



Sunshine Greer

June 20, 1926 - May 7, 2015

Sunshine (Reynolds) Greer, 88, of Bryan, TX; passed away on Thursday; May 7, 2015 in Bryan. A celebration of her life is scheduled for Saturday; May 9th at 2 PM at Day Funeral Home Chapel in Madisonville, TX. Pastor Marie Mickey will officiate. A visitation is scheduled for Friday, May 8th from 5-7 PM also at Day Funeral Home Chapel.

Sunshine was born on June 20, 1926 to Milton Murphy Reynolds and Annie Mallie (Kelton) Reynolds in Elwood, Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents and her siblings, Beth Spiller, Walton Reynolds and Grace Wall.

Sunshine was a superb homemaker and cook. She took tremendous pride in all of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She became an alcoholism and drug abuse counselor through a program offered by East Texas Baptist University. This work brought her pride and personal satisfaction in serving others who benefited from her knowledge and support. Sunshine was a tireless volunteer at Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Jefferson, Texas holding multiple offices in the Women's Ministry, including a term as president.

Survivors include her husband, James Roy Greer; her children: Carolyn Smith and husband, Hobie; Milton Greer and wife, Jayne; and Hal Greer and wife, Judy; her grandchildren: Sunnie Hooten and husband, David; Aaron Smith

and wife, Meghan; A.J. Smith; Joshua Greer and wife, Melissa; Annie Greer; Catherine Greer; Ian Greer and wife, Kristin; Holland Rhea Greer and Thomas M. Greer; her great-grandchildren: Blaise, Kannon and Skye Hooten; Hobie and Wyatt Smith; Timothy and Zachary Greer; and Ethan and Adalyn Greer; her siblings: Marie Lohner, Jack Reynolds, Rita Davis, Reed Reynolds, Betty Ann Neal, Vada Robertson, Rebecca Harrell, George Reynolds, G.G. Reynolds and Buddy Reynolds.

Cemetery Details

Allphin Cemetery

Madisonville, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Day Funeral Home
514 E Main St
Madisonville, TX 77864
(936) 348-2621
day.fh@yahoo.com
<https://www.dayfuneralhome.net>

Service

MAY 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

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514 E Main St
Madisonville, TX 77864
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Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Carolyn Elaine Smith lit a candle in memory of Sunshine Greer*



Carolyn Elaine Smith - May 11, 2015 at 11:26 PM

CS

It has almost been one year and I just now read the comments. I miss you so much. There is so much I wish to share but the last thing you heard before you passed came true. I wish I could of seen your face when you found out. Sunnie delivered a healthy baby boy, Steele Dason Hooten on Jan. 5, 2016. I can hear you taking over him if you would of been with here. He is precious, with a sweet personality. Oh, how I miss you and love you with all of my heart. Wish you were here but know you are in a much better place, heaven... I will join you one day and I will run into the arms of our Lord and Savior.

Carolyn Greer Smith - March 25, 2016 at 11:33 PM

JH

“ *Jenny Harrell lit a candle in memory of Sunshine Greer*



Jenny Harrell - May 10, 2015 at 02:15 PM

“ *Mama Sunnie June 20, 1926 - May 9, 2015*

Most of us are fortunate in our lives to have people, or special people, or a person we can count on, look up to, emulate. Mama Sunnie was just such a person for me, and probably for many of you.

*Let's remember some Mama Sunnie-isims. You may have some too. Mama Sunnie smelled of Ester Lauder's Youth dew, Sunnie didn't color her hair, she had it tinted, she taught us that we didn't fart, we pooted. She'd say, *wouldn't that just frost you, *I was just enjoying that, *Heavens to Betsy. *I hated that with a purple passion, *the queen of Sheba, *you are on my list, *par for the course, *fiddle-dee-de, *now I can see said the blind man, and *oh goodie, goodie, goodie! If you acquired something new, like a new car, Mama Sunnie was the first one you would want to show it off too. I can remember Becky bringing three new beautiful business suits over to Sunnie's where she exclaimed, and had a fashion show. She would be as excited for you as if she received it herself! I can still hear her little giggle.*

I'm told growing up with Mama Sunnie was fun real fun! It was the lake every weekend, packing a huge picnic basket complete with potato salad and fried chicken and don't forget those deserts! She loved driving around out in the country – well letting the kids drive. The kids would drive on her lap when they were 3 or 4 years old but by 7, well you were completely on your own. Oops, watch that brake, brake!! And the family would load up the car to go to the drive in movie. First when the kids were little they were in their PJ's then as they got older play clothes. Mama would throw down a blanket and bring on the food.

It has been expressed that growing up, Mama Sunnie made every weekend like a party; she loved throwing parties whether it was your birthday or anniversary, always making “you special” for that moment. She was strict too, her kids always made their bed because if they didn't, they catch it big when they arrived home. When her kids were sick, Mama Sunnie would take special care, bringing the boys to get a model car or Carolyn a special treat. She

took very tender care to insure you were comfortable. That encouraged her kids to want to stay home. Hal actually would go down the stairs on the way to school, walk down the sidewalk with his head hanging low, walking back and forth as she watched from the second story window. When Hal who knew Mama was watching acted especially pitiful (that lil manipulator), she finally would call him in and let him have the day off from school. Mama Sunnie stood as your best advocate, if someone crossed her children or her loved one, oh they had better watch out. She had your back until you arrived home and then, well, you might get in trouble.

I met her when I was Milton's girlfriend, in 1976. Most likely not the best time in Sunnie's life. Sunnie was battling a disease that runs on both sides of my family, alcoholism. She wore her disease well, as a matter of fact, I probably wouldn't have noticed except it was pointed out to me. She supported Milton and me as we became engaged and married; she welcomed me as one of her own. On our first anniversary June 25, 1978 Sunnie found herself in a pickle and went to rehab. Most folks go for at least a month to try to recover but I think Mama Sunnie had enough after 10 days. Sunnie found the strength to overcome an awful monkey and began a new, sober life. Funny, before her recovery I told Milton if we ever had kids she'd never be allowed to care for them without me. Thank God for her recovery, I was so blessed! She showed me what it was to be an overcomer. To think, what we would have missed.

Jayne Greer - May 10, 2015 at 01:51 PM

“Milton and I continued on in our marital bliss and have three beautiful children, Joshua, Annie, and Kittie. Mama Sunnie in her new rejuvenated self began to show me what the love of a grandmother was. Since I didn't live near my own grandmothers and had few personal memories, I soon discovered just how much love a woman could put heart and soul into, her children's lives. Watching her gaze at my babies, exclaiming how wonderful it was to be a grandmother and caressing her little sprites filled me with tender affection. I found out that grandmothers cook special delights like Care Bear waffles and mini cheese cakes just for their little mini grands. I found out grandmothers take their babies side when your kids may have made a mistake, “Well sure, he didn't mean to do that.” Or “Don't worry, she'll clean it up.” I found out grandmothers pray and pray hard when their grands are sick or are having a ruff time.

Mama Sunnie was my mother-in-law, opps did I say that, my MOTHER IN LAW. Wow, to think I looked forward to being with my MOTHER IN LAW! We would get a long weekend off from work and load up the car with the kid-os. Country Aire was our favorite destination! Josh and Annie may not remember the treks from Ft. Worth to Marshall but I had the route memorized. There were always fun things to do at Mama Sunnie's and Papa's. There was a humongous sand box, a tree swing, a porch full of toys and a playful goat, Maynard; often other cousins would be there. Life didn't get any better. My mother in law taught me how to be a pretty good mother in law too (I think). Mama Sunnie did her best to not interfere in our marriage and did not undermine my authority with my children. My mother in law was my #1 encourager. She seemed to approve of everything I did no matter how smart or dimwitted the idea or project I came up with (at least to my face). She told me I was the “Hostess with the Most-ess.” I believed her. She gave me self-confidence, assurance, poise; all qualities she herself possessed. I felt truly treasured. She helped to mold me into the woman I am.

It may sound strange but Mama Sunnie taught me what it was like to be with family. Now that I was a Greer, I was able to go to the

Reynolds gatherings. I saw how her Mother was revered as the matriarch of the family. I witnessed a multitude of Aunts and Uncles loving each other and Mama Sunnie loving each one in her own special way. I witnessed Mama Sunnie packing her car full of delicious treats, forever dressing up, with perfect hair up, and perfect makeup, laughing and smiling, listening and sympathizing with the lot of you and me. I saw her adore and depend on Roy, sweetly tease and fuss in her typical

Two syllable "Ro-oy" fashion. As my children grew into adults, they observed Mama Sunnie and Papa's love, a little kiss here, a sweet comment there. They couldn't help but remark on how sweet they were together.

We loved being with Mama Sunnie and Papa. They were so very, very helpful. When I was working and Kittie came down with a fever, we'd call them at the break of dawn to meet us half way between our homes and they'd care for our sick little girl. I wonder if she was pulling a Hal? More than one special Christmas Eve they came and spent the night at our home just so they could be there when the kids woke up early to see what Santa brought. She giggled and laughed, oooed and awed, and brought special homemade Christmas cookies. Sharing the excitement with them made those holidays so very extra special.

Jayne Greer - May 10, 2015 at 01:50 PM

“ Oh! Mama Sunnie was creative! She'd create flower arrangements, place candles, and set up elaborate set ups for special dinners. On Carolyn & Hobie's 30th Anniversary, she came up with the idea to decorate the inside cabin of their boat. She got all of us excited, placing pillows, candles, and bottles of champagne. She even made me a pillow corsage made of soft pink roses to pin to my pillow as I recovered from giving birth to my daughter Annie. She knew how badly I wanted a little girl and made it the prettiest pink. It goes without saying how beautiful she made the holidays. She'd create treasures for her grandchildren to keep and cherish. She created sweet ceramic Easter bunnies and ducks, small stuffed Christmas trees and toilet covers with Santa saying Ho, Ho, Ho

Mama Sunnie practiced what she preached. I saw her reading her daily devotions and Bible verses up to the time she couldn't read any longer due to blindness. In 1988 Sunnie went back to school and finished a college program to become a drug and alcohol counselor at the age of 62! Now that was courageous and brave! I loved the word picture she painted for me regarding her alcoholism; "I never want to get back on that merry-go-round. It is too hard to jump off." She poured her life into her ministry, helping drug and alcohol addicted souls with the same warm encouragement. Mama Sunnie continued her ministry even after she was no longer mobile, by telephone. Watching her determination, her ability to overcome and to keep learning served to help me when I decided to go back to school in my late 40's and I finished my degree when I was 51. Mama Sunnie was just such a person for me, and probably for many of you. Today she encourages you and me, to remember the fun, to encourage each other, to overcome adversity, to be creative, to continue to excel, to minister, to adore your family. Today you may have a monkey on your back, you may need to be brave and courageous, you may have been skipping the fun, you may have forgot the value of encouraging, perhaps you need to begin a ministry, create a masterpiece, or you may need to realize it is time again to adore your family. All you need do is remember the best of Sunshine Greer, copy that sweet memory and let Mama Sunnie's life flow through you.

Jayne Greer - May 10, 2015 at 01:49 PM

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Jayne Greer - May 10, 2015 at 01:46 PM

CT

“ I have many wonderful memories of Aunt Sunnie and she told me LOTS of fabulous stories about the family. One of my favorites is how when Uncle Buddy was born, she and Uncle Roy picked up Grandmother (Miss Annie) and baby Buddy from the hospital in his convertible. Uncle Roy drove them home with Grandmother in the front seat and Aunt Sunnie and baby Buddy on a plump, soft pillow were in the back seat. She remembered thinking back then that he was the most beautiful baby she had ever seen!

I love you deeply Aunt Sunnie and thank you for the wonderful memories about you and Daddy and all of your kin. I will miss you very much, but I am grateful for the time I had with you. Until I see you again...

*"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain." (Rev. 21:4)*

Connie Tomerlin - May 08, 2015 at 03:41 PM

CT

“ *Connie Tomerlin lit a candle in memory of Sunshine Greer*



Connie Tomerlin - May 08, 2015 at 02:50 PM

CT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Connie Tomerlin - May 08, 2015 at 02:50 PM

SR

“ Sheila Richey lit a candle in memory of Sunshine Greer



Sheila Richey - May 08, 2015 at 02:26 PM

SR

“ I am so proud to call Sunshine Greer my precious Aunt. She has meant the world to me my entire life. I loved her then, now and will until we are all reunited together in Heaven. I sure do miss her already. Rest in Peace now, Aunt Sunnie.

Sheila Richey - May 08, 2015 at 02:26 PM



“ Such a beauty inside and out. I know you all will miss your sweet Momma Sunny but we are all better having had her in our lives. My prayers and condolences go out to you all. Lots of Love

Nikole Wood - May 08, 2015 at 11:16 AM