



Janet Kay Smith

December 29, 1951 - November 13, 2025

Janet Kay Smith, age 73, of Old Town, Florida, passed away on November 13. She was born December 29, 1951 in Carthage, Missouri, to Dorothy and Bill Houston.

Janet was a feisty, warmhearted woman who was never afraid to speak her mind. She loved to joke, laugh, and be a little silly, and how we'll miss that sweet giggle of hers. She had a gypsy soul and an adventurous heart — always ready to go, always fixed up pretty, and always wearing that beautiful smile. Some would say she was almost magic, and if you know, you know.

Janet loved the song Sara by Fleetwood Mac, especially the line “you’re the poet in my heart.” She’ll always be the poet in our hearts, a reminder of her humor, her spark, and the way she lived life in her own special way. She loved the Lord, and her faith helped her through the good times and the hard ones.

Survived by her husband, John Shepard Smith; children, Natausha Yoachum (JT), Steven Long (Michelle); grandchildren, Clayton Smith (Lexi), Haiven Grymes, Tara Endicott (Caleb), Preston Grieves and Buddy Long (Sierra); great-grandchildren, Callahan, Sidelle and Remedy; siblings, Sue Nafus (Mike), Danny Houston, Rodger Houston (Judy), Bobby Elliott (Trisha), Dennis Elliott (Vickie) and Cindy Smith (Jim).

Preceded in death by her daughter, Ursula Johnell Smith; parents, Dorothy and Bill Houston; brother, Garey Houston and her lifelong best friend and sister of the heart, Debra Joann Lindberg.

After these last few years of carrying the heavy grief of losing her daughter, Janet is now at peace and joyfully reunited in heaven with Ursula, whom she missed desperately. Knowing they're together again brings us comfort and peace.

She will be returned to the ocean she loved so much — a peaceful, gentle place as free and boundless as her spirit.

Fly high, Janet. You will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered.

Arrangements have been placed under the care of Rick Gooding Funeral Home Cross City Chapel, with locations in Cross City 352-498-5400 and Chiefland 352-493-0050. Please sign the online guest book at rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall



“ *I miss you. mom.* ”

Natausha Yoachum - March 06 at 05:03 PM