



## Elizabeth Ann "Bette" Smith Gaudinier

March 6, 1938 - January 11, 2024

Bette (Elizabeth) Ann Smith Gaudinier transitioned into glory January 11, 2024 in Benicia CA. She was born in San Francisco, CA March 6, 1938 to Walter and Ann Hubers Smith. As a toddler, they moved back to Pease, Minnesota where Bette completed her education at the Pease Christian School and Milaca High School.

Immediately after high school, Bette moved to the Twin Cities with 3 other young women where they worked and enjoyed life. In 1958 she joined her family in San Jose CA where she began her career at the Bank of America. She soon met Ray Gaudinier on a blind date and it was love at first sight. They were married at Westminster Presbyterian Church and Tom, Karen and Barbara made their family complete. In 1976 they were transferred to Beaverton OR and enjoyed a couple of years there before transferring back to CA. They located in Benicia where Bette began working at the Benicia School District where she worked for the next 35+ years – ending her career when she was 80.

Bette's faith was important to her – she and Ray were charter members of the revived Heritage Presbyterian Church in Benicia and were active in many activities there. She also enjoyed serving meals at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. She was an avid Niner's and Giants fan – and thoroughly enjoyed playing Bunco and Bingo – as well as trips to the casino.

After Ray passed in 2001, Bette continued working and traveling – mainly to the Midwest to visit long-time friends and family. She is survived by son Tom,

daughters Karen (Dan Smith) Berg, Barbara (John) Higgins, grandchildren Brandon (Mishayla) Ingle, Raye (Peter) Nava, Sara Berg. Great grandchildren, Anthony Nava, Liliana Nava, Wednesday Ingle. Also survived by siblings, Sharon Cherry & Keith VanZandt, Carol & John Teeler, sister-in-law Janie Smith. As well as Niece Joanna (Vanessa) Purdy, And several other family members that she loved and adored.

Predeceased by husband Ray, sister Margaret Smith and brother Duane (Smitty) Smith as well as son, Scott Calkins Gaudinier, brother-in-law Ed Cherry, and her parents and parents-in-law Harry & Evelyn Gaudinier.

A celebration of her life will take place at a later date. Memorials are preferred to Heritage Presbyterian Church or the American Cancer Society.

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Miss Berg, I am so sorry for your loss. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. <3 <3 <3*



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**Joan L Bahm** - January 31, 2024 at 05:02 PM

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“ *My fondest memories of Bette was working with her at the Benicia Unified District Office. We shared alot memories and good times. She will be missed. Blessings to her and her family, Linda Watson*



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**Linda Watson** - January 24, 2024 at 12:42 PM