

A Parable of Immortality Poem
by Henry Van Dyke

A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze
and starts for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength,
and I stand and watch until at last she hangs
like a speck of white cloud
just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other.
Then someone at my side says,
'There she goes!'

Gone where?

Gone from my sight... that is all.

She is just as large in mast and hull and spar
as she was when she left my side
and just as able to bear her load of living freight
to the place of destination.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her.

And just at the moment
when someone at my side says,
'There she goes!'
there are other eyes watching her coming...
and other voices ready to take up the glad shout...

'Here she comes!'



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Schoen Funeral Home & Monuments
www.schoenfhm.com

Annette M. Smith

Nov. 8, 1939 - April 18, 2026



*A Life
Remembered*

Annette M. Smith

Annette Marie Smith, passed away peacefully on April 18, 2026, at Hilltop Lodge Health & Rehabilitation. Born on November 8, 1939, in Salina, Kansas, Annette's life was marked by her unwavering commitment to her faith, her dedication to her career, and her love for family.



Annette graduated from St. John's High School in 1958, a milestone that set the foundation for her future endeavors. She began her professional journey at Noah's Law Office in Beloit before embarking on a remarkable 40-year career with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) in Topeka. Hired as a secretary in 1961, she served with distinction and dedication throughout her duration, earning the respect and admiration of her colleagues.

Beyond her professional life, Annette was a woman of many interests. She found joy in painting, crafting, and tending to her yard, activities that reflected her creative spirit and gentle nature. Her home was a testament to her love for arts and nature, where many have shared in the warmth her talents brought.

Family was central to Annette's heart. She is survived by her siblings Mary (Kim) Remus of Beloit, Kathleen Hennes of Topeka, and William Smith (Dorothy) of Durham, Connecticut; and eleven nieces and nephews who carry forward her legacy of kindness and strength. Annette was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Edwin and Helen (Young) Smith; infant daughter Kara, whose memory she held dear, and her brother-in-law Dan Hennes.

A Mass to honor and celebrate Annette's life will be held on April 27, 2026, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, located at 701 East Court Street in Beloit, Kansas. Family, friends, and all who knew Annette are invited to join in remembering a life defined by faith, service, and love.

Annette Marie Smith's legacy is one of devotion—to faith, to family, and to the quiet beauty of everyday life. Her presence will be deeply missed but fondly remembered by all who were fortunate to know her.

Memorials may be made to Wounded Warrior Project and Solomon Valley Hospice, in care of Schoen Funeral Home & Monuments, 302 N. Hersey Ave. Beloit, Kansas 67420. Online condolences may be sent to schoenfhm.com.

In Loving Memory of

Annette M. Smith

Nov. 8, 1939 ~ April 18, 2026

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

St. John's Catholic Church

Beloit, Kansas

Monday, April 27, 2026 ~ 10 a.m.

CELEBRANT

Father Jarett Konrade

MUSIC

Terri Dunstan

MUSIC SELECTIONS

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

You Are Mine

Ave Maria

Song of Farewell

I have Loved You

LAID TO REST

Private Family Inurnment

Asherville Cemetery

Asherville, Kansas

SERVICES BY

Schoen Funeral Home & Monuments

302 N. Hersey Ave. | Beloit, KS 67420