



Lilas Dean Chandler Smith

March 17, 1929 - March 6, 2022

Lilas Dean Chandler Smith, 92, of 20 Gail Lane, Altavista died Sunday, March 6, 2022 at Centra Lynchburg General Hospital.

She was born March 17, 1929 in Falls Mills, the daughter of the late Clifford Emory Chandler and Ruby Jewel Surber Chandler. She was a member of Altavista Presbyterian Church and a retired school teacher. Dean was a member of the County, State and National Teachers Association.

She is survived by a daughter, Dianne L. Emmett of Altavista; two grandchildren, Dawn E. Smith (Chris) and Dana E. Balassa (Paul); and four great grandchildren, Michael C. Smith, Diana P. Balassa, Colin D. Smith and Sofia E. Balassa.

She was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Danny Emmett.

A funeral service will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Friday, March 11, 2022 at Altavista Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Eduardo Soto.

The family will receive friends at the residence and viewing of Dean will be available Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Finch & Finch Funeral & Cremation Service, Altavista.

The family suggests that those wishing to make memorials consider Altavista Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 126, Altavista, VA 24517 and Dianne, her daughter, would love to hear stories from former students.

Cemetery Details

Green Hill Cemetery

300 Westwood Drive
Altavista, VA 24517

Previous Events

Viewing

MAR 10. 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Finch and Finch, Altavista
809 Main St.
Altavista, VA 24517

Funeral Service

MAR 11. 2:00 PM (ET)

Altavista Presbyterian Church
PO Box 126
Altavista, VA 24517

Tribute Wall



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Lilas Dean Chandler Smith*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - March 09, 2022 at 02:24 PM

MA

“ *Marian sent a virtual gift in memory of Lilas Dean Chandler Smith*



Marian - May 22, 2022 at 04:40 PM

MA

“ *Marian lit a candle in memory of Lilas Dean Chandler Smith*



Marian - May 22, 2022 at 04:40 PM

KK

“ Mrs. Emmett and family, I was saddened to hear of the passing of Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Smith was my third-grade teacher and she was the best. I saw Mrs. Smith in the store a few years ago and told her how much she did for me as a student. I hope she knew just how special she was and that she made a difference in many students' lives, mine included. Thank you for sharing her with so many.

Kristin Keesee

Kristin Keesee - March 11, 2022 at 11:33 AM

MF

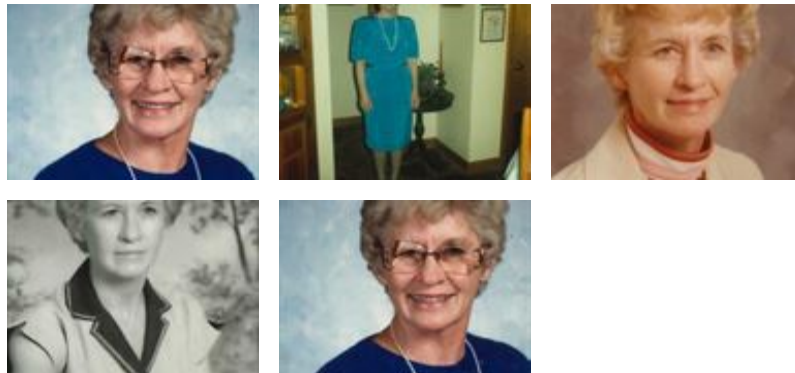
“ MARGIE FREEMAN lit a candle in memory of Lilas Dean Chandler Smith



mARGIE FREEMAN - March 09, 2022 at 05:14 PM



“ 43 files added to the album LifeTributes



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - March 09, 2022 at 12:12 PM

AP

“ *Diane and Family: My thoughts and sympathy are with you. ❤️ I just closed my eyes and took a stroll down memory lane...down the second floor hallway of the old AES building. My sister was in Mrs. Smith's 3rd grade class when I was across the hall in Mrs. Jennings' 2nd grade. ❤️ I remember the fun art projects they did and I remember feeling awe that the class was counting to 1000, as Mrs. Smith wrote the numbers out on a chart each day. To me, she was the epitome of what a good teacher looked and sounded and acted like. She made her mark on so many in our community and will be remembered with great respect and fondness. ❤️*



Anita Phillips - March 09, 2022 at 08:57 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear of your loss, Diane. My thoughts are with you and your family.*
Vicki Hoskins

Vicki Hoskins - March 08, 2022 at 06:41 PM

DR

“ *Dianne and family, sincere sympathy to each of you on the loss of one so dear. Mrs. Smith always had a smile for the many students in her classes over the years. Her dedication to the teaching profession was instrumental beyond measure. I will miss a true friend.*

Darlene Robertson - March 08, 2022 at 10:59 AM

MF

Dean was a dear friend and a great teacher. Love her, Blessings to her family, Marguerite Finch

Marguerite Finch - March 10, 2022 at 12:16 PM

DR

“ *Darlene Robertson lit a candle in memory of Lilas Dean Chandler Smith*



Darlene Robertson - March 08, 2022 at 10:51 AM

DD

“ *I remember we had twin brothers, Lyle and Kyle East in our class. On their birthday, their Mom had brought a popcorn machine to class and we all fresh popcorn that day. She was such a special lady and a great teacher. Deepest sympathy to the family, so sorry for your loss.*

Debbie sue Reynolds Doss - March 08, 2022 at 07:06 AM

CR

“ *My Thoughts an Prayers are with the family, She was one of my favorite teachers*



Carol Rowland - March 07, 2022 at 08:58 PM

GW

“ *Sorry for your loss. Prayers. She was our good neighbor for many years on Oakridge Drive.*



Gwenda Willard - March 07, 2022 at 08:34 PM

JW

“ Mrs. Smith was a dedicated teacher who had a positive impact on many students in Altavista. I was fortunate to know and work with Mrs. Smith. She was a true educator devoted to her students and profession.

Janet West

Janet West - March 07, 2022 at 05:11 PM

JF

“ I am so very sorry to hear this. Mrs. Smith was my 3rd grade teacher. I loved her so very much. She and my mom (Evelyn Catlin) were pretty good friends. I remember at the end of 3rd grade she gave us a multiplication table and said to learn it over the summer. We were all freaking out and at the end of the day she said she was just kidding. One of the best teachers I ever had. I will miss you Mrs. Smith.

Joni Freeze - March 07, 2022 at 04:33 PM