



Jo Ann Smaha

August 9, 1934 - August 13, 2016

Jo Ann Smaha, 82
Kearney resident

Jo Ann Smaha, 82, of Kearney died Saturday, August 13, 2016 at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Honoring her wishes there will be no services. Memorials are suggested to the family for future designation. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Jo Ann was born August 9, 1934 in Blackwell, Oklahoma to Clyde and Clara (Kelley) Headley. During the Dust Bowl, Jo and her family moved to California. She was a graduate of Ontario High School in Ontario, CA. Following her graduation, Jo married Ralph Grimes. To this union three children were blessed; R. Steve, Sherry Lee and Carol Sue. The family moved to Kearney, NE where she worked as a private CNA providing in home care for many in the area. After a divorce, Jo married Jack Smaha in Kearney, NE. The couple enjoyed many years of marriage before Jack's death in 1997.

In her younger years she enjoyed bowling, singing, and playing the guitar. Jo was a passionate reader. She loved crossword puzzles, game shows and other activities on her computer that stimulated her mind. She has been a

resident at Prairie View Gardens in Kearney since 2012 where she had many friends and acquaintances. She took pride in her grandchildren and great grandchildren and will be remembered for her loving, humorous and witty personality.

Survivors include her son R. Steve Grimes and wife Nancy of Grand Island, NE; daughter Sherry Wilson and husband Ben of Dunnellon, FL; grandchildren Danica (Darrin) Hemphill of Bloomington, IL, Spencer Wilson of Beverly Hills, FL, Sally (Brett) Stimpson of Gretna, NE and Collin Grimes of Riverside, CA; great grandchildren Greyson, Wesley, Colton and Brant Hemphill and Levi Stimpson; brothers Jack Headley of Rocklin, CA, Richard Headley of Roseville, CA; sister Clyda Jean Hartman of Modesto, CA as well as, several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Jo Ann was preceded in death by her parents; sister Sue; husband Jack Smaha and daughter Carol Sue Grimes.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jo Ann Smaha*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *I remember Jo Ann very well when she worked at IGA. She was always cheerful and so much fun. She would sneak into the back of the bakery for 2-3 puffs on cigarette butt from her pocket that she would put out and puff on again later. They had to taste terrible!*

Peggy Hill Verbeck - August 18, 2016 at 08:44 AM



“ *I am very sadden to hear of the passing of one of my favorite people. I was blessed to have been able to stay with Aunt Jo and Uncle Jack on two trips to Kearney. Hanging out with them and my cousins are memories that are very dear to me. And I will always remember her laugh, her sense of humor (I think all Headleys have the same one) and her smile. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Love, Kim Headley Champlin*

Kim Headley Champlin - August 16, 2016 at 08:45 PM

LC

“ I was so saddened to hear of Jo's passing! I knew Jo from her living below us in an apartment house in Kearney and her being one of my Mom's (Gerry Horn) best friends. They used to sing together for nursing homes and such and I loved listening to their harmony! I knew her children as well and babysitting them was my very first babysitting job. Jo Ann came to my parent's 50th wedding anniversary dinner and also attended our daughter's graduation celebration from Nursing school! She was such a wonderful person and I'm sure she will be sorely missed! My thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends!

Sincerely,
Lana (Horn) Christensen

Lana Christensen - August 15, 2016 at 01:50 PM