



## Eva Dean Smith

November 22, 1933 - February 21, 2026

Eva Dean Smith (Sandifer)

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Eva Dean Smith (née Sandifer), age 92, passed peacefully on February 21, 2026. She was born

at home on November 22, 1933, in Calfax Louisiana, during the depths of the Great Depression.

Eva's life was defined by resilience, devotion, and quiet strength.

She was raised in the rural community of Dry Prong, Louisiana, where she learned the values of

hard work, faith, and family that would guide her throughout her life. In her senior year of high

school, Eva made a bold and courageous decision that reflected the independent spirit she

carried within her—she left home to elope with the love of her life, Lawrence Joseph Smith.

Together, they began their journey in New York, building a new life side by side.

Eva and Lawrence shared 73 remarkable years of marriage—a testament to enduring love,

commitment, and partnership. Through every season of life, Eva remained a devoted wife,

steadfast companion, and the heart of her family. She carried herself with

grace and humility,  
offering kindness freely and strength quietly to those around her.  
Nothing brought Eva greater joy than her family. She was a devoted and  
loving mother to her  
five children, whose lives were shaped by her steady guidance, sacrifice, and  
unconditional  
support. Her love multiplied through her 18 grandchildren and 20 great-  
grandchildren, by birth  
and by marriage, each cherished deeply. She followed their lives with pride  
and delight,  
celebrating every milestone, cherishing every visit, and offering prayers and  
encouragement  
without hesitation. Her home was a place of warmth and welcome, and her  
legacy lives on in  
the generations who carry forward her love, strength, and faith.  
Though she began her adult life far from Louisiana at just eighteen years old,  
Eva never left  
behind the people who shaped her earliest days. She carried a deep and  
abiding love for the  
family and friends she grew up with, and throughout her life she made many  
cherished trips  
home to reconnect, reminisce, and renew those bonds. Each visit was filled  
with stories,  
laughter, and the comfort of familiar faces and places. The ties to her roots  
remained strong,  
and she treasured the opportunity to return again and again, keeping those  
lifelong relationships  
close to her heart.  
Her life spanned extraordinary changes in the world, yet she remained rooted  
in the simple  
values she learned as a young girl in rural Louisiana: loyalty, perseverance,

and love above all  
else.

Eva's legacy lives on in the family she cherished and the many lives she touched through her warmth, wisdom, and unwavering devotion. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

Eva will be cremated and laid to rest at Bay Pines National Cemetery in St. Petersburg. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made in appreciation to the compassionate nurses and doctors who cared for her in her final days at Northside Hospital in St. Petersburg Florida.

Survived by Husband Lawrence Joseph Smith Sr., Children Sherill McMahon (Kevin), Lawrence Smith Jr. (Patti), Jeffrey Smith (Susan), Stephen Smith (Kelly), Jennifer Soluri (Christopher), Grand Children: Chad Smith (Tasha), Jessica Kraft (Michael), Christopher Smith, Matthew Smith, Jason McMahon (Ariunna), Andrew McMahon, Callie Pruell (Michael), Dr. Eleanor Smith N.D., Stephen K. Smith, Jenna Dean Kiger (Davis), Jade Andersen, Kaiden Andersen, Jocelyn Porter (Brian), Kaylan Porter (Tori), Madeleine Porter, Adrienne Porter, Michael Soluri, and Nicholas Soluri. Great Grandchildren: Dillon, Tyler, John, Tobin, Asher, Wesley, Luke, Liam, PJ, Welles, Sammy, McKenna, Carter, Nolan, Harris, Easton, Josie, Sandra, Collin, and Saruul. Also Survived by Sisters Glenda Newton, Lytle Jackson (Dolan), Barbara

Fralick (Bobby), Ann

Whitehead (Gene) and sister-in-law, Carrie Sandifer. Eva was preceded in death by her parents,

Matthew Sandifer, Clouttie Ivy Sandifer Gaspard; brothers, Leslie Sandifer, James Sandifer;

sister, Alice Bell; brother-in-law, Mark Newton and great grandson Garren Smith.

# Tribute Wall

AC

“ Amir And Blake Campbell purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Eva Dean Smith.



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**Amir And Blake Campbell** - February 27 at 07:35 AM

CG

“ She was the life of the party...when I got to know her. It was around 50years ago & she was so much fun. Wonderful memories. Loved her very much.

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**Carol Gardiner** - February 26 at 07:04 PM

EG

“ What a shock to hear about the passing of Eva! She and Larry were special people, and I loved being with them when I lived at Otter Key! Love you Larry and family !  
Betty Garfield

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**elizabeth garfield** - February 23 at 05:58 PM