



## Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith

December 1, 1944 - April 22, 2024

Judy Gleaton Connell Smith, 79, born December 1, 1944, a lifelong resident of Plant City, died peacefully April 22, 2024, surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, James “Jim” H. Connell; and her parents, W.L. “Bill” and Magaline Jent Gleaton. She is survived by her husband of 9 years, Phillip “Phil” C. Smith; children, William “Bill” J. Connell (Jayme), Carrie L. Mahon, and Kay Mullis; grandchildren, Shelby Conrad (Klay), Jackson Connell, Maggie Mahon, Martie Mahon, and James Mullis (Kerry). Judy was crowned the first Little Miss Plant City in 1955, and was the head cheerleader at Plant City High School. She graduated from Florida Southern College with a degree in Education, and she taught at Jackson Elementary School, and Turkey Creek Junior High School for 27 years. Judy was a farmer for the entirety of her adult life, as she shared a poultry and cattle farm with her late husband Jim, and continued to live on the farm until her passing. Judy watched thousands of ball games during her life as her children and grandchildren have played and coached high school and college athletics over the past 42 years. She also enjoyed working at the Parkesdale booth at the Strawberry Festival for most of her retirement years. Judy was blessed with a second marriage to Phil Smith in 2015, and they have enjoyed traveling and spending time with their families over the past decade. A funeral service will be held on Monday, April 29th at 11:00 A.M. at First Baptist Church Plant City, 3309 James L. Redman Parkway, where the family will receive friends at 10:00 A.M. Committal to follow at Memorial Park Cemetery, Plant

City. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the South Florida Baptist Hospital Foundation at 301 N. Alexander St., Plant City, FL 33563; the H.B. Plant High School Girl's Basketball Program at 2415 S. Himes Ave, Tampa, FL 33629; the Quincy Notre Dame High School Foundation at 1400 S. 11th St., Quincy, IL 62301; or you could take your mother to dinner tonight, and let her know how much she is loved. Expressions of condolences at [www.HopewellFuneral.com](http://www.HopewellFuneral.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Memorial Park Cemetery

2401 North Paul Buchman Hwy  
Plant City, FL 33563

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 29. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church Plant City  
3309 James L Redman Pkwy  
Plant City, FL 33566  
<http://fbcpc.com>

## Funeral Service

APR 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church Plant City  
3309 James L Redman Pkwy  
Plant City, FL 33566  
<http://fbcpc.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith



---

**Hopewell Funeral Home** - April 26, 2024 at 05:19 PM



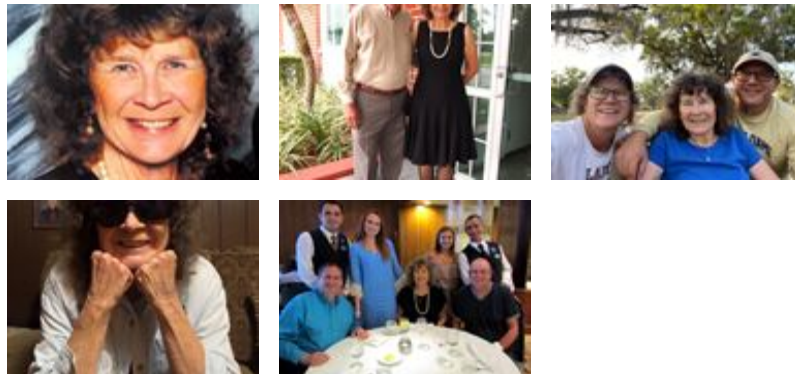
“ Judy lived on the street behind us for many years. She was always so very sweet and kind and I have such fond memories of her. Many prayers for the family. Rest in peace beautiful friend!

---

**Peggy Adams** - May 20, 2024 at 02:35 PM



“ 46 files added to the album Life Tributes



---

**Hopewell Funeral Home** - April 26, 2024 at 05:16 PM

TM

“ *Tim (3409), Alec and Tom (3410), Melanie purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith.*



---

**Tim (3409), Alec and Tom (3410), Melanie** - April 26, 2024 at 01:16 PM

DF

“ *Doris Williams and family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith.*



---

**Doris Williams and family** - April 25, 2024 at 05:48 PM

JM

“ *Judy was a great person and I have many fond memories of us growing up together in Plant City. My sincerest condolences to you all in her loss.*  
*Jackie Hardee McCullers*

---

**Jackie Hardee McCullers** - April 25, 2024 at 10:16 AM

GH

“ *Glenn and Kendra Harrell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith.*

---

**Glenn and Kendra Harrell** - April 24, 2024 at 10:45 PM

GH

“ Glenn and Kendra Harrell purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith.



---

**Glenn and Kendra Harrell** - April 24, 2024 at 10:45 PM

MB

“ I was blessed to have worked with Judy at Turkey Creek for many years, coached Carrie Lynn in volleyball and known their beautiful sweet family. She will be missed dearly. Condolences to the family, wonderful, caring lady.

---

**Marcy Beck** - April 24, 2024 at 05:25 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith.



---

April 24, 2024 at 01:42 PM

SC

“ Oh so sorry to hear of Mrs. Connell's passing. Such a sweet lady, I knew her and Jim (Mr. / Mrs. Connell as I knew them) since I was a kid. Family friends/neighbors for as long as I can remember. Always fun to talk to and always upbeat, she helped me get through high school at one time when I was ready to quit, so glad she was there. I last talked to her just a few weeks ago, her and Phil were getting Barbeque in Brandon and I would see her at Church every now and again. So many prayers for the family, stay strong.

Scott Chase

Scott Chase - April 24, 2024 at 10:19 AM

DM

“ So sorry to hear of Judy's passing. We were friends from Elementary through High School. She will truly be missed.



Diana Lee Nagel McNeill - April 23, 2024 at 11:08 PM

KR

“ Mrs. Judy was one of my all time favorite teachers at Turkey Creek! I have loved being able to stay in touch with her over the years. I am praying for your family as a grieve the loss of such a fantastic lady.

Karen Robinson - April 23, 2024 at 10:49 PM

SW

“ I will forever cherish my time and memories of working and being a friend to Judy and Jim. My prayers for the family. Such a find lady.

Sheila Wiggins - April 23, 2024 at 10:43 PM

AD

“ We sure are thinking of you all. Judy was a spark and we sure enjoyed her! Bob & Ann Dickson, Quincy, IL

Ann Dickson - April 23, 2024 at 09:42 PM

JC

“ Judy Colding lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Judy Gleaton Connell Smith



Judy Colding - April 23, 2024 at 08:44 PM

JC

Thoughts and prayers to FamilyandFriends.

Judy Colding - April 23, 2024 at 08:45 PM

JD

“ Judy and I worked the Strawberry Festival together for eighteen years. She was a remarkable lady and a wonderful friend. Judy is now in the presence of the God she loved so much.



Jeanne Disney - April 23, 2024 at 06:58 PM

FO

“ Mrs Judy was a wonderful lady and will be greatly missed

Franklin O'Neal - April 23, 2024 at 06:30 PM