

## Linda "Jeanny" Jean Smith

August 21, 1947 - January 27, 2023



Linda Jean Smith (née Engstrom), 75, of Salado passed from this life on January 27, 2023. She was surrounded by her husband and three children, Robert, Jennifer, and Julie.

Also known as “Jeanny,” she was born to RJ Schwarz and June Martin in Santa Monica, California. Her mother later remarried Harry C Engstrom in Mercedes, Texas. Jeanny had a wonderful childhood in the rice fields of Garwood, Texas as Harry began rice farming with his family.

Jeanny became a Garwood “Gar” and graduated from Garwood High School in 1965. She was a flutist in the high school marching band from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and loved the mixed grade classes there. She then attended Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos before meeting the love of her life Grant W Smith. They were married by Rev Sam Junkin at the Garwood Methodist Church on June 1, 1968.

After seeing all her kids in school, Jeanny returned to college at the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in Belton. She graduated in May 1983 with a degree in Early Childhood Development. She then embarked on a 23 year career in teaching pre-kindergarten in the Rogers, Academy, and Temple school districts.

She loved gardening and could tell you the name of almost any plant she saw, often referring back to what she had learned from her parents and grandparents. They made gardening fun for her and she was always eager to learn more. After diligently studying her ancestry, Jeanny became a member of the Betty Martin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Ben Milam Chapter of the Daughters of the Texas Republic.

She loved her ten grandkids. They are Dakota, Hannah, Haley, Summer, Alyssa, Ian, Jessie, Blane, Caitlin, and Connor. She painstakingly selected a Christmas ornament for each of them every year, and saved them in a decorated box so they would have something to start their own lives with.

Everything went by so fast, the memories of our early glory days, events, graduations, kids and grandkids growing up. Our youth to old age, and now her passing.

A memorial service will be February 16, 11am at St David’s Episcopal Church in Austin. Free parking is in the parking garage adjacent to the building. A reception and meal will follow. Memorials may be sent to the American Parkinson Disease Association.

<https://www.ramseyfuneral.com/obituary/linda-jeanny-smith>