



Mrs. Nelle Smith

September 28, 1918 - January 30, 2015

Claire Nelle Garrett Smith, age 96 of State Line Road, Bowdon, GA, died Friday, January 30, 2015 after an extended illness.

Mrs. Smith was born in Carroll County at her family home on September 28, 1918, to the late William Ewell Garrett and Hattie Louise Johnson Garrett. Mrs. Smith graduated in 1933 from Bowdon High School at the age of 14 and completed her basic college courses at the age of 16. (She later earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from West Georgia College.) She began her teaching career at the age of 17, teaching grades 1-3 at Hillcrest School. She continued teaching at various schools in Carroll and Haralson Counties until her retirement in 1976 from Bowdon Elementary. She was a well-loved, well-respected educator.

Mrs. Smith married Mr. Fornie Lee "Sol" Smith in 1943 and they were married for 64 years until his death in 2007. Until the onset of her illness, she was an active member of Garrett's Chapel United Methodist Church where she was a Sunday school teacher and the pianist for the congregation. Because of her love for the Lord and dedication to the church, Garrett's Chapel remains a fixture of the community. A great deal of her time was spent in service to the church from cleaning to soliciting funds to build the fellowship hall. Mrs. Smith was actively involved in community and civic activities. She was a member of the teaching organization, Delta Kappa Gamma, serving a term as president.

Mrs. Smith and a group of other prominent Bowdon ladies formed a civic organization, The Blue Stocking Club. Her hobbies included reading, crossword puzzles, and working her flowers and the vegetable garden. Above all, she loved her family, especially her grandchildren.

Besides her parents and husband, she was also preceded in death by her only brother, Harold M. Garrett. She is survived by her sons and daughter-in-law, Mike G. and Vickie Smith, Jeff Smith; daughter and son-in-law, Deborah and Tony Dinning, all of Bowdon; five grandchildren, Chris Smith (Brandi), Lanny Smith (Erin), Allison Smith Robinson (Craig), Lee Dinning, Anna Smith Albright (Sam), all of Bowdon; and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Mrs. Smith will be held Sunday, February 1, 2015 at 2:00 PM from Victory United Methodist Church with Joseph Dye and Herb Butler officiating. A eulogy will be given by family. Special music will be provided by Lee Dinning. Pallbearers will be Chris Smith, Lanny Smith, Lee Dinning, Craig Robinson, Sam Albright, and Greg Akins. Junior pallbearer will be Dusty Smith.

Interment will follow in the Victory United Methodist Church cemetery.

The family will receive friends at Rainwater Funeral Home on Saturday, January 31 from 4:00 till 8:00 PM.

Cemetery Details

Victory Methodist Cemetery

1994 Victory Church Road
Bowdon, GA 30108

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rainwater Funeral Home
317 North Carroll Street
Bowdon, GA 30108
(770) 258-7239
info@rainwaterfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rainwaterfuneralhome.com>

Service

FEB 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

Victory Methodist Church
1994 Victory Church Road
Bowdon, GA 30108

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Johnny And Mary Anne Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith



Johnny and Mary Anne Smith - February 03, 2015 at 10:16 AM

KF

“ Kaye Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith



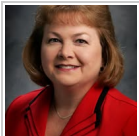
Kaye Ferguson - February 03, 2015 at 09:50 AM

LC

“ Lisa Yates Carr lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith



Lisa Yates Carr - January 31, 2015 at 10:20 PM



“ Jane Williams Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith



Jane Williams Smith - January 31, 2015 at 09:00 PM

VC

“ Praying for you and your family. May God's Loving presence comfort you, His perfect Peace restore you, and His promise of Eternal Life sustain you during this time of loss.

*In Sympathy and Love,
Vicki and Tim Cowart*



Vicki Cowart - January 31, 2015 at 08:11 PM

RL

“ Mrs. Smith was my 5th grade teacher. She was always my favorite teacher. I'm glad I got to tell her that one day a few years ago. I had the privilege of graduating and attending school with Jeff. Always been a great friend. My prayers go out to the family.

Roger Laney - January 31, 2015 at 01:01 PM

JD

“ Judy Wilson Dixon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith



Judy Wilson Dixon - January 31, 2015 at 12:58 PM

RL

“ Roger Laney lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith



Roger Laney - January 31, 2015 at 12:54 PM

EC

“ *Elaine Hightower Chambers lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith*



Elaine Hightower Chambers - January 31, 2015 at 12:28 PM

EC

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY. NELLE WAS A FINE WOMAN AND WILL BE TRULY MISSED.

*ELAINE HIGHTOWER CHAMBERS ROME, GA.
KENNETH HIGHTOWER JESUP, GA.*

Elaine Hightower Chambers - January 31, 2015 at 12:30 PM

GM

“ *Gordon & Mary McLeroy lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith*



Gordon & Mary McLeroy - January 31, 2015 at 10:46 AM

MW

“ *Mabel Williamson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith*



Mabel Williamson - January 31, 2015 at 09:51 AM

JM

“ *Janie Meadows lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith*



Janie Meadows - January 31, 2015 at 09:30 AM

DA

“ *Danny And Phyllis Andrews lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith*



Danny and Phyllis Andrews - January 31, 2015 at 06:16 AM

GH

“ *Grant And Tabbie Huff lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith*



Grant and Tabbie Huff - January 30, 2015 at 10:47 PM

TC

“ *Tommy & Judy Cantrell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nelle Smith*



Tommy & Judy Cantrell - January 30, 2015 at 09:15 PM