



Essie Mae Frances (Bell) Smith

July 11, 1925 - October 9, 2022

In the company of her daughter Wilba, Essie Mae Frances (Bell) Smith, Passed away peacefully into the ages on October 09, 2022. Essie, 97 years old, was born July 11, 1925 at Blytheville, Arkansas to Robert Lee Bell and Maggie Lee (Vernon) Bell.

Essie spoke of this day when she would be meeting with her loved ones who had went before her and was not distressed that the day would be coming. Essie moved with her family to Kansas City in the early 1950's and after her husband Arthur's death in 1961 she took on the task of a widowed single mother with children aged 13 and 6 years and raised them to adulthood. She liked to sew, make quilt tops, and crochet. She loved to collect photos of loved ones. She worked at Intercollegiate Press (now Herff Jones) where she received commendations. She retired at age 71.

Essie was preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Maggie; her husband, Arthur Thomas Smith; her brothers, Robert Dale Bell, Martin Luther Bell, Birl Eugene Bell, Charles Flenoel Bell; her sisters, Dorothy Virginia Pickett, Lelia Katie Smith, and Rosetta Owen. She is survived by a sister, Mattie Paulette Highstreet.

She is also survived by immediate family, her son, Thomas Gene Smith (Barbara Deceased); her daughter, Wilba Jean Miller (Rob Noble); her granddaughters, Michelle Colleen Smith (Kevin George) and Nicole Christine Huffman (Shane); great grandson, Andrew Gene Huffman; great granddaughters, Natasha Lynn Smith, Dominique Faith Huffman and Emma

Nicole Bristol; great great granddaughters, Athena Ember Huffman and Alaine Chrislynn Hutchinson; and many in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, etc.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

2301 S 34th St
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 262-6610
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 17. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
<https://maplehillfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

OCT 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
<https://maplehillfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of Essie Mae Frances (Bell) Smith*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - October 14, 2022 at 01:40 PM

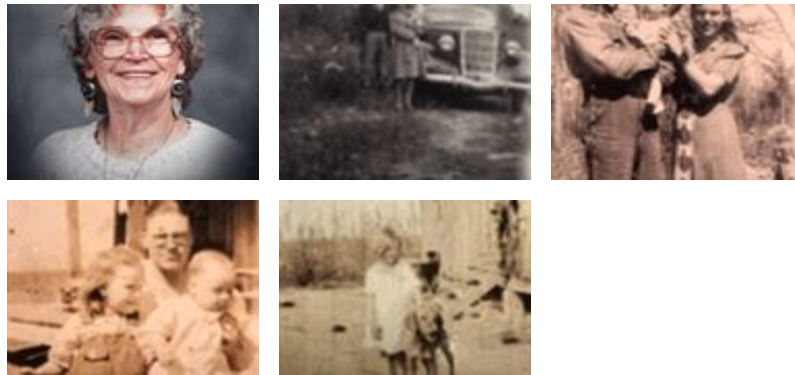


“ *Essie Mae Frances (Bell) Smith*

October 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM



“ *75 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - October 14, 2022 at 01:34 PM

NH

“ Donna Cowell has asked for me to share this beloved item grandma Frances made for her. Donna loves these characters that my grandma made for her and appreciates them so much that they have a dedicated space for display in her curio cabinet. My grandma's creative talents were well know and gifted to many. She crocheted, sewed, crafted, embroidered, and even drew quite well. My most prized toys as a child were had crafted by her, and I still have them, and one of her own very favorite pieces that she knitted, not crocheted, was a very large white lace looking Lord's prayer blanket. When she gave it to me she confessed she had worked on it for 12 years. Over the years she asked about it and I assured her I still have it and it's still beautiful. Amobg the many items she has made for my family include handmade Halloween costumes for our kids , cute dresses, and clothes for my dolls, cute home decore items luke a turkey and pumpkind, and kitchen hand towels. I'm forever grateful for these things she's has made for me, it's like having a tangible piece of her. I'm so grateful for her. Thank you Donna for sharing your dolls, they are lovely.



nicole huffman - October 13, 2022 at 10:24 AM

PR

“ *i loved my Aunt Francis*

Pamela Rochow - October 11, 2022 at 07:52 PM

BK

“ *Bucella and Kevin purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Essie Mae Frances (Bell) Smith.*



Bucella and Kevin - October 11, 2022 at 06:05 PM

TB

“ *The Cowell Family & Bzdon purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Essie Mae Frances (Bell) Smith.*



The Cowell Family & Bzdon - October 11, 2022 at 05:10 PM