panhellenic Council and the MTSU cheerleaders. She relished visits from her former students-- and thoroughly enjoyed hosting many cheerleader reunions and even a wedding at her home.

Judy was a gracious hostess who loved nothing more than being surrounded by family and friends. She and Tommy were especially known for the MTSU Homecoming Parade

party they hosted for many years on their Main Street lawn. She loved being in Monteagle and relished the times when they were entertaining friends and family on the mountain. She had many loves and second only to her family was her love of bridge. She was an avid bridge player who rarely missed Wednesday Bridge and was still playing weekly with a group that has been playing together for over 40 years.

Judy participated on numerous community boards and MTSU committees and proudly served as a Commissioner of the Murfreesboro Housing Authority until her death.

A private family burial service will be conducted with interment in Evergreen Cemetery with Michael O'Bannon officiating. A celebration of Judy's life will be held at a later date.

Jennings and Ayers Funeral Home is in charge of services. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Dean Judy Smith Scholarship Fund at MTSU, 1301 East Main St. Murfreesboro, TN 371320-0001 or Oaklands Association, Inc. 901 N. Maney Ave. Murfreesboro, TN 37130, or the charity of your choice.

Comments



“ I am so sorry. This was a big shock to me. I remember growing up with Judy when my grandmother Kitty McGuire lived with her family. Since I didn't have any sisters, she was like a big sister. I was a freshman in high school when she was a senior. She was a cheerleader, so when I tried out for cheerleader, I'm sure she was the reason I made cheerleader. I remember when I was with her friends preparing items for campaigning for Central High School student body office. I was able to use those ideas when I campaigned for best friend for student body office. Although we haven't seen each other much lately, just knowing she is not with us, I will miss her, but I will always treasure the good times we had. My deepest sympathy to Tommy and her family.

Her cousin Kitty

Kitty Gannon - April 04 at 02:25 PM



“ I am so sorry to lose Judy. Please know that we will all be sending prayers your way. Thank you for sharing her with all of us...we are better people for it.

pam kious - April 04 at 09:33 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Judy Smith Smith.



April 03 at 11:39 PM



“ Few women have shaped my life the way Dean Judy has. My mentor, my boss and my friend. She was the glue of the Student Affairs deans - grace under pressure, fierce on principle, and none of the men took her for granted. She mattered, and made sure her students felt supported and confident. It was a wonderful moment when my mother met Dean Judy. They knew so much about each other and they understood how they each helped me to become the woman I am today. May her memory be a blessing to the Smith family and all the students who have loved her over the years. - Holly Lentz Kleeman

Holly Lentz - April 03 at 08:47 PM



“ It breaks my heart to hear about Judy. She worked with my husband at MTSU in student affairs. We played bridge many times took trips with them to Fairfield glade. For many years we traveled together to all away basket ball games she was an original Raider Roadie we spent many years at homecoming in their front yard on Main St I will miss her friendship and fun loving personality sincerely, Martha LaLance.

martha lalance - April 03 at 07:34 PM



“ Dear family,
Miss Judy walked a beautiful exemplary life. Always kind always smiling is how I remember her. Even though it's been years since I did those family photos up on Monteagle it feels like it was yesterday. I will always love her and the the rest of the family like my own. May God comfort you and wrap his Holy arms around you.

ken robinson - April 03 at 06:29 PM



“ Dean Judy was very influential in my college career. She was nothing but supportive and encouraging to me in my pursuit of a career in medicine and I am forever grateful. She was the epitome of a classy, well-educated lady. I ran into her just a few months ago and gave her a big hug and I'm so glad to have seen her that day! I know her family will miss her sorely. I send my deepest sympathy.

Dana Jones - April 03 at 05:05 PM



“ To Tommy and the rest of the family, I am so very sorry for your loss. Judy made such a difference in my life and so many others. Prayers of peace for all of you and a joyful heart when thinking about her. Judy was one in a million!
Betsy Child

Betsy Child - April 03 at 03:20 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Judy. Prayers for you Tommy and all your family. Love and comfort,
Linda McGee Clayton

Linda Clayton - April 03 at 03:18 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the Smith Family. When I arrived on campus in 1983 one of the greatest gifts I received from MTSU was the friendship and mentorship of Dean Judy. As an out of state student she became my "Tennessee mom", even arriving at the hospital with a nightgown (her own), flowers and cookies when I'd fallen from a stunt while cheerleading and broken my arm. She had told my own mom down in Florida, "not to worry, she had everything covered". And indeed she did - for a scared and injured young girl a long way from home, her presence made me feel safe and loved. Her love for her students was endless, her support for our growth and comfort steadfast and she will always have my love and respect. I am grateful that the Smith family shared with us the treasure of Dean Judy. As my own daughter goes off to college this year, my hope is that there is a Dean Judy on her journey as well. Leslie Windram O'Shaughnessy

Leslie O'Shaughnessy - April 03 at 02:29 PM



“ Back in the early 80's, as a sorority girl, I had the privilege of being able to watch the MTSU Homecoming parade from her front yard many times! She was a gracious lady!!!!

Mary Alice Randles Curtis - April 03 at 01:57 PM



“ What a Gracious, Kind, Caring lady. We will always remember her beautiful smile. She was truly a Blessing to all who were lucky enough to have known her.
Roger and Holly

Roger and Holly Haley - April 03 at 01:33 PM



“ My cousin Judy was always so loved and respected by so many. By the life she led she had a very positive influence on myself and I'm sure many others that we're fortunate enough to have known her.

David Hooper - April 04 at 03:05 PM