



Mary Jane Smiley Thompson

February 28, 1937 - February 3, 2024

Mrs. Mary Jane Smiley Thompson departed to her heavenly home on February 3, 2024, surrounded by loved ones. Mrs. Thompson was born in Salisbury, NC in 1937, graduated from Boyden High School, and received her degree in Sociology from the University of NC in Greensboro in 1958. Shortly thereafter, she married Charles Jefferson Thompson (Jeff) and settled in Maryland to raise their family. As the children grew, Mrs. Thompson then entered the Elementary Education field and taught many grade levels throughout her career. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson retired from education and returned to their beloved hometown of Salisbury to enjoy their retirement years with extended family and many friends. In January 2023, they relocated to Midlothian, VA to be near loved ones.

Mary Jane had many interests such as knitting, crocheting, cross stitching, playing bridge and scrabble, sewing, and working puzzles. She was a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church and strongly involved with mission endeavors. She volunteered for many years at Meals on Wheels, Rowan Helping Ministry, NC Tar Heel Girls State (House Mother), Elizabeth Maxwell Steele DAR (former Vice Regent), Rowan Museum History Camp and Celebration of Life Breast Cancer Support Group events. Among her favorite travel adventures were cruises to Alaska and the Panama Canal and several trips to Europe, but she really loved just going to the beach.

Mary Jane is predeceased by her husband of 64 years, Charles Jefferson Thompson (4/23). Left to cherish her memory are her children: Elisabeth Billig and husband Paul, Barrett Thompson and wife Sharon, and Paul Thompson and wife Jen. Jeff and Mary Jane were the loving grandparents of Kelly, Janelle, Matthew, Kent, Jenna, Aaron, William, Sarah, Katherine, and Lauren. In addition, they were the delighted great grandparents of Rebecca, Sawyer, Nicholas, and Colton. Joining the family in grief is Jeff's sister, Judy Monroe and her children Blair Cooper and wife Kimberly, Anne Blume and husband Kevin, and Lynne Johnson and husband Craig along with their families. Also, Lu Wilson and her children Cathryn Smiley Gore and husband Mark, and David Smiley.

Visitation and funeral services in Salisbury, NC are as follows: Visitation will be at Summersett Funeral Home on Saturday, February 17th from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Graveside burial service will be at Rowan Memorial Park on Sunday, February 18th at 1:30pm with Rev. Dr. Mark Conforti officiating.

Memorial donations would be appreciated to Rowan Meals on Wheels or a charity of donor's choice.

Online condolences may be left at www.summersettfuneralhome.com. Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Thompson family.

Cemetery Details

Rowan Memorial Park

4125 Franklin Comm Center Rd
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 636-8751

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 17. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Funeral Home
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 633-2111
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

Graveside Service

FEB 18. 1:30 PM (ET)

Rowan Memorial Park
4125 Franklin Comm Center Rd
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 636-8751

Tribute Wall

HB

“ *Mary Jane and Jeff Thompson. What a lovely couple. We consider them some of our best friends. We met them shortly after moving to Salisbury in 2016. We usually did sit near them in Church. What a delight to know them. Have them as friends and Church Co-workers. Hershell and Kay Ball*

Hershell and Kay Ball - February 17, 2024 at 10:22 AM

BR

“ *Brad & Donna Reynolds purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*



Brad & Donna Reynolds - February 13, 2024 at 05:09 PM

LS

“ *Love Caroline and Courtney Shockley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*

Love Caroline and Courtney Shockley - February 13, 2024 at 08:50 AM



“ *Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*



February 13, 2024 at 08:50 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*



February 13, 2024 at 08:45 AM



“ *The Shockley Family We love you all. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*

The Shockley Family We love you all. - February 13, 2024 at 08:45 AM



“ *David Smiley's Cougar Software Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*

David Smiley's Cougar Software Family - February 12, 2024 at 12:08 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*



February 12, 2024 at 12:08 PM

YD

“ *Mary Jane was a dear, sweet lady. Our thoughts are with her family.*

Yang Family Dentistry

Yang Family Dentistry - February 12, 2024 at 09:05 AM

SL

“ *Stephanie L. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*

Stephanie L. - February 11, 2024 at 05:24 PM



“ *Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*



February 11, 2024 at 05:19 PM

SW

“ *I'm so sorry about Mary Jane. I talked with her not long after my Jimmy passed away at the end of December. She didn't mention being ill again. Please accept my sincere condolences. She was a great friend growing up in Eaman Park and took wonderful care of my mother after moving back to Salisbury. So enjoyed our visits to the beach to see her and Jeff and all the kids and grands when they were on vacations. So sorry for our loss.*

Sue Wooten

Sue Wooten - February 10, 2024 at 01:35 PM

WR

“ Mary Jane and I were both in the class of 1954 at Boyden High School and were friends, though I doubt we ever saw each other after graduation. About two months ago, I went to Galloway Ridge, a retirement home just south of Chapel Hill, for a friend's 90th birthday. There were many people there I did not know, and one of them whom I chatted with told me she had gone to what we then called "WC", now UNC-Greensboro. I asked: what class? She replied: 1958. I said that many of my high-school classmates had gone there who would have been in her class. Did she remember anyone from Salisbury? She quickly replied: Mary Jane Smiley! We both remembered her fondly, even after 65-70 years. My condolences to the family, Wyndham Robertson

Wyndham Robertson - February 10, 2024 at 11:20 AM

GC

“ Gilbert and Mona Kelly, New City Church planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.

Gilbert and Mona Kelly, New City Church - February 09, 2024 at 04:55 PM

GC

“ Gilbert and Mona Kelly, New City Church purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.



Gilbert and Mona Kelly, New City Church - February 09, 2024 at 04:55 PM

GH

“ Gordon & Laurie Hamm planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.

Gordon & Laurie Hamm - February 09, 2024 at 02:07 PM

GH

“ Gordon & Laurie Hamm purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.



Gordon & Laurie Hamm - February 09, 2024 at 02:07 PM

AC

“ Angela, Angie, Brenda Catarineau purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.



Angela, Angie, Brenda Catarineau - February 07, 2024 at 06:15 PM

RM

“ Robert Clamp, MoboTrex planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.

Robert Clamp, MoboTrex - February 07, 2024 at 04:29 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Smiley Thompson.*



February 07, 2024 at 04:29 PM