



## Catherine Smith

September 28, 1923 - December 7, 2020

Private funeral services for Catherine Cook Smith, affectionately known as Kate, are being planned at LeCompte Johnson Taylor Funeral Home. She died Dec. 7, at her home, Amber Oaks Assisted Living Center, after a brief illness. She was 97.

Catherine was born in Shelby County to parents Francis Cook and Alma Moore Cook. She was a graduate of the Bagdad School and began married life in 1944 with Odell Smith. For over fifty seven years Kate was the quintessential hostess to thousands at their South Benson Road farm in the Bridgeport community of Franklin County. She delighted in nothing more than people gathering at her table enjoying good food and fellowship. Year after year, Kate's green thumb was revealed in her breathtaking flowers, reminiscent of English-Country gardens. Her gift of creativity inspired her interior design, quilting, crafting, and her love of antiques that completed the home.

Catherine loved her Graefenburg Baptist Church family and expressed that love in service on a variety of committees and teaching capacities over her 75 years plus of membership.

She is preceded in death by husband, Odell Smith; stepmother Lily Cook, brothers Leo and Cleo Cook. Survivors include three sons, Larry (Nancy), David (Sharon) and Kevin (Kathy); four grandsons Davin (Angie), Derek (Sherri), Kyle, Brandon, and step grandson, Travis Keeling; eight great grandchildren Eliza, McKenna, Marley, Jet, Dalton, Elena, Harmon and

Kaden; several nieces, nephews and her Amber Oaks family.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Graefenburg Baptist Church's Building Fund, 11288 Frankfort Rd., Waddy, Ky 40076 or to Center Point, 1050 Elephant Trail, Gainesville, GA 30501. Please visit our website to send the family messages of condolence at [www.ljtfuneralhome.com](http://www.ljtfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

JJ

“ My relationship with Catherine is relatively short compared to most of the Graefenburg Baptist Church members since Bill and I have only been members there for 20 years. Catherine welcomed us from the very first day and always treated us as lifelong friends. I visited her after the fire at her beautiful, beloved home on South Benson. She didn't know exactly what the future held for her but she seemed to be facing it with optimism. She and her boys found the perfect home for her at Amber Oaks in Shelbyville where she made many new friends. This change must have been a daunting experience for Catherine but she embraced it with the same Grace she had shone throughout her life. When our Grace Notes Choir, directed by Dr. Jay Padgett, which Catherine had been a member, visited Amber Oaks for a presentation, Catherine was always ready and waiting to greet us. You will be missed, until we meet again, Catherine. Joyce Jennings

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**Joyce Jennings** - December 09, 2020 at 10:58 AM

DG

“ Kate was loved by so many people that knew her. I will miss our time together.

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**Debbie Gilbert** - December 08, 2020 at 10:25 PM

LG

“ I will always remember Catherine's warm smile whenever I greeted her in the mornings and the way she would joke with me whenever I came up with silly things to say to her. RIP my friend. You will be so missed by all of us.



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**Lossie Goodlett** - December 08, 2020 at 09:56 AM

MD

“ *My prayers are with your family. Your mom was such a joy to visit with at Amber Oaks. Heaven has gained another precious angel.*

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**Mary Drury** - December 08, 2020 at 09:48 AM