



Karen H. SMITH Obituary

September 29, 1957 - March 2, 2007

Karen H. Smith of 162 Winifred Road, Leesburg, GA died Friday, March 2, 2007 at her home. Karen Harbin Smith was born in Tifton, GA on September 29, 1957. The second daughter of Charles and Wilma Harbin, Karen was an accomplished piano player and at the young age of eight played in her church and by the time she was nine she was playing in weddings. Karen excelled in school graduating from Tift County High School, ABAC Junior College in Tifton, and the University Of Georgia with a Masters in Business Administration. During this time period she was also Miss Tifton and intern with Senator Herman Tallmadge in Washington, DC. She started her business career with Gold Kist in Moultrie, GA as the Organizational Manager where she traveled the S.E. district of Georgia and north Florida. She then went to work with TRW in Thomasville, GA as Training Coordinator. Wanting to move to Albany where she attended Albany Bible Church, she took the position as Business Manager of OBGYN Associates for a number of years where while investigating new equipment for the practice she underwent a mammogram which revealed the cancer that she fought for 16 years. She completed her business career at Alarm Services, Inc. as general manager/partner with her husband. Karen became a Christian at an early age and in 1999 began going into the Dougherty County Jail to tell the female inmates about the good news of Jesus Christ. After her disease made it difficult to continue her jail ministry she told the Lord "If you will send them, I'll tell them" and God was faithful to send many. Every Tuesday night at 7 pm the yard at her house filled with cars

as women both young and old showed up eager to hear the words of life. She had her last Bible class Tuesday Feb. 27. Karen and her husband were instrumental in starting the Young Life ministry in Albany and that led to her teaching "Campaigners" which is a study designed for high school students who desire more in-depth study. She taught these every Thursday evening in her home. When she could she attended their functions at school and was always ready to lend them support. Survivors include her husband of 25 years, Ernest Smith of Leesburg, her mother and father, Wilma and Charles Harbin of Tifton, GA, her sister and brother in law, Charlene and Ray Rackley of Perry, GA, her sister and brother in law, Lisa and Bill Darby of Jacksonville, NC, her stepdaughter, Mandy Smith and Stephanie Smith of Charleston, SC and stepson and his wife Reed and Jennifer Smith of New Bern, NC, and four nieces and a nephew. Karen taught her last Bible class this past Tuesday evening and in honor of Karen a memorial service will be held at Gillionville Baptist Church, 4608 Gillionville Rd., Albany at 7 pm on Tuesday evening, March 6th. Those desiring may make memorials to the Lost and Found Ministries, Inc., P.O. Box 72205, Albany, GA 31708 or Albany Bible Church, 100 Grand Island Dr., Albany, GA 31707. The family will receive friends Monday, 6 to 8 PM at Kimbrell-Stern

Tribute Wall



“ Karen H. SMITH Obituary

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ Karen H. SMITH Obituary

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ Karen H. SMITH Obituary

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ Karen H. SMITH Obituary

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ JoAnn Wahl lit a candle in memory of Karen H. SMITH Obituary



JoAnn Wahl - February 26, 2022 at 12:36 PM

DC

“ Dear Earnie,
Karen will be missed so much; but, we know she is in a beautiful place with our Lord.
Love and prayers for you and your family,
Debbie and Clint Cothran

Deborah Cothran - March 08, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ Ernie,
Greg and I are so sorry to hear about Karen. She will be missed so much by so many. I remember her being my office manager at OBGYN Asso., and how she made our job fun. We had so much fun from Christmas parties to Fourth of July parties, and how she could play that paino. When she left OBGYN, my heart went with her, and they office was never the same...and like the office, this world will never be the same without her. She fought a horrific battle and now she's at peace. I bet she's playing the paino right now... Take care Ernie, and our thoughts and prayers are with you..
Wendy Pate

Greg and Wendy Pate - March 07, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Karen was a woman that was loved by many. She had the strength and determination that very few people have. She was my office manager at OB-Gyn Associates, but more than that, she was my friend. I will forever remember her playing her piano, and leading us all in song. (Sorry, Jimmy Buffet, but some of us couldn't carry a tune!) She made everyone around her happy. She taught my sons a Bible Study Class they will never forget. What a blessing it was to know and love such a courageous Christian lady.

Jan Robinson - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Karen, was truly a Godly woman. Always wearing that beautiful smile and absolutely uplifting in every way possible. I know that Karen is smiling and joyfully worshiping our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Ernie, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sonny & Diane Willis - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ Dear Hardin family/Smith Family, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Lisa, we were friends during grade school (Terri Whiddon) and I had the chance to meet with your sister while living in Albany. She always made me smile and ALWAYS had a gentle way about her I will never forget. I am praying that God give you strength and comfort in knowing how many lives she has touched.

Terri Polis - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Ernie, I worked with Karen at OB-GYN and was sorry to hear of your loss. She was a wonderful person and never had to tell anyone she was a Christian, you could see it in the way she lived her life. She will always hold a very special place in my heart and will be missed by many. You and your family will be in our prayers.

Tracy & Ricky Harrell - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Dear Ernie,
Karen touched so many with her kind and generous heart. I know you will miss her deeply.
My heart and prayers are with you.
Rosemary

Rosemary West - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Dear Ernie and family, my thoughts and prayers are with you, you know that words can not express how much Karen meant to us (tues. night group, the unconditional love I felt while being in your home is hard to explain to those who never had the opportunity to feel it.)and I know she is learning to fly right now, and she heard the wonderful words from our precious Savior, "Well done my good and faithful servant".If there is anything I can do please let me know. Rev. 21:4, Isa. 25:8 Love in Christ.

Janine Stokes - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Mr. & Mrs. Harbin & Family, So sorry to read about Karen's death. She was someone I always looked up to. She was a great inspiration for others. Mother & Daddy wanted me to express their sympathy also. They are out of town.

Joni Jones Dunn - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ I am so sorry to learn of Karen's passing. She was indeed a very special person
I have wonderful memories of worshipping together with her in home prayer groups as teenagers. I pray the Comforter will bring comfort,encouragement and strength to you in the days ahead and joy in knowing that she is indeed in the presence of the Lord she loved. Blessings to you all- Kim Brown Key

Kim Brown Key - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Ernie, Though you and Karen have been preparing for this time for many years, I know it is difficult. We know she is with our Lord in heaven and sharing her smile with those who have gone before her to prepare her place. You are in our prayers. Margaret & Leonard Brannan

Margaret Brannan - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Karen's life made a difference to the world.

Judy Deriso - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Ernie, You are in our thoughts and prayers. What a wonderful person Karen was. I know the angels are rejoicing for they now have her with them. Karen never had to tell anyone she was a Christian, you could see it in her. I will miss seeing her on her walks with Gracie, but know her earthly suffering is now behind her. Dottie, Tommy and Phillip Bridges.

Dottie Bridges - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ My cousin, I remember all the good times I had when my family came to Tifton to visit Granny Harbin. I always wanted to stay with you, Charlene and Lisa - I will miss you.

Donna Fogle - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Ernie, Amanda
It is often hard to for friends to find the words at a time like this. Karen was a fine example to me as seeing her battle her physical adversity she still remained faithful, believing, and holding on to the hope confidence given to us from the Lord. Yesterday as we sang her favorite song, I felt in some small way she knew we were all honoring her. Karen was one of the first people that came to welcome me to Albany Bible Church some 15 years ago. Her smile and sincere words made me feel at home. I feel blessed to have known her.
Your church family,
Mary and Lamar

Mary & Lamar Houston - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ You touched so many peoples lives,and will be truly missed.God has a Very Special angel!!May God bless you,Ernie!

Jane Joiner& Jan Santos - March 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ I never had the pleasure of meeting Karen personally. I have only heard of her over the years from her sister, Lisa, my friend. What a wonderful person she seemed to be! I wish all of her family my best. I will continue to pray for you.

Rhonda Furtney - March 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PJ

“ Karen was a very special person and a dear friend to many. We loved her and will miss her tremendously. The world was a better place with her presence.

Pam & Proctor Johnston - March 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Ernie, I can only say how deeply sorry I am for your loss. Karen is at peace and will always be with you.*

Beverly

Beverly Spires - March 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ *"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God"*

Matthew 5:8

Anne Greer Norman - March 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ *So sorry to read of Karen's homegoing. I remember her from TCHS days. She was a sweet Christian young lady. Mr. & Mrs. Harbin and family you will be in my prayers. May God bless you and keep you in the days ahead.*

John S. Gibbs, Jr. - March 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *There is no doubt that Karen was truly an earthly angel...No one was ever with her that they did not experience her passion for Christ and one felt her desire to pass that on ...She poured her godly love into every single person that she talked with..She will forever be remembered as one of God's Most Special Angels...Our hearts and prayers are with Ernie and the family...*

Molly Swan - March 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ my thoughts and prayers are with your family,although i didn't personally know karen,
i have always heard such wonderful things about her over the years through pam woody.

tammie suess - March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Anyone whoever met Karen could see Christ Jesus within her and for that we will be forever grateful.
Our prayers are for Ernie and all of Karen's family.

Tim and Nan Ward - March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ What a life!!! I just read the details of Karen's life. I am amazed. She sounds like such a godly woman. I am sure that I met her at some time or another. I am Bugg's daughter, Venton and Effie Mae Wynn's granddaughter. We will be praying for each member of her family during this time of separation. I say separation because I know that you will see her again in heaven. What a legacy she leaves behind.

Melanie Wynn Raines - March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Although I did not know Karen, I certainly wish I had known her and feel as if I did through her sister and my friend, Lisa. My condolences to her husband, parents, sisters, and other family members. She sounds like she has a wonderful spirit that will continue to live on. God Bless you all! You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Connie Belmore - March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM