



Paula L. Smith

February 14, 1957 - January 14, 2022

Paula Lee (Carpenter) Smith, age 64, of Lincoln, Nebraska, passed away peacefully on January 14, 2022, to be with her Lord Jesus Christ, which she accepted into her heart on September 3, 1967.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10:30 a.m., Monday, January 24, 2022, at the Clay Center Christian Church in Clay Center, NE., with Pastor Arick Johnanson officiating. Graveside services will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Monday, January 24, 2022, at the Sutton Cemetery in Sutton, NE. Visitation with the family present will be Sunday, January 23, 2022, from 2 p.m. – 7 p.m., at Sutton Memorial Chapel in Sutton, NE.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family to be designated later.

Paula was born in Saronville, Nebraska, on February 14, 1957, to Argel and Annette (Johnson) Carpenter. Paula enjoyed being raised as a farm girl, helping out on the farm, feeding pigs and dragging towlines in Saronville. Paula was a 1975 graduate of Sutton High School where she played volleyball and was a cheerleader, was in the choir. She spent her summers traveling with the New Way Singers. She then attended two years at Nebraska Christian College.

On September 26, 1976, Paula married the love of her life, Lonnie Smith, in

Clay Center. Together, they began building their lives together in Harvard, Nebraska, where they welcomed four amazing children into the world.

Paula dedicated her life to her family, keeping her home warm and welcoming. After long days prepping or long nights at practice, she was there to comfort and welcome her family home. She was the loudest cheering voice on the sidelines, the best Wrestling Mom and was always proud of the effort and success her family achieved.

Paula always had a song in her heart and loved to share the gift of music with the world. She was a Singer, Song-writer and Author. These talents led her to writing and publishing her own book, *Flowing Over, With Feelings from the Heart*. She was an active member of the Christian Church communities, serving on worship teams and teaching Sunday School. In her spare time, she started teaching piano and voice lessons to many throughout a span of 35 years. Paula also spent 5 years working as a Marketing Coordinator for assisted living in the Omaha area.

Paula would proudly add a new title - MeeMaw. She and Lonnie loved their six grandchildren, always enjoying when they would visit and cheering loudly as she watched the kids compete. She was quick with a smile, a hug or a treat, and always made the kids feel like they were the most special people in the world.

Paula is survived by Lonnie, her sons - Chad, his wife Abby and their children, Bo, Lexy, Tilly and Huck, of Chula, MO; Luke, his wife Janelle and their children Avery and Alex, of Napierville, IL; Jake and Shae, of Gretna; brothers- Dale Carpenter, Harrisonville, MO, Neal (Terry) Carpenter, Saronville, NE; sister- Anita (Mike) Laue, Rhineland, WI and several other family members she dearly loved.

Cemetery Details

Sutton Cemetery

1202 N. Saunders Ave
Sutton, NE 68979

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 23. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sutton Memorial Chapel
804 S. Saunders, Ave.
PO Box 612
Sutton, NE 68979
(402) 773-4100
suttonmemorial@windstream.net
<http://www.suttonmemorial.com/>

Funeral Service

JAN 24. 10:30 AM (CT)

Clay Center Christian Church
31371 Woodland Rd
Clay Center, NE 68933

Graveside Service

JAN **24**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Sutton Cemetery
1202 N. Saunders Ave
Sutton, NE 68979

Tribute Wall

CC

“ Thoughts and prayers to your family. May memories comfort you. God bless you all. Connie Hultman Carter

Connie C - January 27, 2022 at 05:14 PM

OP

“ Paula was my neighbor for many years as well as my childhood piano teacher. Very grateful to have been impacted in such a positive way by her. My love goes out to the Smith family during this time. Rest In Peace!

Olivia Person - January 24, 2022 at 11:48 PM



“ 103 files added to the album Flowers



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - January 24, 2022 at 01:50 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 22, 2022 at 11:15 PM



“ *Our condolences Lonnie, we were so happy for you when you announced at the winter ASFMRA meeting that you were slowing down a little and transitioning into retirement. So sorry to hear about Paula. Her life was obviously a ministry for Christ, and she now claims the rewards of her life's work. God's blessing to you and your family as you reflect and celebrate her life. Our prayers are lifted up for all of you.*

Rick & Russ, Hiatt Farmland Services

Russell Hiatt - January 22, 2022 at 10:40 PM



Paula was such a good friend and neighbor... The kind that you think of with a smile, that you pick up where you left off no matter how much time passed, the kind that could you know had God's Word in her heart because she lived it out. She was so easy to love and laugh with. I pray for comfort and know that when you remember and share stories and laughter, she'll be beaming in Heaven.

Sherry McBride

Sherry McBride - January 25, 2022 at 08:50 AM

BG

“ Brian & Carla Gatzke purchased the [Memorial Trees](https://www.suttonmemorial.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Paula L. Smith.

Brian & Carla Gatzke - January 22, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.



January 22, 2022 at 07:45 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.



January 22, 2022 at 03:58 PM

WC

“ With heartfelt condolences. purchased the The Endless Sky Spray for the family of Paula L. Smith.



With heartfelt condolences. - January 22, 2022 at 03:35 PM

CT

“ *The world lost the kindest, caring soul when Paula was taken to heaven. She was a good friend for many years, sharing her life and positive energy with us and our family, engaging in the same interests, music, gardening, parenting, church life, cooking, teaching piano and voice to our kids, and the list could go on. Always with passion too! Sympathies to all the family and friends who are missing her...but Paula is praising the Lord today. Love, the Thompson family*

Crystal Thompson - January 22, 2022 at 08:21 AM

TC

“ *Terry & Crystal purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



Terry & Crystal - January 22, 2022 at 08:06 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 21, 2022 at 05:16 PM

ES

“ *Evan S. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



Evan S. - January 21, 2022 at 01:49 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 21, 2022 at 12:32 PM

FT

“ *From Pioneer IL & IN teams purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



From Pioneer IL & IN teams - January 21, 2022 at 09:32 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 20, 2022 at 11:43 PM

DR

“ *Dennis and Lori Reyman purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



Dennis and Lori Reyman - January 20, 2022 at 03:50 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 20, 2022 at 03:11 PM

HI

“ *Hertz Farm Management, Inc. purchased the With Distinction for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



Hertz Farm Management, Inc. - January 20, 2022 at 02:16 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 20, 2022 at 11:22 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 20, 2022 at 11:15 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 20, 2022 at 10:55 AM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 19, 2022 at 05:43 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 19, 2022 at 04:04 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.* ”



January 18, 2022 at 10:33 PM



“ *Bruce and Sherri Dodson purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Paula L. Smith.* ”



Bruce and Sherri Dodson - January 18, 2022 at 07:19 PM



“ *James, Holly and Joseph Miglio purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Paula L. Smith.* ”



James, Holly and Joseph Miglio - January 18, 2022 at 05:09 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.* ”



January 18, 2022 at 02:18 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.



January 18, 2022 at 12:57 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.



January 18, 2022 at 12:51 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.



January 18, 2022 at 11:45 AM



“ *Farmers National Company* purchased the *Your Light Shines* for the family of Paula L. Smith.



Farmers National Company - January 18, 2022 at 11:16 AM



“ *Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 18, 2022 at 10:34 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 18, 2022 at 10:27 AM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 18, 2022 at 09:21 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 17, 2022 at 08:43 PM

MC

“ Paula had such a sweet sweet soul. I loved spending time with her at numerous wrestling matches, where she nervously watched and supported her boys in the bleachers. I will also remember her opening her gorgeous home in Bennington to all of us for end-of-season wrestling parties. Paula was also a very talented musician, and was a wonderful voice and music teacher for our daughter. Just a beautiful lady inside and out, with such a peaceful and kind spirit. She will be missed. May she rest in peace.

Mya Cluxton - January 17, 2022 at 10:47 AM

BK

“ Our hearts go out to Lonnie and their sons. Paula was truly a genuinely nice person who we will miss dearly. Kim & Bernie



Bernie Kostrunek - January 16, 2022 at 09:55 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.



January 16, 2022 at 07:06 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 16, 2022 at 01:11 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Paula L. Smith.*



January 16, 2022 at 03:25 AM