



## Frances Morgan Smith

November 7, 1940 - April 27, 2024

Frances Jean Morgan Smith, a pillar of strength in her community known for her unwavering dedication to family and tireless commitment to her faith, passed away peacefully at home on April 27, 2024 after a brief, but fierce, battle with cancer. Frances had 83 loving and joy-filled years before she entered Heaven.

Born in Lakeland, Florida on November 7th, 1940, Frances grew up with a deep sense of compassion and full of elegance and charm. She embarked on a journey marked by resilience and determination, shaping the lives of those she encountered along the way. Frances was widowed twice and overcame both tragic losses with grace. Despite the trials of her own life, Frances always held a door open when friends or family needed a home or a hug. Her steady presence could even be glimpsed in the pristine pastries she decorated when she worked in baking, providing an external symbol of her inner fortitude.

Frances leaves behind a legacy of love and empathy that will be cherished by her surviving family members. She is survived by her devoted children, Mark Morgan and Kim Phillips, their spouses, Nancy Morgan and Kelly Phillips, and her five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, who will continue to carry forward her memory with love and reverence. She will also be remembered affectionately by her surviving siblings, Joseph Keil and Barbara Glavas, as well as by her siblings-in-law, nieces, and nephews.

Throughout her life, Frances exemplified the values of kindness, integrity, and generosity, touching the lives of countless individuals through her acts of selflessness. She answered every call for help and fiercely protected those she loved. Her devotion to her faith presented many opportunities to support those in need and she did – giving of her time, talents, and resources whenever possible. While Frances was certainly generous, she was also funny. No matter the situation, she found a way to joke through it. Whether it was giving sassy remark that elicited an eyeroll, dancing in the car with her grandchildren, laughing at herself, or sharing an amusing story, Frances kept people smiling. She also had an appreciation for beauty that she shared with those around her. She loved tea parties, dresses, figurines, and flowers. Indeed, Frances' impact extended far beyond the confines of her immediate circle, resonating deeply within the hearts of all who had the honor of crossing paths with her.

A celebration of life ceremony will be held in honor of Frances where friends and family will gather to celebrate a life well-lived and to pay tribute to the profound influence she had on those around her. The ceremony will be Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 11:00 am at Gentry-Morrison Southside Chapel in Lakeland, Florida.

Frances will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her spirit will continue to inspire and uplift those whose lives she touched, serving as a beacon of hope and love for generations to come. As Jesus said in John 11:25, "...whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."

# Cemetery Details

## Oak Hill Burial Park

4620 US Highway 98 S  
Lakeland, FL 33812

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Southside Chapel  
1727 Bartow Road  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
(863) 688-7679  
t.hall@gentry-morrison.com  
<https://www.gentry-morrison.com/>

## Graveside

MAY 4. 12:00 PM (ET)

Oak Hill Burial Park  
4620 US Highway 98 S  
Lakeland, FL 33812

# Tribute Wall



“ Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Frances Morgan Smith



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - May 01, 2024 at 09:31 AM

LL

*I have been truly blessed to have Fran in my life for the past twenty-seven years. She was a dynamic influence regarding my walk of faith. Her greatest desire was to please her Lord and Savior; and live a life of love to those around her. I appreciate so much that God brought her into my life. I will greatly miss her, even as she lives on in my heart.*

Lillian Loy - May 02, 2024 at 02:00 PM

LS

“ Liz Sayer lit a candle in memory of Frances Morgan Smith



Liz Sayer - May 03, 2024 at 11:38 AM

LS

*Thinking of you always. You had a big influence on my life. I love you. May you rest in peace.*

Liz Sayer - May 03, 2024 at 11:41 AM

LS

“ Aunt Fran and Uncle Joe



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**Liz Sayer** - May 03, 2024 at 11:32 AM

LS

*My Aunt Fran and her brother Uncle Joe. I still remember them this way. RIP Aunt Fran. I will miss you forever.*

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**Liz Sayer** - May 03, 2024 at 11:33 AM

LS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Liz Sayer** - May 03, 2024 at 11:27 AM

LS

*This is how I will always remember my beautiful Aunt Fran. That is me, Liz she is holding. She used to stay with us for a month at a time and always brought sunshine to our house as I was growing up.*

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**Liz Sayer** - May 03, 2024 at 11:29 AM

JG

“ Fran was one of those friends who came into my life at just the right time. I remember the first time I met her she was the most friendly and kind person I have ever known. She walked up to me at church and ask if she could sit with me. That was 22years ago. She was someone I could talk to about anything. I loved her like a sister. I have the promise that I will see her again one day.

Joyce Goodman - May 03, 2024 at 10:01 AM

KP

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



love, and understanding. Help me to turn to You and to trust that You are my help, light, and salvation. Lord, heal me, for my mind rages and entertains vain thoughts. I cast all my cares upon You, and I lay all of my burdens down at Your feet. My hope is in You. Thank You, Lord, for Your patience and grace. I love You, and I know You love me so much more. Lord, I lift in prayer anyone going through a rough time dealing with their

Kimberly Phillips - May 02, 2024 at 09:48 PM

AN

“ Anonymous purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Frances Morgan Smith.



Anonymous - May 02, 2024 at 08:30 PM

YF

“ Your Amerity Family purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Frances Morgan Smith.



Your Amerity Family - May 02, 2024 at 04:53 PM

BC

“ Bull Bay Tackle Company purchased the Sweet Spruce Spray for the family of Frances Morgan Smith.



Bull Bay Tackle Company - May 02, 2024 at 12:34 PM

BC

“ Bull Bay Tackle Company planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frances Morgan Smith.

Bull Bay Tackle Company - May 02, 2024 at 12:34 PM

KP

“ Kimberly Phillips lit a candle in memory of Frances Morgan Smith



Kimberly Phillips - May 02, 2024 at 11:29 AM



“ Deepest Faith was purchased for the family of Frances Morgan Smith.



April 29, 2024 at 02:06 PM



“ Heartfelt Sympathy ~ The Howe Family ~ planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frances Morgan Smith.

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**Heartfelt Sympathy ~ The Howe Family ~** - April 29, 2024 at 02:06 PM