



# **Mona C. Smith**

JUL 25, 1940 - JUL 26, 2017



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Funeral Home and Cremation Services

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## **Mona C. Smith**

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**M**ona was born July 25, 1940 in Floyd, New York, to Lynn and Olive (Gerow) Charles. She graduated with a Diploma in Nursing from the St. Luke's School of Nursing, in Utica, New York, which qualified her to obtain her Registered Nursing license. She married Ronald P. Smith on September 23, 1961, in Westernville, New York. In 1977 she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

During her working career, she worked as a staff nurse in several hospitals, and coordinated the startup of the initial cardiac unit at Sartori Hospital in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Also, she worked as a Nursing Instructor at the Allen School of Nursing in Waterloo, Iowa. Later, she supervised the Cardiac Rehabilitation Unit at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

After Ron retired in 1993, they began to winter in Frostproof, Florida. Mona enjoyed her many friends in Cedar Falls, Iowa, as well as Frostproof and Leesburg, Florida. Most recently she enjoyed many activities at Highland Lakes Development – the swimming pool, bingo, feast-and-fun, and happy hour. Mona loved nursing, and attending to those in need. She checked weekly blood pressures of many. She also believed in the saying: "Love people and cook them tasty food." Her granddaughter claimed, "Grandma doesn't make any bad food." Impressively, her talent was mostly self-taught, of which she passed her culinary gifts on to her children and grandchildren.

Mona is survived by her husband, Ronald, son Peter (Leslie) Smith of Ann Arbor, MI, daughters, Kimberly (Gerald) Porter of Menomonie, WI and Heather (Ashley Yelds) Smith of Shanghai, China. She is further survived by two granddaughters, Hannah Smith and Madeline Smith.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sisters Leona Hammond, Betty Rogers, Patricia Jones, and Sharon Charles.

A private family celebration of life is planned for a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Cornerstone Hospice and Palliative Care or to the donor's choice. [www.cshospice.org](http://www.cshospice.org)



## Obituary

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Condolences may be shared on the tribute wall.



## Tribute Wall

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MM

**Mary Ann Meyer** posted:

I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Mona. She was a lovely and caring person. Remembering our fun days in Campfire, especially summer camp at Ingawanis. Our early morning swim time and jogging at the UNI dome. Especially our walking to the Rec Center to exercise, even in the snow! What wonderful times we had! Mary Ann Meyer

August 5 at 4:45 AM

GL

**Grace Lanzetta** posted:

I got to know Mona over visiting my dad each summer in Highland Lakes with my two girls. We always knew we would find 'Miss Mona' in the pool water walking around 5pm. She was there every late afternoon faithfully and often it was just the 5 or 6 of us. When the sky would darken with the daily afternoon summer storms, and everyone else would get out afraid of lightening strike, she would still keep walking knowing that the clouds always made a ring around Highland Lakes keeping it in the eye of the storm. She was brave and funny, smart and kind. We enjoyed her company immensely, especially her stories of her old nursing days. I am sorry that I didn't go to the Highland Lakes 4th of July Potluck this year to try the deviled eggs she told me she always makes as 'this way I always take home a clean plate because everyone loves them.' I will miss Miss Mona and am so sorry for her family that she spoke so well of, and the Highland Lakes community. Grace, Alessia and Valentina Lanzetta

August 4 at 11:16 AM

MS

**Merle And Carol Stein** posted:

Ron and family, we just heard of Mona's passing, we are so very sorry, she will be missed by all of our Feast and Fun friends and her sweet smile. Merle and Carol Stein

August 3 at 10:55 AM

JP

**Jay And Susie Pettey** posted:

We were greatly saddened to learn of Mona's passing. We are so sorry for your loss. Mona always said hello and ask "How are you doing?" I loved her carrying ways and quick wit. She will be greatly missed.

July 31 at 4:45 PM



## Tribute Wall

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TR

**Tracy Rake** posted:

Ron, Peter, Kim and Heather -Mona was a much beloved presence in my childhood. From playing over at your house as kids, to the guidance she gave during Camp Fire Girls. Such a quick wit and sense of humor. I'm so sorry for your loss. I only hope you find some comfort from each other and the love that you hear others had for this wonderful woman.

July 31 at 3:53 PM

LL

**Linda Lambert Lacoste** posted:

Oh I just gasped out loud reading this. I am so sad to learn of Mona's passing. One of my earliest and most important mentors, I can still hear her laughing at some antic we all did and then barking at us the next minute for being dumb enough to do it. I loved her so much. My heart grieves for you all!

July 31 at 1:49 PM

MM

**Mary Beth Marlar** posted:

This is very sad news indeed. Mona was my roommate in nursing school over 50 years ago, and we shared so many, many good times and a few anxious moments. Although, as often happens, our paths went in different directions, whenever we saw each other, we could pick up a conversation as though no time had elapsed since our last visit. It makes me very sad to think that we won't have those visits and opportunities to reminisce about times gone by, but I feel blessed to have so many memories of time spent with Mona. My condolences to all of her family and everyone who loved her. Rest In Peace my very, very special friend. Love, Mary Beth Marlar

July 29 at 5:41 PM

LS

**Larry & Shirley Strayer** lit a candle in honor of Mona.

Ron & family, We want to express our deepest sympathy for your loss of Mona. We enjoyed her friendship & knowledge of healthcare & helping others with their problems. We also enjoyed great times together at Sun Ray Church & Clubhouse gatherings. We definitely like her biscotti, she shared with us many times. May happy memories carry you through the days ahead at this sorrowful time. Larry & Shirley Strayer



July 29 at 5:50 AM



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BM

**Barbara Meysenburg** posted:

Ron, Peter, Kim and Heather, I cannot imagine the depth of your sense of loss for I as a long ago friend of Mona's feel that something very special has been ripped away from me. Mona and I shared special years together as we worked and played together. I wish I could adequately share with you some of the many memories I have of the times and events in which she supported, encouraged, challenged, laughed at and with me and of course fed me! What a woman she was! I will be with each of you in remembrance as you deal with this greatest of loss. Barbara Meysenburg

July 28 at 4:56 PM

JN

**Jodi Nottger** posted:

I'm not even sure how to begin to talk about Mona. She was like a second mother to me. I learned so much about life, love, dedication, and honesty from this wonderful woman. She was a good listener and I could always count on her to tell me exactly what she thought good or bad. She advocated, and went to bat for our Camp Fire group and helped me learn about hard work and digging in and having fun. I never pass a strawberry without thinking about Mona Smith. My thoughts and prayers are with you Ron and to Kim, Heather, and Peter. Jodi Nottger

July 28 at 4:55 PM

BB

**Barbara Brown** posted:

Ron and Family.....Sorry to hear of Mona's passing. Know that my thoughts are with all of you. Thanks to her many had her compassion and help when they needed it the most. Barbara Brown

July 28 at 11:40 AM

SW

**Sharon Hoffmann-Wambold** posted:

Oh my, my heart is filled with sadness and great joy in having had the opportunity at several times in my life to share time and life with this beautiful lady. I am saddened that the world has lost such a caring soul and Ron, your soulmate. I remember with great joy, meals served in Leesburg and fellowship shared around the table....always an open door for me and my traveling companions. Pool days in CF, memorable....and my first encounters--cardiac rehab at UNI.....Mona was an inspiration.....I am glad I got to wish her one more happy birthday. Ron, to you and the family, I am crying a tear for you here in Germany and holding you all up in prayer for the happy memories you created over a lifetime and the smiles that will shine on your hearts forever. My deepest sympathy to you for your loss and thank you for sharing Mona with me!! (and the rest of us!)

July 28 at 9:19 AM



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FD

**Frances & Ed Dennis** posted:

Mona will be missed. She was a great neighbor and friend. She was a very compassionate woman. She listened and helped in anyway she could from a nurses standpoint. We love to play fast track for fun every Sunday evening. She always had a cute and sly look on her face before she made her play. Look out men! Mona enjoyed flowers, good music, and rich desserts. We are so glad our paths met the last 6 years. Rest in peace, dear friend.

July 28 at 9:04 AM

CO

**Carol Omotola** August 1 at 9:08 AM

My Dear pool buddy Mona will be missed by all who knew her. Her smiles were heartwarming and true. The great discussions and jokes will be surely missed. Our condolence to the family and friends.

MM

**Mary Marlar** July 30 at 7:32 AM

Learning of Mona's death was indeed very sad for me. She and I were roommates in nursing school over 50 years ago. We shared many, many happy times and a few anxious moments too. Although our lives took us far apart geographically, whenever we had the chance to visit, the distance disappeared and we picked up the conversation as though we had been together yesterday. Invariably, our talks started with catching up on what was happening in each of our families. Children and grandchildren provide endless topics of conversation for moms and grandmothers and Mona and I were no exceptions. It saddens me to know that those visits are ended now, but I have great memories of my very special friend which I will always treasure. My condolences to all of Mona's family and everyone who loved her. Rest In Peace, dear friend. Love, Mary Beth

LA

**Lynne Abner** July 30 at 7:31 AM

Ron, we were so saddened to hear of Mona's passing. She was one special lady and a good friend to all who knew her. She helped many people, in many ways. We've lost a good friend and heaven has gained another angel. May she rest in peace. God bless you and your family. Ernie and Lynne Abner

BO

**Betty Olson** July 29 at 12:43 PM

Ron, Peter, Kim and Heather, I am so sorry to hear of Mona's passing. Many memories have been running through my mind - all great, happy and fun times. Being your neighbor across the street while growing up, I spent a lot of time in your home. Mona always made sure I was taken care of and well fed. Probably my most special memories are from Camp Hantesa and Camp Ingawanis both as a camper and camp counselor. I remember at Camp Ingawanis, I woke up with a tick on my eye and she had to pry it off with tweezers and oil. There are many other memories of our times with Camp Fire Girl, playing "Kick in the Can" in the neighbors and chasing fireflies. Thinking of you, Love, Betty Olson (1822 Orchard Drive Neighbor)





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FD

GS

**Guilford.S** July 29 at 4:31 AM

Sorry to hear of mona,s death. She was a great friend to all in sunray when they lived here. She was the first to bring food and help in any way she. Could. We enjoyed our pool time together at jane.s you will be missed doretta Bill Guilford

FM

**Fran & Bill Martel** July 28 at 12:11 PM

We are both so very saddened to learn of Mona's death. When we return to FL and go to the pool in the late afternoon, it will just never be the same without Mona there. We had some lively conversations there and she filled us in on the BOD meetings when we didn't go. She also got after us if we didn't go and threatened to stop filling us in!! She introduced us to the game of fast track. She was a wonderful cook and shared quite a few of her recipes. She was just a wonderful, caring, considerate, helpful friend to all. This picture of Mona is just beautiful--a wonderful image to remember her by. Our love and prayers to Ron and the family, Fran & Bill Martel



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Mona by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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