



Voleta Smith

November 16, 1934 - May 24, 2023

Voleta Wynell Witcher Smith went to her home in heaven on May 24, 2023. She was born in El Paso, Tx, on November 16, 1934. She was a resident of Winters from her early childhood. On September 24, 1950, she married Johnny Bob Smith. Yes, she was 15! But they enjoyed 72 years of marriage.

Voleta worked 27 years as librarian at Winters Elementary School prior to her retirement. She loved to snow ski, water ski and travel as often as possible.

She was preceded in death by her parents Enid and Preston Witcher, one grandson Ryan Smith, and a son-in-law Mark Briley.

She is survived by her two sons, Dwayne (and Veronica) Smith of Burnett, TX, and Bruce (and Melanie) Smith of Pickerington, OH, and one daughter Brenda Briley of Baird, TX. She is also survived by grandchildren Angela (and Jimmy) Patton of Baird, TX, Brian (and Mendy) Briley of Borden County, TX, Mylea (and Mason) Nations of Riga, Latvia, Mikayla Smith of Lafayette, IN, and Marissa (and Blake) Tippie of Gahanna, OH. Great grandchildren include Kadin Patton, Brylee Patton, Colbin Briley, Logan Briley, Brianna Briley, Chandler Nations, Oliver Nations, and Zoey Nations.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, May 27, 3:00 P.M., at First Baptist Church of Winters where she was a member. Services are under the direction

of Winters Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Winters or the Winters Volunteer Fire Department.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 27. 3:00 PM.

First Baptist Church of Winters where she was a member

Tribute Wall

RM

“ Reading our cousin Nelda (Brickey) Stroud’s remembrance helped me realize I was a “next generation” cousin to Voleta and then Nelda, Sherry, and Loretta Brickey. To me the Brickey sisters were my and my sisters’, Zanette and Sylvia, “older” cousins, whereas Voleta always seemed old enough to be my aunt. In fact, Voleta and Johnny Bob married two days after I was born, and Dwayne was just a year younger and Brenda and Bruce two years younger than I. Who was my cousin, really? I was so confused. :)

I remember Voleta as a loving “aunt” of lovely smile, kind voice, and graceful countenance. One of my repeated joyful memories of her was at our “large family” Christmas Eve gatherings at Voleta’s and our maternal grandparents’ home on Church Street, Daddy Bob and Mama Dora Kennedy. Many years later, after I’d lived away from Winters for almost half a century, I again got to enjoy Voleta’s — and her life-long love Johnny Bob’s — kind, gracious presence at birthday parties in Austin for our mother La Moyne, Voleta’s aunt.

Suzan, our children — Rob, Rachel, and Patrick — and I wish for Johnny Bob, Dwayne, Brenda, Bruce, and all your family peace amidst the passing of your and our beloved Voleta and joy in remembering her life so richly lived.

Robert Moore - May 26, 2023 at 06:53 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Voleta Smith.



May 26, 2023 at 05:33 PM



“ During the times I watched Angela and Brian, she was always smiling and laughing. She dearly love her grandchildren and Brenda and Mark. My prayers are with this family.

Ruth Ledbetter - May 26, 2023 at 10:21 AM



“ Growing up, Voleta was always the cousin we thought of as kind of a movie star. She was just older enough to be a little extra special. She did the "neat things" first and she did them well, even marriage and motherhood and a career. In later years, her health caused her problems but she never complained or felt sorry for herself. Once again, she was a roll model, this time for difficulties. My sisters and I loved her and thought she was so special. To get to spend the night with her and be nudged in the night with, "did you hear that lion roar? (it was her dad snoring) was the height of fun. She was special always. Nelda (Brickey) Stroud

Nelda Stroud - May 25, 2023 at 10:43 PM

SM

“ *Such a sweet lady! As a reader, I always spent a lot of time visiting with her in the library growing up. Now that I’m at the Winters Public Library, I think of her often, as she really inspired my love of books in the first place. She will be missed!*

Susan Minzenmayer - May 25, 2023 at 10:41 PM

MM

“ *Voleta was such a sweet lady. She was the librarian when I first started teaching at WES. It was always a joy to go the library. She will be missed. Prayers to her family!*

Melinda Meyers - May 25, 2023 at 06:21 PM