



Mrs. Judy Smythe Black

January 4, 1923 - May 5, 2023

On May 5, 2023 Judy Smythe Black passed away peacefully in the company of family members and her assisted living caregivers. She was 100 years old. An award winning graduate of Pratt Institute in NY, NY she had a long and successful career in Interior Design both as an independent designer and with Ethan Allen Furniture.

Some of her many professional and personal achievements include founding the Public Library in Florham Park, NJ and co-founding the Florhamaires, a community choir that lasted 44 years. Her love of singing was evidenced by her leading or membership in the choirs of every church she belonged to.

Among her many accomplishments in the Interior Design field, Judy designed and decorated two New York Hotels and did a number of TV spots for Ethan Allen Furniture.

She was born in Chicago in 1923, the second of four children. A cheerleader at Chatham HS in Chatham, NJ, she married her high school sweetheart Tom Black in 1948, a marriage that lasted until his passing in 2002. After retiring in 1984, Judy & Tom adopted the carefree Recreational Vehicle Lifestyle that lead them to spend seven winters in San Carlos, Sonora, Mexico where they were very involved with the Casa Franciscana Mission in the neighboring town of Guaymas.

After travelling, they made their home in Bonita Springs and Cape Coral, FL. Judy spent her final years at Keowee Place assisted living in Seneca, SC.

A proud mother, she is survived by her daughter: Donna DiAntonio (Robert), Clemson, SC; and sons: Mark (Norah) Black, Daytona Beach, FL and Paul (Carolyn) Black, Salem, SC; and grandchildren: Lura (Mark) Godfrey, Thomas (Ann) DiAntonio, Katie (Eric) Harris, Matthew (Rachna) Black, Aaron (Aurora) Black, Andrew (Allison) Black and Allison (Matthew) Dreher; and nine great grandchildren.

A Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated at 11:00 am on Tuesday, May 16 at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Clemson, SC. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. Claire's Home for Mothers, 1754 Woodruff Rd, #170, Greenville, SC 29607 or the Casa Franciscana Mission at <https://casafranciscanaoutreach.org>.

Previous Events

Mass of Resurrection

MAY **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Andrew Catholic Church
209 Sloan St.
Clemson, SC 29631

Tribute Wall

GS

“ Glenn & Sandy Simmons purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Judy Smythe Black.



Glenn & Sandy Simmons - May 13, 2023 at 05:37 PM

LO

“ I have so many memories of Aunt Judy - from Christmases at Nana and Grampy's and picnics at the first house in Florham Park to visiting her in Florida and SC. The Peter Pan outing was special. When she asked where we wanted to eat I said The Waldorf Astoria because that was the only place I had heard of in New York. So we went! I remember going to Cape Cod with them as a "baby sitter" and doing all sorts of fun things like clamming and learning to water ski. Didn't do much babysitting. Aunt Judy was fun and had a great laugh. Gardening was special for her, and me, too. I miss her so much... Love to all my cousins... Linda

Linda Oliaro - May 12, 2023 at 05:56 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy Smythe Black.



May 11, 2023 at 11:50 AM

MH

“ My favorite memory of Judy was one time when she, I and her daughter Donna were visiting and chatting. In the midst of our chat Donna and I discussed our difficulties with the church we both attended. After I left, Judy told Donna how funny I was, but Donna was irreverent! We have both laughed about that. My deepest sympathies to Judy’s family. Judy lived a long life and each of you filled it with love.

Monica Hunt - May 09, 2023 at 05:03 PM

MS

“ Aunt Judy was my wonderful aunt and godmother. She introduced me to Manhattan and to how “Ladies” behaved. At 6, she introduced me to Broadway with “Peter Pan”. I have so many wonderful memories of Aunt Judy and family but this is one of my favorites.

Marnie Smythe - May 09, 2023 at 02:33 PM