



Theodosia "Theo" Smith

December 12, 1932 - November 2, 2018

What a character and amazing person we have lost! Theo was 85 years feisty and left this life as she had always wanted: in her own home and quickly.

Theo was born in 1932 in a blustery snowstorm in Seymour, TN, but eventually landed at the sunny University of Florida. She began her career as a teacher for deaf and special education students at New York City school for the deaf.

In New York she reconnected with Bill Smith, another U of F alum, and they married in 1963. Bill worked for Cities Service which led them to Bogota, Colombia, Bala Cynwyd, PA then to Broken Arrow in 1972.

New to town, Theo quickly became involved in local politics and won a seat on the Broken Arrow school board, eventually becoming president of that board and the Oklahoma State School Board Association.

She also ran for state representative for her district. Undeterred by the loss, she would stay involved with politics to the end, always preaching "your vote DOES make a difference"!

Theo gave her opinion freely to the amusement of some and dismay of others and that is what we loved about her. She was a second mom to many of

Helen and Mark's friends, an avid bridge player and lover of the arts, travel, history and dogs.

We will celebrate Theo's life on Friday, Nov. 9 at 2pm. at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church in Broken Arrow. Funeral arrangements are by Hayhurst Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to St. Stephen's, 400 W. New Orleans St., Broken Arrow, OK 74011.

Theo is preceded in death by her parents Mell and Helen Atchley and siblings Clyde and Helen.

She is survived by her children Helen (Dallas) and Mark, daughter-in-law Judy and grandson Joseph (Sugar Land, TX). Plus sister Blanche Owenby, brother-in-law Dan and nieces Jama, Donna, Cathy and Lisa (Seymour, TN) and niece Sandra Smith (Pelham, AL).

Thank you to Dr. Steve Wiseman for his years of care for Mom and Dad, and to her wonderful neighbors for looking out for Theo.

Tribute Wall



“ *Theodosia "Theo" Smith*

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM



“ *Dear Helen Lee and Mark,
We truly loved your mother. She was a great, fun, spirited neighbor and we will always treasure the memories of you all playing with Bo and making up games. Theo called us when David was on the school board and had strong words of advice for him. Our love to you, Judy and Stuart Ebby*

judy ebby - November 19, 2018 at 09:51 PM



“ *Theo was a great friend & neighbor to my sister Barbara "Bobbie" Harrawood and to all our family while living on Fairway Drive. They had many wonderful antiquing adventures, fun times gardening & with the garden club. I'm sure my sister & my mother were there to greet her as she came through those heavenly gates. With the two of them together again, there will be no lack of conversation in Heaven.
God Bless You Theo,
May God Bless & comfort your family
Jane Charon*



Helena Charon - November 09, 2018 at 11:20 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Theodosia "Theo" Smith.



November 08, 2018 at 02:53 PM



“ John Tolleris purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Theodosia "Theo" Smith.



John Tolleris - November 08, 2018 at 10:56 AM



“ Glorious Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Theodosia "Theo" Smith.



November 07, 2018 at 04:21 PM



“ Touching Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Theodosia "Theo" Smith.



November 07, 2018 at 10:34 AM

CS

“ Aunt Theo was definitely a one of a kind, "He broke the mold" character. She was larger than life ... her laugh, her love, and her friendship were cherished by those fortunate to find their spot in her entourage. She is the lady that girls today should look up to as a role model. Fearless, funny, and full of pi\$\$ and vinegar! Our family LOVED her dearly. What a gift to have known her. Tight hugs and prayers for His comfort.

Crissy Stanley - November 06, 2018 at 05:57 PM

SL

“ I so enjoyed playing bridge with Theo for the past 12 years! Last week when we returned from a two week trip, there was a voice mail fro her on my answering machine. It was old news, so I deleted it. Knowing what I know now, I would have listened to it over and over! I loved Theo's spunky personality and I will miss her.

Suzy Laird - November 06, 2018 at 08:36 AM

BW

“ Theo was the first friend I made when I moved to Broken Arrow in 1973. She and Bill were wonderful mentors of how to be great parents. They traveled with their children. They exposed their children to museums and concerts. They got involved in their children's school and in their community. We tried to emulate their great example. Theo and Bill were half way between my wonderful in-law's age and our age and were great friends to all of us. Our deepest condolences to all who loved Theo!

Barbara and Bill Wright - November 06, 2018 at 04:09 AM

TF

“ *The Matejek Family purchased the Peace Eternal Wreath for the family of Theodosia "Theo" Smith.*



The Matejek Family - November 05, 2018 at 11:58 AM

HH

“ *It is our honor and privilege to serve the Smith family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of Theo.*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - November 03, 2018 at 05:49 PM

DR

So sorry to hear of her passing. She had a very full and productive life. Praying for the family.
Doug and LaJean Roper

Doug and LaJean Roper - November 05, 2018 at 08:22 PM

LB

I very much appreciated Theo's public service. My sympathies to her family.

Linn Ball - November 05, 2018 at 08:50 PM