



Barbara J. Smith

October 31, 1925 - January 6, 2018

Barbara J. Smith 92, passed away Saturday January 6, 2018 at Witham Memorial Hospital in Lebanon. She was born in Indianapolis, Indiana to the late Carl D. and Sarah Katheryn (Clift) Patterson and had two brothers and one sister-in-law, Carl D. (Janie) Patterson Jr, and Richard Scott Patterson who are all deceased.

Barbara was a 1943 graduate of Shortridge High School in Indianapolis and a 1947 graduate of her beloved Butler University. While at Butler she was a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority, a Color Guard with the marching band, and was very active in school and social activities, winning many Queen Contests and serving as secretary of her 1947 graduating class. She married the love of her life, Golden (Greg) A. Smith Jr., on June 15, 1947. He passed away in November 1983.

Barbara worked for H.R. Block and Eli Lilly and Company during her college years and then in banking and finance in California when she moved with her husband, Greg, to Oakland as he finished his naval career after WWII. Barbara and Greg moved back to Indiana in 1950 so that he could begin his career in radio. They resided in Indianapolis from 1951 to 1969 and she elected at that time to stay home and raise their three children.

In December of 1969, Barbara and Greg moved their family to Lebanon,

Indiana so that Greg could accept a position with the local radio station WNON. Shortly after, Barbara also joined the staff and held many positions such as News Director, Reporter, and office staff. Perhaps what Barbara was most famous for in her radio career was being one of the first talk show hosts on radio with her "Coffee with Barb" show that was held in Cowan's Cupboard on the square in Lebanon.

After the radio station changed hands, Barbara went to work for the City of Lebanon serving as secretary to the Building Inspector for four years while her best friend Ann Garoffolo-Goar was Mayor. At the end of Ann's term in office, Barbara then went to work for the Boone County Sheriff's Office, serving five different Sheriffs, as receptionist and clerical assistant. She retired from the BCSO at the age of 88 in 2013.

Barbara belonged to many local, county, and state organizations, serving as a Board of Directors Member or officer during her lifetime. A few of the organizations she belonged to were: Tri Delta Indianapolis Chapter, Lebanon Zonta Club, Witham Hospital, Boone County Senior Services, Lebanon Boys and Girls Club, Boone County ARC, Love Inc., Lebanon Women's Business and Professional Club, the Elks Club, and the Boone County Republican Party of which she was Boone County Vice Chairman, a Precinct Committeeman and State Delegate. She belonged to Centenary United Methodist Church and was very active there as well.

Barbara is survived by her three children, Kathy Smith Coddington of Lebanon, Greg (Nita) Smith of Indianapolis, and Steve (Stephanie) Smith of Lebanon. She was blessed to have seven grandchildren, Chris (Angie) Coddington, Andrew (Amber) Smith, Ben Smith, Richie (Stacy) Smith, Shawn (Jamiann) Smith, Logann Marker, and Madelyn Smith. Barbara also had eleven great grandchildren, Coty Edwards (Brooke Hensell), Corey Edwards, Katlyn Coddington, Kayleigh Edwards, Matthew Coddington, Breena Smith,

Kenzie Smith, Hudson Smith, Harper Smith, Hollyn Smith and Henley Smith. Plus she was blessed with her first great great granddaughter Hadleigh Edwards this past year.

A Celebration of Life Service is planned for Friday, January 12, 2018 at 12:00 p.m., at Centenary United Methodist Church, 910 Fordice Road, in Lebanon, Indiana, with Rev. Anthony Stone, officiating. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at noon on Friday at the church in Lebanon. Burial of Ashes will take place at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis, at a later date. Myers Mortuary and Boone County Crematory in Lebanon have been entrusted with her care. Memorials may be directed to Centenary United Methodist Church in Lebanon.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 12. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Centenary United Methodist Church
910 Fordice Road
Lebanon, IN 46052

Celebration of Life

JAN 12. 12:00 PM (ET)

Centenary United Methodist Church
910 Fordice Road
Lebanon, IN 46052

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara J. Smith*

November 27, 2022 at 01:43 PM



“ *Dearest Smith family, please know you continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. Our relationship with Barb and Kathy lasted for many years because of my Dad, Dr. Lenox, who rented a Lenox near the Square apartment to them many years. Barb ended up being our "Longest renting tenant" there and brought sweet Kathy to rent there too. They would come to "Big Fish and Campground" to watch Ken catch "BIG" catfish. When Dad died in 2007, our son, Andy Brannon, took over the apartments and enjoyed "joking with Barb and Kathy" and DID appreciate your concerns for the bettering of the complex. Thank you both for being our "BEST" tenants and our friends. God bless each one of you as you celebrate this wonderful, kind and loving Mother, Grandmother of yours. She will be very missed. See you there Barb. In His unfailing love, Ken, Nancy & Kenny2 Wethington and Andy Brannon. Proverbs 3:5&6.*

Nancy Wethington - January 14, 2018 at 07:15 PM



“ *Allied Appliances/Ready Gas purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Barbara J. Smith.*



Allied Appliances/Ready Gas - January 11, 2018 at 09:05 AM

KT

“ My family and I have the privilege of working with Barb's son Greg. I didn't know her personally but she raised a wonderful man. We love him and send our deepest condolences to all of the family.

Kelly Thayer - January 11, 2018 at 08:54 AM

TF

“ I spent lots of hours with Barb -- her working at the radio station and me at The Reporter - covering city council meetings, trials and 4-H fairs. She was such a dedicated reporter and I learned so much from her. We are out of town so I wanted to send my prayers to her family.

Teresa Fisher - January 09, 2018 at 04:18 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara J. Smith.



January 09, 2018 at 11:38 AM

DF

“ I met Barbara through the Zonta Club of Lebanon. She was a wonderful mentor. She was welcoming, caring and above all a lot of fun. She was a remarkable lady and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Rest In Peace my friend.

Didi Farid - January 09, 2018 at 10:06 AM

CD

“ I've known Barb for years from her children in High School, through my parents and then I had the pleasure of working with her at the BCJ. She was a terrific lady and will be missed!!

Carmen Donaldson - January 09, 2018 at 09:50 AM

MH

“ I too worked with Barb at WNON in the 1980s. She was a consummate professional, and easily could have been the news director at any station in Indy. She loved Boone County and knew everything that was happening at any time. I learned so much from her example and cherished my time working with her even those hot summer days covering the 4H Fair at the fairgrounds. She always enjoyed what she was doing and made everyone around her do the same. She'll be missed.

Mark Harris

Mark Harris - January 09, 2018 at 09:14 AM



“ I first knew Barb either through Zonta or Coffee with Barb. She had me as a guest and also had me sub for her a time or two. There never seemed to be a false bone in her body. She was welcoming, friendly and you could sense the smarts and dry wit in her eyes. I always felt Barb was at ease with herself and her life. My kudos to Kathy for honoring her mother with these years of love and service. Barb deserved that! Arlene Samuelson.

Jerry Arlene Samuelson - January 09, 2018 at 07:56 AM

AP

“ I worked with Barb at BCSO. She was a hoot! During March Madness, she would sport her Butler Bulldog apparel and anxiously await the upcoming games. She would always catch the deputies in the hall to make sure they served her papers. We looked after each other. The last couple years there, we helped each other out, knowing we could trust each other. You are truly missed. Amber Perkins

Amber Perkins - January 09, 2018 at 12:45 AM

KH

“ I worked with Barb at WNON in the 80's. I learned so much about professionalism in radio and life from her. I was honored to have worked with her. She was a true class act.

Kevin Hamstra

Kevin Hamstra - January 08, 2018 at 09:00 PM

JB

“ I remember seeing her when J would visit my friend at Lenox Apartments when I was in high school, she was always friendly and kind. Godspeed Mrs. Smith. Jorge Beltran

Jorge Beltran - January 08, 2018 at 08:07 PM

BD

“ I worked with Barb at WNON. She was tireless! Up late for city council meetings and numerous other events but made it to the station for the first morning newscast everyday! I can still see her with curlers in her hair, a cup of coffee, and a cigarette hanging from her lips. She was a great lady. She'll be missed.

Bob Dehn - January 08, 2018 at 06:19 PM

KC

“ *Kelly Childers lit a candle in memory of Barbara J. Smith*



Kelly Childers - January 08, 2018 at 06:10 PM

SB

“ *Sally Byrd lit a candle in memory of Barbara J. Smith*



Sally Byrd - January 08, 2018 at 04:19 PM

PG

“ *Such a nice long and loving life which was filled with many activities, interests, and service to our community in many ways. She will always be missed, but always remembered. Prayers for the family.*

Patty Gates - January 08, 2018 at 03:37 PM