



Rita Smith

December 13, 1940 - January 25, 2026

Rita Smith of Summerfield, Florida passed away surrounded by her family on January 25, 2026.

A loving wife, mother, devoted grandmother, generous friend, and fierce nurturer, Rita's life was defined by grace, strength, and unconditional love.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Rita was the oldest of six children. She moved to Georgia where she married her husband of over fifty years, Thomas Smith, and raised their three children. Together, they built a home where love and laughter was always present.

Rita (Grammy) was the matriarch of her family, keeping up with every member as well as all her close friends. She loved hosting holidays and gatherings and always shared what was going on in her and "Poppy's" life. Rita enjoyed socializing with her friends, playing Mahjong and Pinochle and performing with the Drama Club. But her greatest joy was spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Rita is survived by her beloved husband of 56 years, Thomas P. Smith, their three children Jackie Kaht Aquino (Alan), Rick Kaht (Lisa) and Doug Smith (Amy) and four cherished grandchildren: Olivia, Hayden, Marshall, and Brandon. She is also remembered fondly by her sisters Jeanne Reale (Michael), Marjorie Katta (Ken), Anne Dixon, Leonard Dixon (Roberta), and

predeceased by James Dixon. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews and friends.

A memorial gathering and service for family and friends to celebrate Rita's remarkable life will be held at Beyers Funeral Home 134 N Hwy 27/441 Lady Lake, FL. 32159, February, 2026 starting at 11:00 a.m.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory - Lady Lake
134 N US Highway 441
Lady Lake, FL 32159
(352) 753-4444

Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Smith*



Beyers Funeral Home - February 06 at 09:41 AM

LU

“ *I have known Rita for over 58 years. Her children, Jackie and Rick, were in my wedding. Rita was not only my sister-in-law but also a good friend. I remember she was a great help to me while I was at the USAF Air War College in Alabama when she invited me to spend weekends at her house in Atlanta. I always looked forward to those visits. Rita was so helpful to Marjorie and me when she helped prepare our house prior to our move to The Villages. I always looked forward to her gatherings and going to dinner with her and Tom. I will never forget those good times. I will miss her terribly.*

LtCol. Kenneth Katta, USAF(Retired) - February 12 at 10:08 PM

CM

“ *Christian M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.*

Christian M. - February 07 at 11:18 AM

H1

“ Henderson High School Class of 1988 purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rita Smith.



Henderson High School Class of 1988 - February 06 at 07:01 AM

H1

“ Henderson High School Class of 1988 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Henderson High School Class of 1988 - February 06 at 07:01 AM

DF

“ Dickerson Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Rita Smith.



Dickerson Family - February 05 at 10:41 AM

DF

“ Dice,Fox ,Lettire fsmlird purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Rita Smith.



Dice,Fox ,Lettire fsmlird - February 04 at 08:14 PM

DF

“ Dice, Fox , Lettire fsmlird planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Dice, Fox , Lettire fsmlird - February 04 at 08:14 PM

KO

“ Kevin and Lara O'Leary purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Rita Smith.



Kevin and Lara O'Leary - February 04 at 06:47 PM

KO

“ Kevin and Lara O'Leary planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Kevin and Lara O'Leary - February 04 at 06:47 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rita Smith.



February 04 at 12:08 PM

PS

“ Paul and Sheila purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Rita Smith.



Paul and Sheila - February 04 at 08:30 AM

TD

“ Tara and Devin purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Rita Smith.



Tara and Devin - February 04 at 08:24 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rita Smith.



February 03 at 03:09 PM

SK

“ Susan and Mark Kinder planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Susan and Mark Kinder - February 03 at 03:09 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Rita Smith.



February 03 at 02:44 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rita Smith.



February 03 at 12:34 PM



“ As Olivia’s friends, we were always welcomed with open arms to Grammy and Poppy’s house -both in Marietta, and in the Villages. Grammy always took such good care of us-spoiling us with delicious food, warm beds, and pool/party time. Above all, we will miss the laughs we shared with her and all of the life lessons she taught us. We will cherish those memories forever. Love, Elyse, Tara, and Christa

Elyse Schmid - February 03 at 11:15 AM



“ Love, Elyse, Tara, and Christa purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Rita Smith.



Love, Elyse, Tara, and Christa - February 03 at 08:22 AM



“ Love, Elyse, Tara, and Christa planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Love, Elyse, Tara, and Christa - February 03 at 08:22 AM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Rita Smith.*



February 02 at 12:34 PM



“ *We met Tom and Rita at the U of Georgia football gatherings at Gators and fell in love with them. It was always a treat to be in their company. A very sad loss.*
Denise and Howard Cattie

Denise Cattie - February 01 at 07:27 PM



“ *The Inagawa Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rita Smith.*



The Inagawa Family - February 01 at 06:51 PM



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



February 01 at 04:52 PM

JA

“ Jillian, Ralph, and Ariana planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Jillian, Ralph, and Ariana - February 01 at 04:52 PM

JK

“ John K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

John K. - February 01 at 04:29 PM

DJ

“ David, Rich, Todd E, Bruce, Pat, & Jeff purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rita Smith.



David, Rich, Todd E, Bruce, Pat, & Jeff - February 01 at 03:21 PM

MG

“ Mary G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Mary G. - February 01 at 01:41 PM

CW

“ Carol W. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Rita Smith.



Carol W. - February 01 at 11:58 AM

CW

“ Carol W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Carol W. - February 01 at 11:58 AM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Rita Smith.

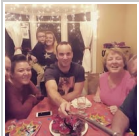


January 31 at 09:05 PM

TR

“ The Rouen's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

The Rouen's - January 31 at 09:05 PM



“ Rita was my first friend and neighbor here in The Villages. I knew I could ring her bell anytime and ask for help and she would be more than happy to. We are (Joe & I) deeply saddened by her passing. Our hearts go out to Rita's husband, Tom and her family members. RIP Rita. ❤️❤️❤️❤️

Kathy Barbato - January 31 at 06:24 PM

SS

“ Sandra S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Sandra S. - January 31 at 06:21 PM

LY

“ Loretta Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Smith.

Loretta Y. - January 31 at 06:20 PM