



Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas

July 16, 1934 - September 11, 2020

Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas, of San Antonio, passed away on September 11, 2020 at the age of 86. She was born July 16, 1934 in Wichita, Kansas to S. Lewis and Ardis W. Smith. She graduated from Kansas State University in 1956 with a Bachelor of Arts in English; that same year she married Maurice D. "Mark" Rucas. They raised three children; Scott, Stan and Amy Raff. During which time they moved to Santa Fe, NM, Orange, TX., Waco, Corpus Christi, and finally settling in San Antonio in 1971; where she received master's degrees in education from Trinity University, St. Mary's and Incarnate Word.

She worked in education for many years as a teacher, counselor, and testing diagnostician. In her late 40's, she changed careers to accounting, attending UTSA, became a CPA and worked for Valero until retirement.

She was an active member of the First Presbyterian church in San Antonio for over 40 years; acting as a Deacon, attending Bible study classes, and operating the library. She volunteered for Loaves and Fishes and The Christian Dental Clinic.

Her retirement years were spent snow skiing in Colorado, traveling to Europe where she would spend several months each year in France. She especially loved Paris, visiting museums and cultural sites, meeting people in café's, and perfecting her French.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Maurice D. "Mark" Rucas. She is survived by her brother Frederick Smith of Wichita, KS, her three children Scott, Stan, and Amy, and her six grand children Hailey, Zachary, Mark, Catherine, Justin and Megan.

Visitation will be from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, September 20, 2020 at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North, 3401 Cherry Ridge Drive. The Service will begin at 1:30 P.M. on Monday, September 21, 2020 at First Presbyterian Church. A Private Interment for family will follow at Mission Burial Park North.

Cemetery Details

Mission Park Funeral Chapels and Cemetery Dominion

20900 IH 10 W
San Antonio, TX 78257
(210) 698-5252
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **20**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Service

SEP **21**. 1:30 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
404 N. Alamo
San Antonio, TX 78205

Tribute Wall



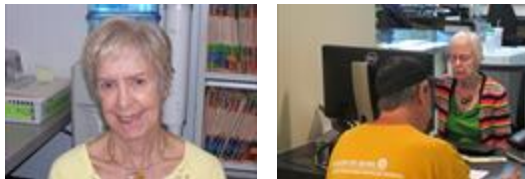
“ *Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemeteries created a Webcast in memory of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - September 18, 2020 at 06:26 PM

SD

“ *I was so sorry to hear of Ms. Smittie's passing. She was a sweet lady who had lots of love for our staff and patients here at SA Christian Dental Clinic. Smittie was a committed volunteer for over 12 years and we are so grateful to have had her as a part of our family here. My deepest sympathies to her family and friends, we are lifting you all up in prayer.*



Sarah Echandy, Chief Operations Director - October 06, 2020 at 04:06 PM

GC

“ We are so sorry to have JUST learned of Smittie's passing. She was part of our loving volunteer group and one of those we often called "loyalists" who stuck with us during the transition to Haven for Hope's campus. Smittie was ready to do anything and had a true servant's heart for folks in need of access to care. She will be deeply missed by us all.

Gloria Canseco, CEO
San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic

Gloria Zúniga Canseco - October 05, 2020 at 04:43 PM

HR

“ My grandma was one of my favorite people. As I've gotten older, I've tried to emulate her more and more. I'd like to think I inherited her love of education, travel, cheese, wine, and baked goods. I still can't believe she's gone! I can still picture her big smile and hear her laugh like she's here. I'll love her forever!

Hailey Rucas - September 25, 2020 at 01:27 PM

TM

“ I got to know Smittie as we both volunteered at the San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic on Tuesday afternoons for many years. BJ Neal was the third member of our "team." Smittie became a very special friend during those years, sharing fascinating stories and a multitude of adventures. We had many common interests. I cherish her memory and will miss her deeply.

Toni Murgo

Toni Murgo - September 23, 2020 at 01:08 PM

EP

“ My husband and I always enjoyed visiting with Smittie at First Presbyterian church. Wednesday nights were always a special time to see her and visit. She and I also shared a love for the San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic where both of us volunteered - not on the same day, but still, we often visited about our experiences there.

I admired the way that she never stopped wanting to learn and expand her thinking. She was always faithful to a lecture series that used to be held annually at the church where highly respected and known theologians were invited to speak, and she always looked forward to them. Frequently, it seemed she had already read their writings before they got there, wanting to be familiar with their subject. Whenever she was here, she was faithful to the Thursday morning Bible study. And then there was always her excitement about France - going over there alone for new adventures. What spunk!!

We will miss her. This pandemic has kept all of us - at least we seniors - away from the church community for too long, and I'm sorry that she will not longer be with us. But thanks be to God that she now knows the fullness of the promises God has made to all his own. We regret that we are unable to be there, but we will be there in spirit. She was special to all of us who knew her.

Emily Peeples

Emily Peeples - September 21, 2020 at 11:34 AM

DM

“ *Smittie was our across-the-street neighbor on River Way in San Antonio. We always admired and enjoyed her "spunk," intelligence and zest for life. Talking with her about her adventures in France was a total delight. Sharing similar political attitudes, we had wonderful "complaint fests" about Republicans and Trump in particular. We sorely miss her; her smile, wave and chats.*

Don McRee and Jill Wilson

Donald McRee - September 20, 2020 at 08:42 PM

SR

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Sue Rucas - September 19, 2020 at 01:38 AM

SR

“ *5 files added to the tribute wall*



Scott Rucas - September 18, 2020 at 05:17 PM

JB

“ Jane Blackburn purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas.



Jane Blackburn - September 18, 2020 at 03:27 PM

FD

“ From your Home in Paris HOTEL JEANNE D'ARC purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas.



From your Home in Paris HOTEL JEANNE D'ARC -
September 18, 2020 at 12:42 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Stan Gregory Rucas - September 18, 2020 at 12:16 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Stan Gregory Rucas - September 18, 2020 at 10:10 AM



“ *Godiva Gold Ballotin (36 pc) was purchased for the family of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas.*



September 18, 2020 at 08:24 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Delphine Grasset - September 18, 2020 at 07:12 AM



“ *Sweetnessss from your friends in Paris MERCI Smittie Delphine*

Delphine Grasset - September 18, 2020 at 06:05 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Jeanne d'Arc team - September 18, 2020 at 03:26 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas.*



September 17, 2020 at 11:17 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Amy Raff - September 17, 2020 at 10:25 PM



“ *Always going to church together!*



Catherine Rucas - September 17, 2020 at 10:14 PM



“ *All your friends at STANLEY Security purchased the Sacred Garden Spray for the family of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas.*



All your friends at STANLEY Security - September 17, 2020 at 02:22 PM

AC

“ *Smittie and I were close friends for many years. We were traveling companions on a few trips to France.*

I'll miss her terribly.

Alan Cutler



Alan Cutler - September 17, 2020 at 12:57 PM

SR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Scott Rucas - September 17, 2020 at 11:18 AM



“ *Sacred Garden Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas.*



September 17, 2020 at 10:42 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Ardis "Smittie" Rucas.*



September 17, 2020 at 10:33 AM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - September 16, 2020 at 05:59 PM