



Leora Ruth Smith

August 12, 1934 - June 10, 2021

Leora Ruth Smith was born August 12, 1934, to William Arthur and Anna Margaret (Joseph) Meyer at Hordville, Nebraska. She passed away on June 10, 2021, at Bryan West Medical Center in Lincoln, Nebraska at the age of 86 years, 9 months and 29 days. Leora was one of six children.

Leora grew up in the Polk area and graduated from Polk High School. She was married to William Henry Bauer in York, Nebraska on April 17, 1955 and they had five children. William passed away on November 2, 1984. On August 10, 1991, Leora then married Fred Smith of Beeville, Texas.

She lived in Polk, Geneva, Beeville, Texas and then finally settled in Fairmont, Nebraska. Leora had various jobs during her working career. These included being a telephone operator in York, waitressing, housecleaning, and being a police dispatcher for the Fillmore County Sheriff's Office for twenty-five years. Also, while married to her second husband Fred, they owned and operated a travelling carnival business; and they had the opportunity to do much travelling. In her later years, Leora volunteered as a foster grandparent, something that gave her much joy, as she truly loved and cared for children.

Leora had many interests. She enjoyed bowling, all Nebraska Cornhusker sports, St. Louis Cardinals baseball (especially during the Bob Gibson era), card games, board games, and traveling. Leora was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Geneva; and participated in Ladies Aide, and served as a Sunday School Teacher. She also was a member of the choir and served as a play ground monitor.

Lee was preceded in death by her parents William and Anna Meyer; husbands William Bauer and Fred Smith; daughter-in-law Vicky Bauer; sisters and brothers-in-law Wilma (Delbert) Gibbins, Arlene (Clarence) Walbrecht, and Luella Meyer; brother and sister-in-law LaVerne (Christina) Meyer; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law Illene (Harold) Miller, Ruth (Harold) Schmidt; brothers-in-law, Laurence Bauer, Loraine Bauer, Walter Griess; sisters-in-law Kathy Bauer, Lola Bauer; and grandson Levi Bauer.

She is survived by sons Richard (Cynthia) Milenkovich of Costa Mesa, California, William Bauer (Deb Butler) of Grand Island, Nebraska, James (Corrina) Bauer of McCool Junction, Nebraska, David Bauer of Geneva, Nebraska; daughters Pamela (Jim) Edmondson of York, Nebraska, Beverly (Mark) Evans of McCool Junction, Nebraska; sister and brother-in-law Louise (Dennis) Mueller; sister-in-law and brother-in-law Donna (Walt) Ulmer; brother-in-law Ronald Bauer; sisters-in-law Ethel Bauer, Marion Griess, Betty Hesselgesser; sixteen grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren and six great great grandchildren.

A Memorial Service for Leora was held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Geneva, Nebraska. Pastor Mark Haefner officiated the service. Denise Hinrichs accompanied the congregation in the singing of "A Mighty Fortress," "The Lord Is My Shepherd," "Amazing Grace," and "I Know That My Redeemer Lives."

Honorary Pallbearers for the service included Marvin Walbrecht, Tony Bauer, Josh Bauer, Jesse Klein, Daniel Bauer, and Caleb Bauer. Inurnment was held in the Geneva Public Cemetery following the Memorial Service.

Farmer & Son Funeral Home was in care of the arrangements and online condolences can be left at www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com.

Memorials are suggested to the family for future designation.

Cemetery Details

Geneva Public Cemetery

Geneva, NE 68361

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 15. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Lutheran Church
434 N 16th Street
Geneva, NE 68361

Tribute Wall

KS

“ *Our deepest sympathy to Leora's family.
Frank & Karla (Elznic) Slezak*



Karla Slezak - June 18, 2021 at 10:25 PM

MM

“ *To Lee's Family,*

Lee was a Christian and lived her life as such. She loved her family and did whatever it took to provide for them. I did Lee's hair for many years, and would see her on a weekly basis. No matter what the day at thrown at her, she always came into the beauty shop with a smile on her face and a bit of humor to add to the conversation at hand. I am so sorry for your loss. May she rest in peace!
Marla (Robare) Messman

Marla Messman - June 17, 2021 at 07:12 PM



“ *15 files added to the album Flower Pictures*



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - June 15, 2021 at 12:32 PM

JG

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I was unable to attend the memorial for Aunt Leora, but my congregation and I are praying for you.*

Jan Gendron - June 15, 2021 at 09:27 AM

BE

“ So sorry for the loss but she will suffer no more.
She will be missed.
Betty H

betty - June 14, 2021 at 09:27 AM

JM

“ I bowled with Lee for many years. We always had a great time. And we were pretty good bowlers too. I know she will be missed, my sympathy to her family.
Jan Manire

Jan Manire - June 11, 2021 at 05:12 PM

VJ

“ Virginia Johnson lit a candle in memory of Leora Ruth Smith



Virginia Johnson - June 11, 2021 at 02:46 PM