



# Mary Critton Smith

OCT 11, 1919 - APR 6, 2009



Scan to Visit

# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



# Mary Critton Smith

OCT 11, 1919 - APR 6, 2009

**M**ary Catherine Critton Smith age 89 of St. Clair, MI, fondly known in St. Clair as “Mary Kay” died peacefully Monday, April 6, 2009 after a brief illness. Mary was born October 11, 1919, in Grosse Pointe, MI to the late Helen and Glen Critton.

On February 15, 1941, she married Lieutenant Colonel J. Randolph “Randy” Smith Jr., of the US Army at Grosse Pointe Memorial church. They remained member of G.P. Memorial Church after moving from Grosse Ponte to St. Clair in 1981, where they also became members of the First Congregational Church. Additionally, they were members of the Detroit Yacht Club and the St. Clair River Country Club. Mary was also an avid bridge player and enjoyed her many friendships in her St. Clair bridge groups.

Mary graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1937 with three Varsity letters and was an active golfer all her life, spending many hours on the course in Manistique where as a girl she summered at her family home on Indian Lake. She attended Albion College and Wayne State University as an English major. She was an enthusiastic Cub Scout den mother, Girl Scout leader, and Sunday school teacher. She was also a past President of the Michigan League for Crippled Children and was a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mary was a devoted and loving mother to her two daughters, Marilyn and husband James Blair, Cathie Cairns and husband, Frank Sagorski and to one son, Glen Randolph Smith. She was “Nana” to seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and had many nieces and nephews. She was the caring sister to Sally Jay (Bob) Dent, Audrey (Ernie) Knight, and the late Doris (Jack) Bell. She was the gentle and special companion for nine years to the late Frederick Oderfer of St. Clair. She was preceded in death by Randy, her husband of 57 years, her sister, Doris Bell, and granddaughter, Beth Mary Cairns. Mary loved life, music, the arts and a good laugh. She loved people and entertaining



## Obituary

**Mary Critton Smith**

OCT 11, 1919 - APR 6, 2009

---

and was truly an elegant and classy lady.

Visitation will take place Friday, April 17, from 4:00-7:00PM and Saturday, April 18, 11:00AM-12:00 with a service immediately following at L.C. Friederichs & Son Funeral Home, 214 Trumbull , St. Clair, [www.lcfandson.com](http://www.lcfandson.com). Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army or charity of your choice.



## Tribute Wall

**Mary Critton Smith**

OCT 11, 1919 - APR 6, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

By sad discovery, I saw Mrs. Smith's obituary in an old electronic issue of the GPNews. I knew her through my best high school and college friend Glen. I smiled as I read the words in the obituary, she indeed loved a good laugh and never at anyone's expense. I remembered how Mr. Smith would let Skipper the dog sniff a mixed drink which would make him curl his nose and run around their lovely patio -- she would make Randy stop and take Skipper inside for cookies to make him feel better. One of my friend's moms knew Glen and the family at an earlier time than I did and always joked by saying that Mrs. Smith made every mother in Grosse Pointe look bad by comparison stating that she even warmed Glen's Oreos in the oven. I always loved her taste in decorating, in fact my house today has a den very similar to the one in the Lakeland house so long ago and it's one of the main reasons I bought it. She knew I really liked her decorating ideas and during the years I hung out there, whenever she was about to buy or change something she always showed me what she thinking with the disclaimer "let's not tell daddy just yet"; she was so funny. It sounds like the slice of life I knew her in was quite representative of her life as a whole which is really very comforting. My thoughts are with you. Kevin##imported-begin##Kevin Moran##imported-end##

October 27 at 6:01 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

I just wanted to tell you all how sorry I am that I can't be there with you today to celebrate Aunt Mary's life. I loved Aunt Mary with all my heart and soul and will be holding my own quiet memorial at 9:00am my time today. The thing I remember the most about Aunt Mary is her never ending love and kindness. She never failed to help anyone who needed it. My earliest memory of aunt mary was when I was very young - perhaps 8 or so. She had to pick me up from school because I was very sick and mom wasn't around. She put me to bed, brought me soup and cared for me so lovingly that I have never forgotten this special time with her. My thoughts and prayers are with you Glen, Marilyn and Cathy. I love you all. Julie##imported-begin##Julie Jay##imported-end##

October 27 at 6:01 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Aunt Mary changed the world with patience, warmth and thoughtfulness. Most people use forceful words and actions, but Mary had a greater faith — and a greater effect on those around her. Family and friends will always remember the example she gave on how to live a life well in the spirit of love.##imported-begin##Jeff Jay and Debra Jay##imported-end##

October 27 at 6:01 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Mary Critton Smith**

OCT 11, 1919 - APR 6, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

My dearest mother, I miss you so much already. There were so many things in your obituary that I wanted to add-but I could go on & on about all the wonderful things you did for all of us, right down to the brownie & girl scout leader & cub scout leader you were & the cute little smocking you did on Marilyn's & my little dresses. Most of all I will always remember that you were my friend as well as my mother & I hope & can be that to my own children. - Cathie##imported-begin##Cathie Cairns Sagorski##imported-end##

October 27 at 6:01 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Marilyn, Again I want to express my sympathy. Your mother was a very special person and I always enjoyed her when I was with her at your special occasions. Love, Rand##imported-begin##J. Rand Overdorf##imported-end##

October 27 at 6:01 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary Critton by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit