



Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith

January 27, 1962 - June 12, 2016

Tara Suzette Smith, 54, passed away Sunday, June 12th, at her home in Ore City after battling Stage IV breast cancer. She was born January 27, 1962, in Gladewater, Texas to Huey Paul and Frances Ann Thomas.

Tara graduated from Ore City High School with the class of 1980. She married Lelon Rex Smith, Jr on May 17, 1982 at Walnut Creek Baptist Church.

She was an exceptionally caring and compassionate woman to all of those fortunate enough to meet her. Her generous nature, humble spirit, and positive outlook is greatly cherished and will be deeply missed.

Tara is survived by her husband, Lelon Rex Smith Jr; three daughters and their husbands, Heather and Clint Steelman; Jessica and Guy Kelley; Crystal and Alton Reel; three grandchildren, Colton, Nolan, and Cayden Steelman; parents, Huey and Frances Thomas; two brothers, Timothy Thomas; Taft Thomas and wife Kathleen Thomas; niece, Maren Thomas.

She was preceded in death by paternal grandparents, Johnnie and Lillie Belle Thomas; maternal grandparents, Lake and Linnie Belle Bain.

A Memorial Service will be held Friday, June 17 at 3:00 pm in the McWhorter Funeral Home with Bro. Richard Perkins and Bro. David Mayhan officiating. Music to be performed by Jay Michael Ratcliff.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent in her name to Texas Oncology-Longview Cancer Center c/o Norma, 1300 N 4th Street, Longview, TX 75601.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 17. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

McWhorter Funeral Home
1074 St. Hwy 300
Gilmer, TX 75645
(903) 734-7070
info@mcwhorterfh.com
<https://www.mcwhorterfh.com>

Service

JUN 17. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

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1074 St. Hwy 300
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Tribute Wall



“ *McWhorter Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith*



McWhorter Funeral Home - June 15, 2016 at 02:42 PM

TS

Whata beautiful tribute to Mrs. Tara. We are so truly sorry for your loss. Praying for you all.

*Love
Huey, Tessa and kids*

Tessa sessions - June 15, 2016 at 08:39 PM

TC

Beautiful, prayers for Rex and the girls, and family. She will be missed.

Thelma Caldwell - June 20, 2016 at 08:35 AM

SF

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.*

*Sincerely,
Steve Fangers
214-718-7660*

Steve Fangers - October 20, 2017 at 08:33 AM

WJ

“ *Winifred Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith*



Winifred Jackson - June 19, 2016 at 09:08 PM

PM

“ *Perry And Jackie May lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith*



Perry and Jackie May - June 18, 2016 at 07:02 PM

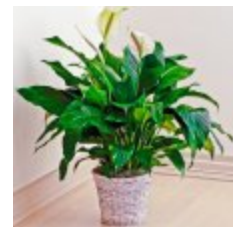
JM

You are all in our thoughts and prayers. May you find comfort in you many memories. May God give you strength and peace during your sad times. God Bless you all, Perry and Jackie May

Jackie May - June 18, 2016 at 07:04 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith.*



June 17, 2016 at 10:46 AM

BC

“ I cannot put just one memory of Aunt Tara, there are far too many. But, in all of them I can remember that she made me feel loved. She took care of her nieces and nephews like her own children. We would literally spend days at a time at her house during the summers, and she was always so patient dealing with 4 or 5 or 6 or more (mostly girl!) children. She made homemade play doh. She made muffins for breakfast. She canned in the summer, and even coached Elvie and me through our first canning session over the phone. Did I mention she was patient? Her chicken spaghetti was a favorite. She showed love through acts of service. I will never forget the sound of her laugh and the countless cake and coffees set around her dining table. Her home was home to anyone. We will miss Aunt Tara, but will always smile when we remember her.

Billie-Jo Carpenter - June 17, 2016 at 10:15 AM

CF

“ I've had the opportunity to work with Jessica for the past 3 years at the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, she is one of the nicest people here in the office. I had the opportunity to meet Mrs. Smith at the Texas Oncology 5k run/walk last month and I could see where Jessica gets her smile.

My thoughts and prayers are with Jessica and her family during this difficult time.

Cynthia Fagan

Cynthia Fagan - June 17, 2016 at 09:01 AM

DB

“ Dan & Linda Butler purchased the Fields of Europe for Spring for the family of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith.



Dan & Linda Butler - June 16, 2016 at 04:33 PM

PK

“ My son, Guy, is married to Jessica and on several trips to visit them, I had the opportunity to meet this wonderful woman and her family. I'm grateful that Guy had such a wonderful mother-in-law. The Smith family is in my heart and prayers to all during this difficult time.

Paula Kelley

Paula Kelley - June 16, 2016 at 01:11 PM

GJ

I cannot help but think how fortunate Paula and I are to have such a wonderful family that our son Guy became part of. Tara's love and care can never be fully be acknowledged. I am so grateful to Rex, his beautiful daughters and especially Jessica who is the love of Guy's life. My sincere sympathy to the Smith family for this immense loss. All my love, Guy's dad

Guy F. Kelley Jr - June 16, 2016 at 01:40 PM

EH

“ Mrs. Tara was an amazing woman. I have so many wonderful memories of her. Mr.Rex, Heather, Jessica, Crystal, and the rest of the family my thoughts and prayers are with yall.

Erin Buchanan - Hufstetler - June 15, 2016 at 10:31 PM

BR

“ Billy and Jennifer Rogers purchased the Multicolor Pastel Mixed Flower Standing Cross for the family of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith.



Billy and Jennifer Rogers - June 15, 2016 at 08:55 PM



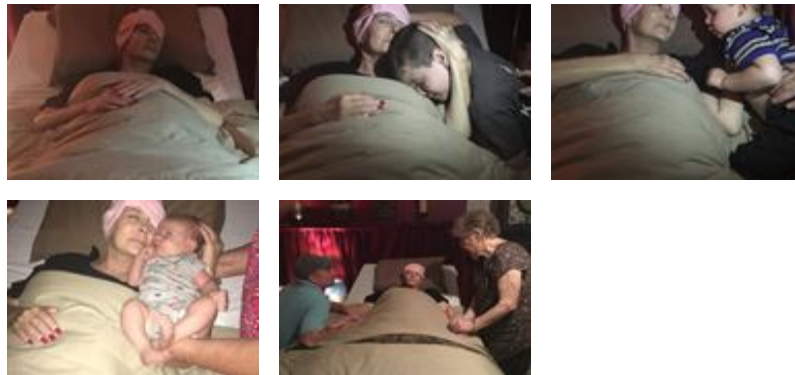
“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith.



June 15, 2016 at 03:27 PM



“ 184 files added to the album LifeTributes



McWhorter Funeral Home - June 15, 2016 at 02:24 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith.*



June 15, 2016 at 12:32 PM



“ *To the entire Thomas and Smith families,
May God truly give you the 'peace that passes all understanding' as you go through this time of grieving. Hallelujah that we do not grieve without hope--and even rejoicing--that Tara is a home with our Lord! I only met her once, but remember her gentle spirit, which I am sure lives on in each of you. May God truly comfort you today. Karen Fenn*

Karen Fenn - June 15, 2016 at 05:19 AM



“ *To all the Family,*

Our thoughts and comforting prayers are with you all. Tara, was such a sweet lady. She will be missed by the whole community.

Love to all, Keith & Denise Burks

Denise Burks - June 14, 2016 at 09:06 PM

LB

“ *Leslie Bockmon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith*



Leslie Bockmon - June 14, 2016 at 08:57 PM

LI

“ *My condolences to the family. My daughter went to school with Jessica and hung out and there mother was very sweet women. Prayers for all.*



Lisa - June 14, 2016 at 08:37 PM

TH

“ *Tara was a very loving and caring friend. He girls have a lot of her in them. Heather, Jessica, and Crystal, my heart hurts for you. I love you girls like my own. Rex may God comfort you through this difficult time. Prayers for all of you. Lord please put your arms around this family and help them in the weeks to come. Love y'all*



Teresa and Gary

Teresa Hufstetler - June 14, 2016 at 07:55 PM

AS

“ *We were sorry to hear about Tara's passing. She was such a sweet and kind person. Rex, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Love you Lots! Anita & Johnny Smith.*

Anita Smith - June 14, 2016 at 07:26 PM

CJ

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with Heather and her entire family in the passing of her mother. Thanks to the family for the T-L-C given to Tara in her lengthy illness. May the Lord bless and keep you.

Charles & Charlotte Johnson

Charles & Charlotte Johnson - June 14, 2016 at 05:56 PM

CC

“ Chuck & Risa Castloo lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Tara Thomas Smith



Chuck & Risa Castloo - June 14, 2016 at 02:50 PM

DD

“ Tara was such a sweet lady and always willing to lend a helping hand with anything needed. She was always so supportive in anything we did growing up and thereafter. She will be dearly missed by her family and anyone who knew and loved her. I am thankful to have known her. She had such a kind heart and quiet presence about her. Many continued prayers to Rex and the Girls and Grandchildren and all of the rest of her friends and family.

Darbi Davis



Darbi Davis - June 14, 2016 at 11:01 AM