



## Elaine Smith

March 10, 1927 - July 27, 2018

On July 27, 2018 Elaine Mary Smith finished her earthly duties and earned her wings. Known affectionately as “Me-Ma” by all of her beloved family, her love and kindness have made the world a gentler place for the past 91 years.

Me-Ma spent most of the first 70 years of her life residing in Hillside, NJ, where she grew up and lived in the home she was born in. Her early years were spent there with her loving grandparents, Mary & Theodore Beyer. During WWII, at the suggestion of a friend, she became pen-pals with a cute guy in the Marines stationed overseas, Ed Smith. (Who would much later be named, “Pa-Pa” by their grandchildren.) Upon his return home from the war, the two began dating and were married shortly after on June 14, 1947. For a short time they lived in Irvington but then returned back to Me-Ma’s childhood home, where they raised their family. For the past 20 years Me-Ma has lived in Colts Neck, NJ.

Me-Ma worked hard as an employee at Bristol Meyers, Shering, The Diamond Institute for Infertility, and a few private doctors’ offices over the years.

Thanksgiving was always hosted at their home, where she’d prepare a huge meal and set up a special little table for the kids. Summer barbecues were hosted in their back yard, which is also where she enjoyed planting flowers and tomato plants (but did not like finding worms.) She sewed handmade clothes and stuffed animals for her grandchildren and was the best at kissing

boo-boos on little knees. She learned and loved to write calligraphy, sketch pretty flowers and little birds, and paint with watercolors. Daisies were her favorite flowers and pecan pie was her dessert of choice. She enjoyed watching the birds and little animals outside her window. She loved seeing the first of the autumn leaves changing color and watching the snow fall in winter. Christmas was her favorite time of year and decorating her tree made her heart happy. While living in Hillside she attended Calvary Lutheran Church, and later when she moved to Colts Neck she attended Luther Memorial Church in Tinton Falls, where she was a member of the Crafty Christians. Me-Ma's faith was strong but she wouldn't hesitate to tell you, "It doesn't matter what you believe, what matters is that you're a good person." She had an open mind, was accepting of everyone and always gave people the benefit of the doubt. She forgave quickly, loved deeply, and appreciated every moment of her life.

Me-Ma's love, kindness and spirit continue to live on in all those that knew her, especially: her two daughters and their spouses, Jean (and Lenny) Urban and Bonnie Smith (and Joe Carroll), her grandchildren, Jean Elaine Jupa, Joshua Disotell, Timothy Disotell, and Christine Urban, her great-grandchildren, Raine, Chase, Tage, Alex and Aleya, and her beautiful oversized cat, Ollie. Her flight from this Earth was preceded by that of her loving husband of 51 years, Edward Joseph Smith, her beloved grandparents, Mary Josephine (Barnewell) & Theodore Joseph Beyer, her kind-hearted uncle, Tom Beyer, her sister who was just a young child, Jeanne Chiffian, and her other oversized beloved cat, Theo.

A small service will be held at the Bongarzone Funeral Home at 2400 Shafto Road in Tinton Falls on Friday, August 3rd at 9:30 am, followed by a small gravesite service for family only at the St. Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Marine Corps League, West Hudson Detachment, 286 Belgrove Dr., Kearny, NJ 07032 or Luther Memorial

Church, 818 Tinton Ave., Tinton Falls, NJ 07724.

# Cemetery Details

## **Saint Gertrude Cemetery**

53 Inman Ave

Colonia, NJ 07067

<http://www.rcancem.org/saint-gertrude-cemetery-a-mausoleum/>

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



JACK R. MANDY - June 07, 2023 at 01:15 PM

LI

“ MeMa always had a smile and was one more of many things that embraced you as you entered Bonnie and Joe's house. She was and will always be a part of the warmth, love and never ending hospitality that makes their home so special. She will always be missed and loved.

Lisa - August 03, 2018 at 05:27 AM

LI

“ Lisa lit a candle in memory of Elaine Smith



Lisa - August 03, 2018 at 05:25 AM

MA

“ *MeMa as we called her, was a special human, one who always welcomed you with warmth and grace and spoke with honesty. She always had a bright smile and loving embrace reserved just for you. She was a terrific conversationalist and I'm quite sure her memory was more intact than mine. She was a loving grandmother figure to my children and always remembered them on special days. There are some people you wish could be around forever. I will miss her but I know she will always be felt in the warmth of a sunny day and in the gentle chirping of a songbird in flight. Until we meet again...Marianne Buttler*

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**marianne** - August 02, 2018 at 07:16 PM

KR

“ *Kristina lit a candle in memory of Elaine Smith*



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**kristina** - August 02, 2018 at 03:26 PM

MB

“ *Elaine was such a genuinely 'nice' person and I'm happy that I got to know her better at church over the last few years. Her warm smile and hugs will be missed but she's at peace in the arms of our Lord. 'Sending prayers of comfort to Elaine's family.*

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**Maureen Blair** - August 02, 2018 at 01:06 PM

MB

“ *Mauree Blair lit a candle in memory of Elaine Smith*



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**Mauree Blair** - August 02, 2018 at 01:03 PM

CH

“ *Christine lit a candle in memory of Elaine Smith*



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**Christine** - August 02, 2018 at 10:26 AM

MH

“ *Mary Ann H sent a virtual gift in memory of Elaine Smith*



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**Mary Ann H** - August 02, 2018 at 08:57 AM

HM

“ *Elaine was the sweetest person I knew she would always greet you with a smile and a hug on tuesdays at our crafty christians meeting we shared many wonderful stories she would gets so frustrated when she only needed to stitch a Little more and would run out of thread we will miss her so very much our dear sister in Christ*

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**Hridi Magenheimer** - August 01, 2018 at 05:24 PM

LE

“ *Lynda Edson lit a candle in memory of Elaine Smith*



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**Lynda Edson** - August 01, 2018 at 01:09 PM

BH

“ *Bongarzone Funeral Hime lit a candle in memory of Elaine Smith*



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**Bongarzone Funeral Hime** - July 28, 2018 at 07:51 PM