



Barbara S. Smekens

July 15, 1934 - September 4, 2021

Barbara S. Smekens, 87 of Bluffton, passed away on Saturday evening, September 4, 2021, at Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

She was born on July 15, 1934 in Bluffton, Indiana to Clarence C. & Lola F. (Pence) Brickley. Barb graduated from Rockcreek High School with the class of 1952. She worked her entire career at Old First National Bank in Bluffton and retired as an assistant to the Vice President of the bank. Barb was a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Bluffton.

On August 5, 1989 in Bluffton, Barb and Joel T. Smekens were married at the First Baptist Church in Bluffton. They shared 32 happy years together before he preceded her in death on March 10, 2018.

Barb is survived by her children; Denise (Tom) Oswalt of Bluffton, Julie Fetters of Granite Shoals, Texas, Diane (Patrick {Chip}) McArdle of Shawnee, Kansas, Angie (Scott) Harris of Poneto and Brady (Kristina) Smekens of Warren; 13 grandchildren, Kayla (Bryant) Ponchot, Janette (Kurt) Funk, Leah (Brandon) Huggins, Joseph McArdle, Thomas (Paula) McArdle, Paul McArdle, Katie (Joey) Orozco, Chase (Mallory) Harris, Chandler Harris, Grant Harris, Sophia Smekens, Andrew Smekens, and Sydney Smekens; and nine great-grandchildren, Kyler Funk, Camden Funk, Brecken Ponchot, Mia Huggins, Parker Huggins, Molly McArdle, Emmy McArdle, William McArdle, Adam McArdle, Oliver Orozco, Blair Harris and Jordyn Harris a sister, Judy (John) Cupp of Bluffton and a sister-in-law, Jean Brickley of Wolcottville.

Barb is preceded in death by siblings; Sara Lou Hunter, Robert Brickley,

Casey Brickley, Kathleen Houtz, Nova Lee Barrick and Opal Gilbert.

Services will be held at 1 P.M. on Wednesday (Sept. 8,2021) at the First Baptist Church with Pastor Les Cantrell officiating. Burial will follow at Elm Grove Cemetery.

Visitation hours will be held from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Wednesday at the First Baptist Church, prior to the service.

Preferred memorials are to First Baptist Church

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 8. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
202 W. Cherry St.
Bluffton, IN

Funeral Service

SEP 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
202 W. Cherry St.
Bluffton, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara S. Smekens*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - September 07, 2021 at 06:17 PM



“ *Barbara S. Smekens*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *I was devastated to hear about the loss of Barb. I had the honor of taking care of her for the past year during her stay at CCRC. I truly miss her . I now have no one to play rumikube with. Rest in heaven with your beloved Joe. I'll miss you barbie. Shannon LPN*

Shannon Andrews - September 27, 2021 at 12:30 AM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Our parents always enjoyed visiting with Barb and Kenny.*

Susan, Sally, Sarah, Scott and Steve Day

Susan Day - September 21, 2021 at 11:36 AM



“ 78 files added to the album LifeTributes



Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home - September 07, 2021 at 04:57 PM



“ Elsa, Janine, Cliff, Carolyn, Gabby, Mitch, Cooper and Blake purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Barbara S. Smekens.



Elsa, Janine, Cliff, Carolyn, Gabby, Mitch, Cooper and Blake - September 07, 2021 at 01:32 PM



“ Thinking of you all. Great memories growing up with the Fetters girls and Barb ! Sending hugs.

Sharolyn Stoppenhagen - September 07, 2021 at 11:51 AM



“ Thinking of your family! Prayers for Peace and Comfort. I remember Barbara as a gracious lady that always had a smile.

Dave and Barb Oswalt - September 06, 2021 at 04:25 PM

DA

“ *David & Linda Aker lit a candle in memory of Barbara S. Smekens*



David & Linda Aker - September 06, 2021 at 02:35 PM

LH

“ *The best great grandma there was* ❤️



Leah Huggins - September 05, 2021 at 09:32 PM

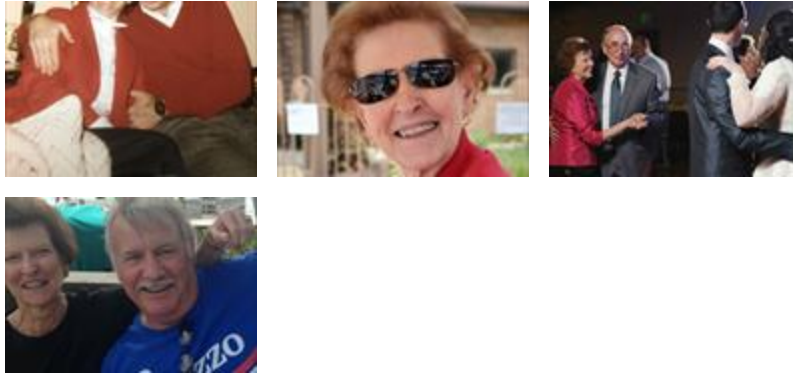
JJ

“ *My memories of Barb are her great smile and welcoming personality to all she met. Always a lady and friend to many, she will be missed greatly. Love and God bless you all. Jackie Johnson*

Jackie Johnson - September 05, 2021 at 07:18 PM

SS

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Suzie Studebaker - September 05, 2021 at 05:39 PM

MS

*What a Handsome couple!...Now together again!
Thanks Barb, for being the best Sister-In-Law a guy could ever
have!...Thinking of You, your Daughters and families...Mike Smekens*

Michael W Smekens - September 07, 2021 at 04:49 PM

HH

“ Herb And Janet Heyerly lit a candle in
memory of Barbara S. Smekens



Herb and Janet Heyerly - September 05, 2021 at 09:35 AM