



Mrs. Laurene Carter Smailes

April 17, 1930 - June 3, 2025

Mrs. Laurene Grace Carter Smailes, 95, of Sylvester, Georgia died peacefully Tuesday morning, June 3, 2025 at Pine Shadows Manor, Sylvester, Georgia. The funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday June 12, 2025 at Evergreen Baptist Church with interment to follow in the Evergreen Cemetery. The Rev. Todd Brooks will officiate.

Mrs. Smailes, beloved mother and grandmother, was born on April 17, 1930 in Sylvester, GA to the late Clarence Edward Carter and Mary Rebecca Herring Carter. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Smailes was preceded in death by her husband, Lt. Col. (Ret) Arja Smailes on September 13, 2014, siblings, Philip Edward Carter, Homer Lindsey Carter, Hazel Geraldine Carter Anderson, Nettie Eloise Carter Axon, J. B. Osborn "Buck" Carter, Lela Latrelle Carter Lane, Shirley Faye Carter Fordham.

A devout follower of Jesus Christ, she cheerfully devoted her entire life serving others. On Sunday you would find Mrs. Smailes teaching Sunday School and regularly attending Evergreen Baptist Church. She also exhibited extraordinary talent in working with people and had established herself as a successful licensed real estate broker in California during the mid 70's. Not to be done, she later earned her Certified Nursing Assistant in San Antonio, Texas, again working with people in need. To put it mildly, she had a love for all people as it was plainly clear to everyone who knew her.

Survivors include her children, Joe David Smailes (Elizabeth Jane), Charles Thomas Smailes (Larissa Ann); Grandchildren: Aubrey Anne Packham,

Joseph David Smailes, Laura Ash, Beth Jane Taylor, Megan McKenna Ostler, Christian Isaac Smailes, Lauren Nicole Smailes, Carter Thomas Smailes, Colter John Smailes and 18 great grandchildren.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday June 11, 2025 from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM at Banks Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Banks Funeral Home
PO Box 550
210 N. Main Street
Sylvester, GA 31791
(229) 776-2055
banksfh@yahoo.com
<http://banks.funeralplan2.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Evergreen Baptist Church
1702 Evergreen Rd.
Sylvester, GA 31791

Burial

JUN 12 (ET)

Evergreen Baptist Church Cemetery
1724 Evergreen Rd.
Sylvester, GA 31791

Tribute Wall

CY

“*Mrs. Laurene is such a beloved lady to all who had the opportunity to know her. She is funny, caring, loving and a true servant of Christ. She always showed her love of the Lord in her actions. She willingly helped anyone she knew in need, just like Jesus! Kelly and I will miss her greatly, but we are thankful that she is with Lord she loves so much. We thank God for His allowing us to know and love her.*

Connie B. Young - June 11, 2025 at 02:44 PM

LM

“*My Aunt, as many already know, was an extraordinary woman! I loved her beyond measure and cannot fathom my life without her in it! To day she will be missed is an UNDERSTATEMENT for sure. Love u Aunt Laurene*

Leisha Fordham McLaughlin - June 06, 2025 at 10:06 PM

SY

“*What an inspiration this lady was! She was warm and friendly, and always active! An independent lady and greatly admired.*

From Tito, the young man who washed her car, and her neighbor, Sue, who met her at the gym several years ago and who always got a friendly wave from her. Tito and I talked and agreed we want her family to know how much we thought of Mrs. Smailes and that you have our sympathy.

Sue Youngblood - June 06, 2025 at 12:59 PM

LP

“ *A wonderful lady & a great friend. She will be missed. God bless & comfort.* ”



Lamar & Betty Potts - June 04, 2025 at 12:57 PM

LP

“ *Lamar & Betty Potts sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Laurene Carter Smailes* ”



Lamar & Betty Potts - June 04, 2025 at 12:51 PM

KW

“ *Kristi H Whittington lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Laurene Carter Smailes* ”



Kristi H Whittington - June 04, 2025 at 09:30 AM

SP

“ *Steve And Lori Potts lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Laurene Carter Smailes* ”



Steve and Lori Potts - June 04, 2025 at 08:10 AM