



## Bonnie Lou Smart

September 14, 1936 - January 22, 2022

Bonnie Lou Richardson Smart, 85, of Greenville, wife of the late James H. “Jim” Smart, passed away Saturday, January 22, 2022, at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

Born in Randolph, TX, she was a daughter of the late William Martin Leslie and Thelma Lee Barnett Richardson. She was retired from the Greenville County School System as an administrative assistant and was a member of First Baptist Church of Greenville.

Bonnie was known as a warm, caring, outgoing, and generous person who loved to spend time in conversation with fellow church members, Starsdale Circle and Rolling Green Village neighbors, and her local family members and many friends. She felt especially close to her extended Texas family in the Dallas area, and she also kept in touch with good friends from her days at Carrollton High School. At First Baptist, for a period of ten years, Bonnie co-taught a Sunday School class for young adults with her husband Jim. She enjoyed keeping up with the class members in later years, seeing many of them marry and have children, and eventually grandchildren, of their own. Education was one of Bonnie’s highest values. She completed her BA degree at Judson College in Marion, Alabama; trained as an elementary school teacher; worked for several area schools, including the Shriner’s Hospital School and Arrington Elementary; and was actively involved in the lives of her late husband’s students at Furman University. She wholeheartedly supported and celebrated her granddaughter’s educational achievements through

graduate school. In her later years she became a supporter of Furman's Cothran Center, whose mission is to help students and others in the community connect their education to a meaningful sense of their life's purpose.

She is survived by her daughter: Susan D'Amato; son: Rusty Smart (C. F. Hawkins); granddaughter: Alexis D'Amato; and brother: Robert Richardson (Ann).

There will be a private family memorial service at a later date.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Triune Mercy Center, 222 Rutherford St. Greenville, SC 29609, Furman University Cothran Center for Vocational Reflection, 3300 Poinsett Hwy. Greenville, SC 29613, or the charity of one's choice.

# Cemetery Details

**Private Burial**

# Tribute Wall

GB

“ *Dear Susan and Rusty,  
I have known Bonnie and James since I was 6 years old and James was teaching at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and Assistant pastor at Memorial Baptist Church in Temple, Texas. They were very close friends with my parents, Evelyn and JD Berry and my brother, Don. I spent lots of time with James and Bonnie and Susan when she was very little. James led me to accept Christ as my savior. Later we shared their Joy when Rusty was born. I have so many wonderful and precious memories of Bonnie and all of the times we had together. Susan and Rusty, you were so blessed to have such a beautiful and wonderful mother. I pray that you will find great comfort in all of the cherished memories that you have of her.  
Love to you both,  
Geneva Kay Berry*

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**Geneva Kay Berry** - February 20, 2022 at 05:00 AM

MH

“ *I'm so sorry to read this. Bonnie & Jim were great Sunday School teachers during a significant time, and continued a great friends. Bonnie sure did get this life right!*

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**Mat Hunt** - January 27, 2022 at 10:45 AM

SC

“ *Dear Susan and Rusty,  
We enjoyed knowing your parents through our Furman dining clubs and, of course, as neighbors on Starsdale Circle. They were always so cheerful and helpful. The neighborhood was never the same without them, and now we have moved away, too. I will let Sallie Fallaw know about Bonnie.  
I lost my mom four months ago here at The Woodlands, so I know some of the feelings you are experiencing. We're glad to know her passing was peaceful.  
Take care,  
Sharon (and Maurice) Cherry*

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**Sharon Cherry** - January 26, 2022 at 01:32 PM