



Velma Laird Smock

January 7, 1943 - February 23, 2021

OBITUARY FOR VELMA LAIRD SMOCK

Velma Jean Laird Smock was born January 7, 1943, in Eucha, Oklahoma, to Lloyd Franklin and Cleo Elizabeth Miller Stephens. She passed away Tuesday, February 23, 2021, in Owasso, Oklahoma, at the age of 78. Velma completed her secondary education in Catoosa, Oklahoma, and graduated with the Catoosa High School Class of 1961. She was married November 22, 1961, to Rufus Glenn "R.G." Ritter. Her early working career started as an administrative secretary with Hannah Lumber Company and then Massey Ferguson Tractor. She was married to Dwight "Ike" Laird on May 26, 1978. She then worked as church secretary at Bethel Baptist Church, then later as the attendance secretary at Ator Heights Elementary School in Owasso. In retirement, Velma continued to work at Madalan's Hallmark in Owasso, helping many people find that perfect card for loved ones and, while working there, enjoyed seeing so many she knew in the community.

Velma was strong in her Christian faith and attended Bethel Baptist Church where she served as a Sunday School teacher before moving her membership to Grace Baptist Church. For over 20 years she was involved with the Pride of Owasso and the Band Patrons Club. She and Dwight served during the children's high school years on the band patrons board which included chaperoning on band trips, fundraising, sewing coronation dresses, and decorating for band banquets. She continued to support the organization attending concerts, football games, and fundraising during the grandchildren's

involvement through 2018.

She enjoyed a wide variety of pastimes, such as wedding cake decorating and sewing for others which included family wedding party dresses, and working in her flower garden. She liked to scrapbook, collecting photo memories and preserving them for family. She was a talented oil painter and shared this talent with her mother taking classes together, so the family now has multiples of the same painting to pass down. In her later years, she married Cecil Smock on June 1, 2008, where they enjoyed traveling to the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, and other destinations always photographing her trips. Those she leaves behind who hold many cherished memories include:

Her children; Steven Ritter and wife Kristi, of Owasso, Oklahoma

Gayle Russell and husband Jim, of Owasso, Oklahoma

Jeff Ritter and wife Misty, of Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Stepchildren; Tim Laird, of Owasso, Oklahoma

Cathy Laird, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Grandchildren; Joshua Ritter, Paige Laird, Corbin Russell, Madison Ritter, Pierce Russell,

Austin Ritter, Valerie Russell, Karson Ritter, Justin Ritter, and Ashley Ritter

Sister; Linda Miser, of Owasso, Oklahoma

Niece; Janette Bancroft and husband Don, of Owasso, Oklahoma

Nephew; Anthony Stephens and wife Lisa, of Bixby, Oklahoma

She was preceded in death by her parents, husbands, Dwight "Ike" Laird and Cecil Smock, sister, Teresa Gail Stephens, infant sister, Patricia Ann, and infant brother, David Lee.

Visitation will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday, February 28, 2021, at Mowery Funeral Service in Owasso. Funeral service will be held 11:00 Monday, March 1, 2021, at the Mowery Funeral Service Chapel in Owasso with Pastor Dean Tucker officiating. Serving as casket bearers are Joshua Ritter, Corbin Russell, Pierce Russell, Austin Ritter, and Justin Ritter.

Committal service and interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Owasso.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to Owasso Band

Patrons, P.O. Box 604, Owasso, Oklahoma, 74055. Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.

www.moweryfs.com

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

11811 E. 76th St. N.
Owasso, OK 74055

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 28. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service
9110 N. Garnett Rd.
Owasso, OK 74055
(918) 272-6244
<https://www.moweryfs.com/>

Service

MAR 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service
9110 N. Garnett Rd.
Owasso, OK 74055
(918) 272-6244
<https://www.moweryfs.com/>

Memorial Fund

MAR 1 (CT)

Pride Of Owasso Band Patrons
12901 East 86th Street North
Owasso, OK 74055

Tribute Wall

NS

“ I met Velma the first time when we were in second grade, walking the halls of the old elementary school. We had classes together for several years. We celebrated when the school got inside restrooms, the whole town came to see. We built little houses with lines of rocks outside on the playground, leaving rooms for doors to walk through. The boys would always come to kick our walls down which caused quite a fuss. Velma was the sweetest girl ever, a gifted student, there weren't many like her. How can it possibly be so many years go by so fast. Life has a way of moving people apart and since school there have been babies and lots of new memories, but I always remembered Velma. Much love and prayers for her family.



Nita Sexton - March 05, 2021 at 05:46 PM

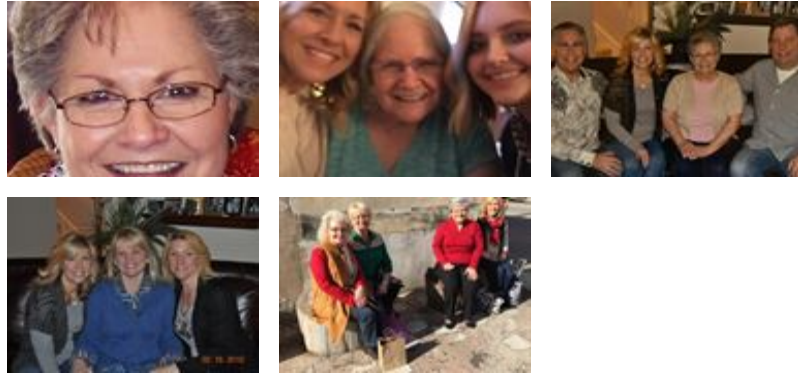
PM

“ My heart broke this morning as I read the newspaper death notices and my friend, Velma's, name. Stephen as you will remember we were neighbors when you and Little Tubby were little boys and would run back and forth from your house to ours. We attended Memorial Heights Baptist together and the memories come flooding back especially when your Mom accepted Christ as her Savior. Please know that I am thinking of you and your family. If you would contact me at my email I would love to visit with you.

Phyllis Mcilravy - March 03, 2021 at 01:51 PM



“ 48 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Mowery Funeral Service - March 01, 2021 at 10:42 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Velma Laird Smock.*



February 28, 2021 at 07:26 PM



“ *Redeemer Bible Church purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Velma Laird Smock.*



Redeemer Bible Church - February 27, 2021 at 03:16 PM

LH

“ Linda Harrison purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Velma Laird Smock.



Linda Harrison - February 27, 2021 at 11:25 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Velma Laird Smock.



February 27, 2021 at 11:13 AM

DH

“ Velma was always such a sweet saint at church. Her smile and presence was always so warm. If one thing was clear about Velma, it was that her faith was in Jesus.

Derrick Hildebrant - February 27, 2021 at 09:40 AM

JF

“ Joe Leach and Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Velma Laird Smock.



Joe Leach and Family - February 27, 2021 at 04:02 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Velma Laird Smock.*



February 27, 2021 at 12:22 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Velma Laird Smock.*



February 26, 2021 at 09:15 PM