



Belinda Anne Smith

March 15, 1965 - January 6, 2016

Belinda Anne Smith, age 50, of Knoxville, if you knew Belinda Anne Smith for more than ten minutes, you are feeling today as if you have lost a life-long friend.

Belinda entered into eternal life January 6th, 2016 surrounded by family and close friends. Her spirit is carried on by her father Quinton Lee Smith, siblings Patricia Edington, Donna Roy and Pamela Smith, her beloved nieces and nephews, and her mother, the late Jeanine Madeline LeBras Smith.

Born in Chicago on March 15th 1965, Belinda's family moved to Tennessee when she was 4 years old to open the family business in Sweetwater. She was a graduate from The University of Tennessee in Early Childhood Education. It was there that she met her lifetime friends.

Belinda was a teacher--not just an ordinary teacher, but an extraordinary life teacher. Children adored her. As a preschool teacher, she spent her life teaching students of all ages and disabilities without judgement. Not just the wealthy, but also the poor, youngest and most vulnerable. She taught them right from wrong, to do the right thing, and to make the right choices. She was an active member of All Saints Catholic Church. She spent many years at Messiah Lutheran Church serving in the nursery and with church activities.

For Belinda, she always looked for the best in everyone. Belinda's mission in life in order of importance were; To make a difference; To represent a multitude of positive attributes; To live a life of constant learning; To evoke a completeness from ALL of life's lessons.

Belinda made a difference in the many lives she touched. To quote Belinda: "What is the purpose of life if you didn't touch the lives of others?" She loved life and all of life's experiences. She would admit that she was 110% stubborn, and she used that to never let things slow her down.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, January 9th from 1pm to 2pm followed by a celebration of Belinda's life, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 6900 Kingston Pike, (865) 588-9753

At Belinda's request, In lieu of flowers –that memorial gifts be designated to The University of Tennessee Medical Center & UT Graduate School of Medicine. Memorial gifts can be made online at utmedicalcenter.org/make-a-gift or mailed to The Development Office, University of Tennessee Medical Center, 2121 Medical Center Way, Suite 110, Knoxville, TN 37920. Please print Belinda A. Smith Foundation in the memo line. Kyker Funeral Homes, Sweetwater, in charge of arrangements. www.kykerfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Christianburg Baptist Church Cemetery

Sweetwater, TN 37874

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Messiah Lutheran Church
6900 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919

Celebration of Life

JAN 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Messiah Lutheran Church
6900 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919

Tribute Wall

LA

“ There’s no word that can express how sorry we are to hear about the death of Belinda. We were very stunned to hear this news and still can’t believe that it really happened. During this difficult moment, our thoughts and prayers are always with US. We love you.

*Although it’s difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow. May she rest in peace.
Lisette, Rolland, Pauline et Aurélie AUBERT (Les Arlésiens)*



Lisette, Rolland, Pauline et Aurélie - January 11, 2016 at 02:17 PM

PS

Thank you so much. Belinda fought a long hard battle with grace and dignity. She is leaving behind a legacy with so many people and will continue to help people. I was so happy that she got to come to France this past year and visit her family that she loved so much. Belinda is no longer in pain and is with our momma and other loved ones that have passed before her. Grow bisons, Pamela

Pam Smith - January 11, 2016 at 04:32 PM

DL

“ *What a beautiful tribute to a beautiful person! I don't think that I saw Belinda after she finished 8th grade at Sweetwater Jr. High, but I have never forgotten what a pleasure she was to have as my student. I recall Belinda as a student who was always filled with laughter and who had a zest for learning. I was saddened to read of her passing--it's a real loss for all of us. May she have eternal rest and may we all strive to live the example she set for us. Pam, I'm remembering you and your family at this time and praying for comfort for all of you. Doug Lynn*

Doug Lynn - January 11, 2016 at 02:00 PM

PS

Thank you so Much!!!

Pam Smith - January 11, 2016 at 04:33 PM

YV

“ *Nous pensons très fort a Belinda depuis la France. Son absence nous touche particulièrement nous avons du mal a réaliser que nous ne la reverrons plus, c est une grande tristesse. Son sourire est lumineux, nous le garderons en souvenir dans nos cœurs. Mes plus sincères condoléances. Virginie et ses enfants Manon et Matheo.*

yvorel - January 09, 2016 at 06:07 PM

PS

Merci! Belinda a mené une dure bataille avec le cancer. Elle était très fatiguée. Je suis si heureux qu'elle a eu à venir en France l'été dernier. Elle était vraiment heureux de venir. Il est définitivement dur avec la distance entre nous, mais notre amour est toujours forte. Merci pour les prières. Amour à tous.

Big Kisses- Pamela

Pam Smith - January 09, 2016 at 07:17 PM

SP

“ We and our children loved Miss Belinda. She taught Taylor and Madeline many valuable lessons during their early formative years at Messiah Lutheran Church. She definitely is and will be missed.

Scott Pederson - January 09, 2016 at 04:23 PM

PS

Thank you so much!

Pam Smith - January 09, 2016 at 07:09 PM

DF

“ As a member of Messiah, Belinda's reputation as nursery "specialist" was well known. I didn't have children or grandchildren in the nursery but heard many stories about Belinda and her love and devotion to those in her care. She was a rare gem!

Doris Featherston - January 09, 2016 at 09:26 AM

PS

Thank you so much

Pam Smith - January 09, 2016 at 09:29 AM

RO

“ I am very saddened to hear of Belinda's passing. I have known Belinda since elementary school and have thought of her often over the years. I always remember her cheerful personality and beautiful smile. She was a friend to everyone she met. I am praying for peace and comfort for her family. God bless you all.

*Robin McCallie DeWaters
Sweetwater High School Class of 1983*

Robin - January 09, 2016 at 08:56 AM

PS

Thank you so much!!!

Pam Smith - January 09, 2016 at 08:59 AM

YF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



YVOREL Franck - January 09, 2016 at 08:53 AM

YF

“ *We are deeply sad to learn that our beloved American cousin Belinda has passed away so suddenly. The whole family and most particularly hers sisters Pamela, Donna and Patricia are in our thoughts. Belinda was a beautiful, funny and always smiley girl. We keep very fond memories of her visits in France. Belinda rest in peace. We send you all big hugs and kisses from France.*

Franck & Magali

YVOREL Franck - January 09, 2016 at 08:45 AM

PS

Thank you! She fought a very hard battle and is now in heaven enjoying her new life pain free. I am so thankful to have traveled to france with her the last three times. I am so glad she was able to go this past June to see her family that she loves so much. We know that you all are in spirit as we celebrate Belinda's life today.

Gros Bisous!!! Pamela

Pam Smith - January 09, 2016 at 08:52 AM

CB

“ *C et F Barthélémy, M et J L Barthélémy purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Belinda Anne Smith.*



C et F Barthélémy, M et J L Barthélémy - January 09, 2016 at 05:02 AM

S)

“ *Stina Nesbit (partner of Sam Adams) purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Belinda Anne Smith.*



Stina Nesbit (partner of Sam Adams) - January 09, 2016 at 03:39 AM

PR

“ *To the family, I was shocked to hear of this disturbing loss. Belinda was a wonderful person and a fabulous friend. God bless you the family, and rest in peace my friend.*

*Paul Rice
Sweetwater Class of 1983*

Paul Rice - January 09, 2016 at 01:46 AM

PS

Thank you so much Paul! I have vivid memories of the shenanigans that you and Belinda got into. She always loved you and that contagious smile.

Pam Smith - January 09, 2016 at 05:56 AM

FY

“ Nous sommes loin mais pensons très fort à vous et à Belinda .
Nous avons du mal à imaginer qu'elle n'est plus là et pensons à tout
ce que nous avons fait ensemble au mois de juin : chocolats
Valrhona , pognes Nivon et toutes les photos grâce à sa perche
selfie

Nous vous envoyons nos sincères condoléances à tous : Famille
YVOREL : Martine , Michel, Francky , Magalie, Virginie , Joan,
Manon , et Mathéo
Gros bisous

FAMILLE YVOREL - January 09, 2016 at 12:23 AM

PS

Je vous remercie! Je suis d'accord, il est très difficile de croire que
Belinda est plus là. Elle a mené une bataille dure depuis trois ans et
demi et il était temps pour elle d'être libre de la douleur et de nouveau
ensemble. Elle est dans les cieux avec maman, ton papa Martine et de
nombreux autres membres de la famille et des amis. Je suis si heureux
que nous sommes venus en France en juin dernier, et elle a pu voir sa
famille qu'elle aimait tant. Gros bisous à tout le monde.

Bisous Pamela

Pam Smith - January 09, 2016 at 05:54 AM

YC

“ When I told my 17 year old son that miss Belinda had passed, he
told me that the strongest feeling he gets when he hears the name
Belinda is HAPPY. Then he started crying. Both of my children grew
up in the nursery at church and helped out there as they got older.
They believed she lived at church, when they were young. She
showed us what it meant to care for others, work through tough
times and stay strong. We love her and will always remember her!
The Campbell's (Norway)

yvonne Campbell - January 08, 2016 at 05:34 PM

PS

Thank you so much!

Pam Smith - January 08, 2016 at 05:48 PM

CA

“ *malgré la distance , nous sommes a côté de vous tous et de BELINDA, et on pensent tres fort à vous, Agnes, Rolland, Alexandra et Florent
on vous embrasse*

CHION AGNES - January 08, 2016 at 03:04 PM

PS

Je vous remercie! Belinda a mené une longue bataille dur avec grâce et dignité. Elle est maintenant réjouissait dans son nouveau corps sans douleur. Je l'ai dit à plusieurs reprises. Je suis tellement contente qu'elle a eu à venir en France il ya seulement six mois pour rendre visite à sa famille qu'elle aimait tant. Gros bisous à tout le monde

Bisous Pamela

Pam Smith - January 08, 2016 at 04:01 PM

AB

“ *My heart is very heavy to have heard of Belinda leaving this earth. Such a beautiful spirited cheerful soul. I worked at ETCH and Belinda was a volunteer at the Admitting area. She made everything and everyone so happy she was there. Always smiling and asking what she can do to help. I enjoyed hearing her adventures of her beloved France and family. Belinda is and was the most inspiring and positive person I know. I moved away 2 yrs ago but did stay in touch with her on Facebook. Good bye sweet dear and RIP with your beloved mother.*

*Ann Blaine
Hendersonville, NC*

Ann Blaine - January 08, 2016 at 02:30 PM

PS

Thank you so much

Pam Smith - January 08, 2016 at 03:00 PM

BC

“ *Une très grande pensée pour Belinda
Nos sincères condoléances
Famille RAVEL du grand charran et David
laetitia et alina correard ainsi que mikael se
joignent à nous pour ces condoléances.*



*Beaucoup de courage à vous tous
Christine et Gérard RAVEL
7 rue maréchal Lyautey
26000 Valence France*

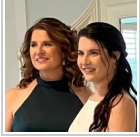
Berlhe christine - January 08, 2016 at 10:58 AM

PS

Je vous remercie beaucoup. Belinda a mené une bataille difficile des trois dernières années. Nous faisons tous de bonne sachant qu'elle est en paix et ensemble à nouveau. Elle a commencé sa nouvelle vie 6 Janvier avec maman, les parents de Gereld et tout son autre famille et des amis qui sont dans les cieux. Belinda quitte un héritage et continuera à toucher et aider les gens pendant une longue période. Je suis tellement reconnaissante d'avoir partagé avec lui de nos visites en France pour visiter la famille qu'elle aime tant. Je remercie Dieu que nous étions là il ya six mois. Gros bisous à tout le monde !!!!

Bisous , Pamela

Pam Smith - January 08, 2016 at 01:01 PM



“ Miss Belinda has been apart of our "village" for as long as I can remember. Our church has a small youth population so each and every child that has grown up there has had special attention from Miss Belinda. She knew each child inside and out and her relationship with each one was different.

With Meaghan she discussed fashion, hair bow combinations and the twirl factor of very new dress worn to church. She gave Meaghan the attention and conversation she needed. It was no surprise to me that when Meaghan preached on youth Sunday in May of 2012 that Belinda made it in her sermon.

With Aaron, she was first to call him on his bull and let him know he could not win her over with his charm. She was also his biggest defender, protector and somedays, partner in crime. When Aaron needed an IEP for being gifted she went through the one the school wrote and tore it apart. In his senior year (2014) he had a discipline hearing. I will never forget when I called her and asked her for advice how emotional she was. I laughed out loud for the first time in many days when she said "Oh, they better be so glad that I can't make his hearing! They do NOT want to deal with me!" Even while fighting cancer, she was fighting for someone else's child.

My youngest, Emma Grace was born with a low immune system and was not able to attend the nursery for the first year. She was also a "mommy's girl" and did not separate herself from me very well. The first time I put her in the nursery, it didn't last very long. Belinda came and got me, handed Emma Grace to me and said, "this one, needs her Mommy and you are going to keep her. That is what SHE needs right now and you are going to give it to her". Belinda later told me she so wanted Emma in the nursery like she had the other two but it was just not best for Emma.

My children are now 22, 19 and 16 years of age. Two are in college and they don't come home or stay put for very long, sort of like stray cats. However it was no surprise to me when they both texted to say

they had rearranged their schedules to come or be home on Saturday. She meant that much to them and oh how their Mom is going to miss her too! She helped me become the mom I am today.

Dawn Webster Liner - January 08, 2016 at 08:53 AM

PS

Thank you Dawn! I love hearing this story and I remember Belinda talking about your children. She definitely had a gift and touched so many lives. Her legacy will continue forever.

Pam Smith - January 08, 2016 at 09:36 AM

RS

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Rodney Simmona - January 07, 2016 at 08:45 PM

RS

“*Belinda and I met during our UT Knoxville days, and became devoted friends amongst a close circle of student academicians, musicians, athletes and kids just plain having fun. Our connector was my college roommate/fellow UT Singer Ben Seiler (her constant shop+play companion and longtime childhood friend from Sweetwater).*

Our UT gang lovingly called her "Aunt Bea" after the Andy Griffith Show character -- specifically because Belinda was always loyal, kind, nurturing, loving and baking goodies for her "Boys of Andy Holt Apartment No. 705."

Aunt Bea and I enjoyed so many inside jokes over the ensuing decades, most related to our Knoxville days and nights with Loomis, Pup, Little Debbie, Benjie, myself (Hot Rod), and so many more. Our shared memories are certainly golden.

Belinda's quick wit, intelligence, and devotion to teaching were overshadowed only by her strong family bonds and faith in God.

*I'll always hear her laughter in my memories.
I'll always carry her devotion inside my heart.*

Rodney Simmona - January 07, 2016 at 08:38 PM

PS

Ahhh Rodney, what a nice tribute to Belinda. You were so special to her and she loved you so much. I am so glad you have so many fond memories with Belinda because those are the ones that have made you smile and will continue to do. Thank you for all your support this past month. You are such a sweetheart and I love ya!!! Thanks again

Pam Smith - January 07, 2016 at 09:16 PM

AL

“ *Belinda always had a smile. Just looking at her pictures or seeing her in person made me want to smile. I know she will be missing dearly but I am sure she is laughing, smiling and rejoicing with her mom, Ann and all the other family members.*

Annette Armour Liner - January 07, 2016 at 07:28 PM

PS

Thank you so much!!!

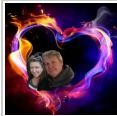
Pam Smith - January 07, 2016 at 08:29 PM



“ *Teresa Fort sent a virtual gift in memory of Belinda Anne Smith*



Teresa Fort - January 07, 2016 at 06:23 PM



May Belinda's memory live on forever in the hearts of those who love her and those she taught! RIP beautiful soul!

Teresa Fort - January 07, 2016 at 06:26 PM

PS

Thank you so much!

Pam Smith - January 07, 2016 at 06:46 PM

DR

Thank you for your kindness

Donna Roy - January 07, 2016 at 06:59 PM



Patricia Edington

Thank you!!

Patricia Edington - January 07, 2016 at 08:56 PM

PS

“ *Beebs- I am so grateful to have shared so many memories with you from childhood to your final day here on earth. I am so grateful to have been side by side with you on your journey the past three and a half years. You have touch so many peoples lives it is unreal. I love hearing stories of you from your friends, staff at Carter Middle School, Messiah Lutheran Church and your family at UT Cancer Institute. The legacy you are leaving will continue to touch people for years to come. Yes, our hearts are broken but we are celebrating your new life in Heaven. You are whole again and that makes my heart smile. I will miss you so terribly but will continue to raise awareness like we talked about many times. I love you so much. Fly high my sweet angel and I know you will walk with me everyday. Until I see you again, Rest in Peace!!! I love you!!!!*



Pam Smith - January 07, 2016 at 05:40 PM

DR

Beautiful Pammy

Donna Roy - January 07, 2016 at 07:03 PM

BO

“ Belinda corresponded to me back in the 70's and 80's after meeting her at Our Lady of the Hills Camp in Hendersonville, NC. I remember when she got her first job at the Head Start program. She enjoyed working with the children. Over the years she had dedicated herself to the care of children. Always wanting the best for them! Belinda thank you for all your care. We will remember it forever.



Boone - January 07, 2016 at 05:31 PM

PS

Thank you so much

Pam Smith - January 07, 2016 at 05:42 PM

PC

I met Belinda when she came to Carter Middle School. We quickly became friends and talked and laughed a lot. I worked in the office and I knew if March 15th was a school day she would not be there - being her birthday she had no intention of working that day. She would tell me several days before "you know I'm not going to be here". I love you and will miss you friend. Pam Clift

Pam Clift - January 07, 2016 at 10:42 PM

PS

Thank you so much!

Pam Smith - January 08, 2016 at 05:49 PM

DR

“ *Sister's forever and ever...I love you with all my heart.*



Donna Roy - January 07, 2016 at 04:58 PM