



Rebekah Pankhurst Smith

August 10, 1958 - July 16, 2018

Rebekah Pankhurst Smith

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Rebekah passed away with her daughter, son and husband by her side Monday at Conroe Regional Medical Center. She was born August 10, 1958 in San Antonio to Reverend Ernest and Sadie Pankhurst and married Herbert Leslie Smith III (Leslie) on June 6, 1987.

Rebekah was a schoolteacher for 35 years, 25 of which were spent with Huntsville Independent School District. She taught home economics at Huntsville High School and kindergarten at Huntsville Elementary School. She then went on to teach early childhood education at Sam Houston State University.

Survivors include her husband, Leslie Smith of Huntsville; children, Sarah and Travis Jordan (TJ) Smith of San Marcos; sisters Esther Stafford of Kingwood, Tina Toole of Palestine and Sue Matthey of San Antonio; brother Carl Pankhurst of Irondale, Missouri; brother-in-law David Smith of Spicewood; sister-in-law Kathy Dorety of Athens; 13 nieces and nephews; 16 great-nieces and nephews; and 1 great-great-niece. Her parents, Sadie Pankhurst and Reverend Ernest Pankhurst, precede her in death.

A gathering of Rebekah's family and friends will begin at 10:00 a.m., with her funeral service to follow at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 21, 2018 at First Baptist Church, 1229 Avenue J, Huntsville, TX.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Huntsville
1229 Ave J
Huntsville, TX

Funeral Service

JUL 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Huntsville
1229 Ave J
Huntsville, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Rebekah Pankhurst Smith*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Merry Christmas my dear friend. I love you and I miss you. Love, Donna*

Donna Paschall - December 21, 2021 at 06:36 PM



“ *Merry Christmas Sista. I miss you and love you so much. Until we meet again. Love, Donna*



Donna Paschall - December 25, 2020 at 12:29 PM



“ *My heart is broken at the Lost of my dear friend. She taught my three youngest daughters in Kindergarten, loved them all individually. We visited her classroom many times even after she was no longer their teacher. I was priveledged to volunteer and get to know her on a completely different level. All of our lives will forever be blessed by her sweet spirit. I will miss her all my days. I loved this dear lady!*

Nancy Gray - July 20, 2018 at 10:25 PM

MW

“ Sorry for your loss. Praying for your family.



Mellicent Sikes Wiley - July 20, 2018 at 08:35 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



July 20, 2018 at 03:28 PM

BF

“ *Blair, Rinker, Smith, Summerside families* purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



Blair, Rinker, Smith, Summerside families - July 20, 2018 at 10:31 AM

JY

“ I had the privilege of teaching with Rebekah in kindergarten. She was a wonderful teacher that truly cared about the children she taught and their families! I got to have lunch with her several times this year and I'm so thankful I did. She loved her family and talked about them all the time. She will truly be missed!!
Janelle Yates



Janelle Yates - July 19, 2018 at 11:48 PM

DC

“ Dennis and Sandra Case purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



Dennis and Sandra Case - July 19, 2018 at 10:47 PM

LL

“ Lynne L. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



Lynne L. - July 19, 2018 at 07:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



July 19, 2018 at 04:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



July 19, 2018 at 02:46 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



July 19, 2018 at 01:09 PM



“ *Starbucks Coffee Condolences* was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



July 19, 2018 at 11:32 AM

BM

“ *My heart is truly broken. We taught kindergarten together for almost twenty years. Rebekah was like a sister to me. We even called each other sisters. If my mom was volunteering that day, Rebekah would give her a hug. She called my mom her “second mom.” Rebekah’s quick wit and infectious laugh helped make our kindergarten team a fun group of ladies to work with. She was a wonderful friend and marvelous teacher. I will miss her every day but I know I will get to see her again one day and give her a hug!* ”

Brenda McCarty - July 19, 2018 at 10:11 AM

BM

“ *Brenda McCarty lit a candle in memory of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith* ”



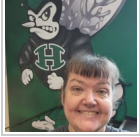
Brenda McCarty - July 19, 2018 at 09:58 AM

RF

“ *My deepest condolences to the Pankhurst/Smith Family. I got to know Rebekah at our neighborhood pool. She was so kind and had a smile for everyone.* ”



Regina Floyd - July 19, 2018 at 08:21 AM



“ *To the Smith family,
Lifting each of you up in prayers of comfort
and understanding. Your Hornet Family is
here to support you in any way we can. Lean
not on your own understanding, but trust in
God that his plan, not ours, is in control. While we never can
understand our loss, we can rest that Becky left a positive impact on
all she encountered.
Hugs and prayers.
Shelley Petkovsek*



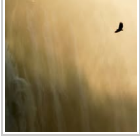
Shelley Petkovsek-Bleekman - July 18, 2018 at 10:06 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of
Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.*



July 18, 2018 at 05:18 PM



“ *LETTING GO (for Leslie)*

*Letting go is hard to do, it is hard to understand.
We planned, for eternity, that we would be hand in hand.
God and time had other plans, they did not check with me.
I sweep the grass, that hides your stone, beneath the shaded tree.*

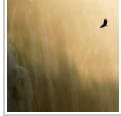
*I promised that I would not cry on, days I came to visit.
It is time that I moved on with life.... but..... really is it?
Death is supposed to break the vows , that we spoke years ago.
Would someone tell my mind and heart, because neither of them
know.*

*I wish that you were here with me, It is hard to carry on.
Even though, I see your grave, my lips wont say you are gone.
Your pillow keeps me company, through my nightly prayer.
Since you cannot be here with me, I will hold it until I am there.*

*The Bible says when Christians die, they are present with the Lord.
I know that God was standing there to welcome you aboard.
Faith is all I have right now, but faith is all I need.
That, one day, we will walk hand in hand, just like we both agreed.*

Larry D. Moore

Larry Moore - July 18, 2018 at 04:12 PM



For family

The Last Moment

Then comes the moment of saying good bye.

Now it is the end, you stop asking "why?".

You search your mind for things never said.

Strength comes from friends and tears that you shed.

What now has to be, you know is for the best.

It is hard to let go, but now she can rest.

Hold to the moments that all of you shared.

The Lord now is waiting, with a place He has prepared.

larry moore

Larry Moore - July 18, 2018 at 04:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.*



July 18, 2018 at 03:28 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.*



July 18, 2018 at 02:54 PM

DA

“ *Debbi & Erica Atkins purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.*



Debbi & Erica Atkins - July 18, 2018 at 12:17 PM

JW

“ *My condolences to the Pankhurst/Smith family. Becky was a beautiful soul who was love loved by many. I will always remember that beautiful smile. Rest softly sweet friend. My love and prayers to the family.*



Jan Weaver-Dugan - July 18, 2018 at 11:48 AM

DA

“ I was so blessed to call Becky my best friend for 40 years. We hit it off immediately after meeting at Scottish Rite Dorm when we both moved into The Pit in Aug of 1978. My family lived overseas at the time and during our college years I went home with Becky on many holidays. They were so wonderful to take in a military brat stray so I wouldn't be alone! The laughs, love, and memories we have shared are some of the best of my life. Though we no longer lived near each other, we have visited when able and talked often. Our daughters are only a year apart. When Erica was 2, I called and had Erica sing *The Eyes of Texas* and *Texas Fight to Becky*. Becky said something like, "Oh my gosh" before saying she had to go. She called back 2 days later and had taught them to Sarah so she could sing those songs to me! I loved it! She wasn't going to let her family be "out-longhorned"! We both loved the song *Silver Wings* and had a very funny story about it from our college days that I won't share here, but since that time we often called each other when either of us heard the song on the radio. I will miss those calls. I'll miss hearing her voice and her laugh. I will miss everything about Becky. She was so full of love for her friends, her students, her life...but mostly for her family. Les was the love of her life and it was inevitable that they would end up married. In one of our last phone calls about 3 weeks ago she told me "Leslie Smith has my heart". "My Sarah" and "My TJ" is how she referred to her beautiful children...they were her world and she was proud of the wonderful people they are. She was proud of what they have accomplished. The pain of her loss is so great, but we will see her again. She is rejoicing in heaven...of that I am sure. Love, Debbi Atkins

Debbi Atkins - July 18, 2018 at 11:40 AM

DP

“ Donna Paschall lit a candle in memory of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith



Donna Paschall - July 18, 2018 at 11:38 AM

DP

“ May God wrap His loving arms around all of you. May He give you comfort, rest, peace and understanding. I loved Rebekah more than words can express. We taught 17 years together and talked almost everyday since retirement. My heart hurts but God will heal all of us. We laughed, cried and have forever love. My prayers to the family. Love you, Donna Tyler Paschall

Donna Paschall - July 18, 2018 at 11:38 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith.



July 18, 2018 at 10:59 AM

 Charlotte Efird

“ Charlotte Efird lit a candle in memory of Rebekah Pankhurst Smith



Charlotte Efird - July 18, 2018 at 10:56 AM

MF

“ *Mary Ann Faulkner lit a candle in memory of
Rebekah Pankhurst Smith*



Mary Ann Faulkner - July 18, 2018 at 10:16 AM

DS

“ *Prayers for peace and comfort for her family.*

Deborah Sledge - July 18, 2018 at 09:47 AM