



## Vernitta Ermalee Smith

March 12, 1943 - December 1, 2021

Vernitta "Ermalee" Smith, 78, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri walked into the loving arms of her Savior, Jesus Christ on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 after a long and hard fought battle with cancer, surrounded by her family at home.

She was born in Perkins, MO to Raymond and Lillie Marie (Mouser) Eaker. She married Sam Smith on June 24, 1961 at Bethany Baptist Church. They were blessed with 60 1/2 years together.

Ermalee shared Christ's love by writing cards to encourage others, making sweet treats for her neighbors, cooking for her family, and spending time with her family and Life Group Class. She also served in Celebrate Recovery with Sam, where she was lovingly called "Ernie". She was a cook at Cape Public Schools for 15 years and was a member of Lynwood Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband Sam; two sons, Jeffrey Scott (Dawn), and Sidney Neal (Cherie) of Cape Girardeau; a daughter Penny Leah (Ken) Tiff of New Kent, Virginia. She was known as "Granny" to her grandchildren Jeremy (Caitlin) Bey, Blake (Katie) Stagner, Garrett (Stephanie) Smith, Alex Stagner, and Sophia Smith; and two great granddaughters, Katelyn Lee Stagner and Mackenzie Eve Bey that she was thrilled to meet; two sisters, Dimple (Delbert) Wiseman, Linda (Dick-deceased) Seabaugh; and two brothers, Dewayne

(Velma) Eaker, Gary (Katy) Eaker; and many nieces and nephews; her supportive and caring friends, and much loved church family. She was preceded in death by her parents Lillie and Raymond Eaker; brothers, Verlee (and Joyce) Eaker, and Bill Eaker; sister, Wanda (and Lewis) Hess.

Ermalee will be greatly missed by all who knew her, and although she was small in stature, she will forever be remembered as a mighty prayer warrior who loved the Lord.

Visitation will be Sunday, Dec 5 from 3:00-6:00 pm at Lynwood Baptist Church.

Funeral service will be Monday at 10:00 am at the church with the Rev. Mark Anderson officiating.

Burial will be at Russell Heights in Jackson.

Memorial contributions may be given to Lynwood Baptist Church.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

Ford and Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Russell Heights

Jackson, MO 63755

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 5. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Lynwood Baptist Church  
2935 Lynwood Hills Drive  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Funeral Service

DEC 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Lynwood Baptist Church  
2935 Lynwood Hills Drive  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

NC

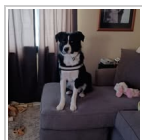
“ My parents, Don and Zona Gordon first connected with Sam and Ermalee way back to the Bethany days then later at Lynwood until my family moved in the late 80's. We all remember Ermalee as a very kind, sweet Godly woman. On behalf of my dad, Don Gordon, (my mother, Zona passed away in 2019) we extend our Christian sympathy and our prayers to Sam and all of the family.  
Nancy Gordon Chadwick

Nancy Chadwick - December 07, 2021 at 08:20 PM

JS

“ Ermalee was a light for all around her. I know she will be sorely missed. What a legacy she leaves behind. Sorry I can't make it to the funeral or visitation. Praying for God's comfort and direction in the days ahead.  
Jeannette Stone and Jimmy, too.

Jeannette Stone - December 05, 2021 at 05:44 PM



“ PJ Keller lit a candle in memory of Vernitta Ermalee Smith



PJ Keller - December 04, 2021 at 09:25 AM

PE

“ Sam, Jeff, Sid, and Penny...so sorry for your loss. Ermalee was a very nice person, and I'm glad for the time she was my neighbor.

Pat Eftink - December 03, 2021 at 05:24 PM

MR

*Sam , Jeff,Sid, and Penny you have my deepest sympathy. You had the greatest wife Sam n you kids have a very special mom n a very dear friend she will be missed. RIP 🙏*

Marie Rhodes - December 03, 2021 at 05:40 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Vernitta Ermalee Smith.*



December 03, 2021 at 04:57 PM

SK

“ *Such a sweet loving soul, part of our family. You will be greatly missed but never, ever forgotten. May you rest in the loving arms of Jesus. We love you Erm. Prayers for Sam and all the family.*

*Love  
Jim & Sonnie*

Sonnie Keller - December 03, 2021 at 03:49 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vernitta Ermalee Smith.*



December 03, 2021 at 09:38 AM

KT

“ *Kathy Keller Teichman lit a candle in memory of Vernitta Ermalee Smith*



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**Kathy Keller Teichman** - December 03, 2021 at 09:27 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vernitta Ermalee Smith.*



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December 02, 2021 at 09:35 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Vernitta Ermalee Smith.*



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December 02, 2021 at 12:08 PM