



Lela Smith

May 7, 2017

Lela Smith, residing in Mount Pleasant SC for the past four years, but a long time resident of Columbus GA, passed away peacefully at 84 years of age. She was a wonderful friend, a faithful wife, a great sister, a loving daughter, and a devoted mother.

Lela initially attended Business College and was employed as a secretary, but then later became an "Avon Lady" so she could be home more with her family. Lela sold Avon for over 35 years and during that time made many close friendships that she maintained to the present day. Lela also had many friendships from her church home in Columbus GA over the forty five years she lived there. She maintained all these friendships even after her move to South Carolina through phone calls, letters, and visits from family and friends.

Several decades ago, she had won a writing competition from the Columbus Ledger Enquirer newspaper for her article about her "darn cat". She was quite tickled with the award and it was very unexpected. A photo of she and the cat was published in the newspaper along with her article.

Lela battled with cancer since 2004, but did it on her terms. She refused any treatments that "would make her feel bad", and surprisingly had very few side effects from her treatments which kept the cancer from progressing. She wanted to enjoy her time with friends and family, and decided "quality of life" was most important to her. She was active in her "independent living apartment" until ten days before her death, staying strong until she was too weak to function independently. She said, "I am 84 years old, I have had a good life, and I am ready to go". She is now with the Lord.

The family asks that no donations or flowers be sent.

There will not be a local service.

Comments



“ It has been nearly a year since my dear long-time friend, Lela Smith, passed away. I still think of her and miss our letters and phone calls. It is a blessing to have known Lela, as young mothers, and later as across-the-miles friends. Blessings to her family. Gail Jones, Duluth, Georgia

Gail Jones, Duluth, Georgia - April 06, 2018 at 12:01 AM



“ Mrs. Smith was my "Avon Lady". She was one of the first people to welcome me (the young black woman who had bought a house) to her neighborhood in Columbus, GA. Mrs. Smith gave me and my late mom encouragement when I was told I have MS. I will always remember her ready smile, kind words, and courage.

Virginia B Bell - May 17, 2017 at 02:57 PM