



LaVinia M. Smaller

NOV 19, 1957 - AUG 1, 2025



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Table of Contents

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Obituary | Page 3 |
| Events | Page 5 |
| Tribute Wall | Page 6 |
| Media | Page 15 |



LaVinia M. Smaller

NOV 19, 1957 - AUG 1, 2025

L aVinia M. Smaller

It is with deepest sorrow that we announce the passing of LaVinia M. Smaller, who left us unexpectedly on August 1, 2025, at the age of 67.

Born in Brooklyn, NY she was the beloved daughter of the late Hermes Marasco and Candido Ortiz. LaVinia was a graduate of Lynbrook Senior High School in Lynbrook, NY and went on to build a successful career as an Insurance Executive in West Islip, NY. After her retirement she continued working at Lowe's for several years before moving to Lewes, Delaware.

LaVinia's passions were many including being an enthusiastic sports fan, a gifted gardener, and a devoted cook and baker whose kitchen was always full of warmth and the aroma of delicious food. She was especially fond of animals and was a dedicated and loving pet owner throughout her life. LaVinia loved rainbows and watching sunsets from her porch often photographing them to share with family and friends.

LaVinia will be remembered for her infectious smile, her kind spirit, unwavering generosity, and the profound love she shared with those around her. She is survived by her devoted husband who has been at her side for over 21 years, Jack B. Smaller; her beloved sisters, Vil Ortiz and Jeannie Ortiz; and her beloved Goddaughter, Jennifer Palmatier. LaVinia will be deeply missed and forever loved by all who were blessed to have known her.

A viewing will be held on Monday, August 11, 2025, from 6-8 PM at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. A second viewing will take place on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 10:00 AM at St. Jude the Apostle Church, 152 Tulip Drive, Lewes, DE 19958 with a Mass of Christian Burial to follow at 11 :00 AM. Entombment will take place at Bethel Methodist Cemetery Mausoleum, 600 Savannah Road, Lewes, DE, 19958.



Obituary

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Flowers may be sent to the funeral home and/or donations be made in Mrs. Smaller's name to Brandywine Valley SPCA, Georgetown Campus, 22918 Dupont Boulevard, Georgetown, DE or Just Us Cat and Kitten Rescue, PO Box 32, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3:00 PM ON MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2025, TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.



Events

LaVinia M. Smaller

NOV 19, 1957 - AUG 1, 2025

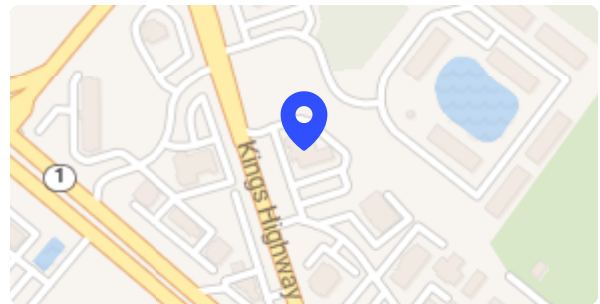
Viewing

Monday, August 11, 2025

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

**Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-
Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



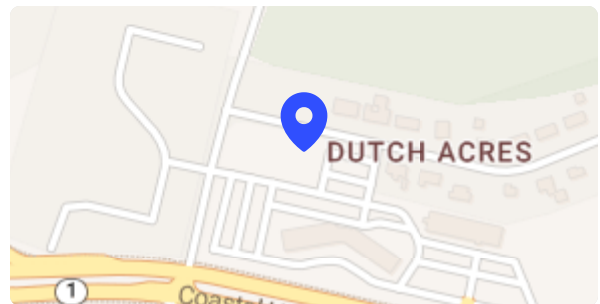
Second Viewing

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church

152 Tulip Drive, Lewes DE



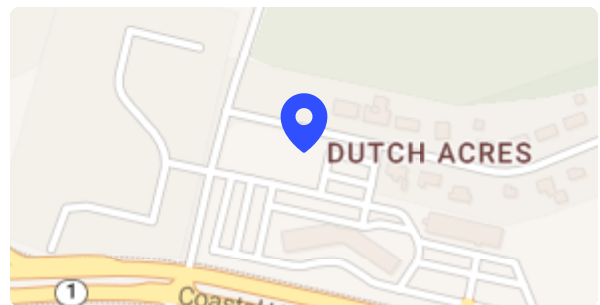
Mass of Christian Burial

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET

St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church

152 Tulip Drive, Lewes DE



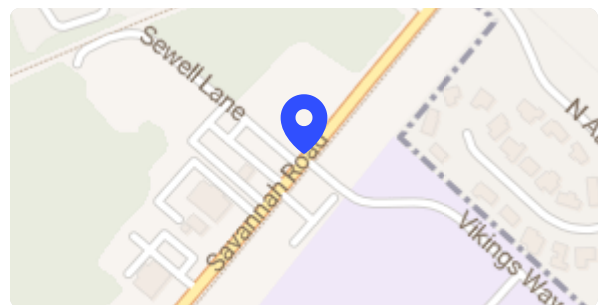
Entombment

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

12:30 PM ET

Bethel Methodist Cemetery Mausoleum

Savannah Road, DE





Tribute Wall

LaVinia M. Smaller

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Jack Smaller posted:

Exactly one month ago I lost you my dear wife. It feels like a bad dream I can't wake up from. I have to accept the fact that you are no longer here. Now I and everyone who knew and loved you has another angel looking down upon them. I would give anything to have you back here with me and the kittens. It's just so hard knowing I'll never see your beautiful smile, hear your soothing voice, or have you by my side again. I love and miss you, Sweetie. ❤️

September 1 at 8:29 PM



Jack Smaller posted:

This had to be the second hardest day of my life, the day I had to lay you to rest. The first was losing you on August 1. You will forever be in my heart. I miss you more and more every passing minute of every passing day. You will always be my Sweetie. I love you. ❤️

August 12 at 7:25 PM



Donna Maziarz shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My dearest friend. We met at orientation for STS and while we were never on the same bus. We decided it would be to our best interest. lol We became fast friends and as you always said Sister sister. Shenanigans, laughs, fun , serious talks and then breakfast dinners. Then we decided to add the hubbies. We all became fast friends and family. I will miss you dearly and take care of our Jack. Xoxo love Donna and Gary..😘

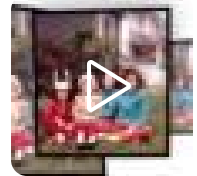


August 12 at 11:11 AM



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared an album called **Memories Album**.

August 12 at 9:41 AM



Irene Hoffses posted:

It's been years since I have seen LaVinia but I always felt her close when I thought of her. I send my deepest condolences to the family. May she rest in peace. Irene & Craig Hoffses

August 11 at 7:29 PM



Tribute Wall

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NOV 19, 1957 - AUG 1, 2025



Jimmy, Lori, Jackie & Alyssa sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Smaller family.

August 11 at 1:55 PM



Jimmy, Lori, Jackie & Alyssa planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 11 at 1:55 PM



With Deepest Sympathies, Jon And Tom. sent a Days of Sunshine Bouquet to the Smaller family.

August 11 at 10:12 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Smaller family.

August 11 at 7:49 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 11 at 7:49 AM



Love, Danny And Amy Shea And Kids. sent a Crystal Cross Bouquet to the Smaller family.

August 11 at 6:06 AM





Tribute Wall

LaVinia M. Smaller

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Joe Keller shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My Deepest condolences to Jack, the Kitties ,Family and Friends, My Mother and I first met Jack in the video at my Aunt Mary and Uncle John's milestone 75th wedding anniversary and Levidia was Hands-On helping Aunt Mother Mary get ready with pre celebration festivities hair makeup dresses well at the same time cheering on Papa John. after that when we would visit Levidia with her infectious big smile would socialize and arrange for dinners or gatherings.You are a angel now St Francis is right by your side.



August 10 at 11:53 AM



Joe Keller August 10 at 2:38 PM

LaVinia so sorry using voice recognition i misspelled your name unable to delete or edit the memories post.



Anonymous sent a Rose Garden Heart to the Smaller family.



August 9 at 6:15 PM



Anonymous sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Smaller family.



August 9 at 1:57 PM



Follanos, Koprowskis, Palmatiers, & Kids sent a Pink Tribute Spray to the Smaller family.



August 9 at 11:58 AM



Ronald M. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of LaVinia.



August 9 at 11:47 AM



Tribute Wall

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JM

Jaymie, Ron, Kaleb And Anna Moore sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Smaller family.

August 9 at 11:44 AM



JM

Jaymie, Ron, Kaleb And Anna Moore planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 9 at 11:44 AM



DS

Dale Slotter posted:

Our dear LaVinia, you came into our lives only two years ago, but in that short time, you became so much more than a neighbor; you became family. Your kind and caring spirit touched us deeply, and we will forever cherish the laughter and joy you brought into our days. "Mama Mary" will especially miss her cherished daily morning phone calls, a testament to the special bond you shared. Your presence will be deeply missed, and we find comfort knowing that you have prepared Heaven for "Papa John", undoubtedly teasing him and sharing a laugh, perhaps with some marshmallow peeps. Thank you, LaVinia, for being the most caring person we've known. You will forever be in our hearts, your laughter echoing in our memories, and your kindness inspiring us to be better people.

August 9 at 7:58 AM

LA

Lissette, Gabriel, Ashley And Austin sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Smaller family.

August 8 at 9:29 PM



LA

Lissette, Gabriel, Ashley And Austin planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 8 at 9:29 PM





Tribute Wall

LaVinia M. Smaller

NOV 19, 1957 - AUG 1, 2025

CC

Cousin Seo(Joe) And Aida Colon sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Smaller family.

August 8 at 9:21 PM



CC

Cousin Seo(Joe) And Aida Colon planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 8 at 9:21 PM



JG

Jenny (Your Beautiful Goddaughter) sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Smaller family.

August 8 at 8:31 PM



JP

Jenn Palmatier shared 7 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My beautiful Godmother - thank you for everything you've ever done with me. I love you more than words can explain. You will forever be missed.

August 5 at 6:44 AM



LK

Love Deb And The Kitties sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Smaller family.

August 8 at 4:26 PM



LK

Love Deb And The Kitties planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 8 at 4:26 PM





Tribute Wall

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Deb Salvato posted:

I met Lavinia and Jack in 2011. It was instantly obvious of the kindness and overall genuine aura that Lavinia naturally exuded. We connected (Jack as well) with the love of animals, especially cats and kittens. At that time I had a pretty large family of felines. She greeted every one of them with love and that beautiful smile of hers. She told me all about her feline family as well. Lavinia just did just greet you with an 'hello'. She was genuinely interested in how you were doing, asked how your day was going, how your pets were doing, etc. I last saw Lavinia while she was working at Lowes in her little vest and name tag. And yes, that big beautiful smile. We chatted for about 20 minutes catching up on cats, life, work, family, etc. We hugged good-bye and she continued to go back to work greeting Lowes customers and hoping to get them signed up for a Lowes credit card. With that smile, her welcoming and friendly demeanor, I have no doubt that she signed up an awful lot of customers. My heart truly goes out to Jack, Vil, Jeannie, the rest of the family and all who loved and knew Lavinia. Rest in Peace sweet angel. With Love, Hugs and Deepest Condolences - Debbie and the Feline Crew =^..^=

August 8 at 4:14 PM



Thomas Sant posted:

After working with and knowing Lavinia these many years, Martha and I knew of the big heart she had for family and friends. We enjoyed many good times with her and Jack thru the years. I know she is in a better place but as people, we grieve over the friend we lost. I know some day we will meet on the other side. Rest in peace Lavinia and comfort to Jack in this difficult time. With all our love, Thomas and Martha Sant

August 8 at 4:13 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.



August 8 at 4:12 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Smaller family.



August 8 at 3:58 PM



Tribute Wall

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Frank Nicosia shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

What can I say. You were a very loving and generous person. You always made me laugh. You and Jack were great company. My family will miss you dearly my friend 😭 Frank, Linda, Anthony, and Joseph Nicosia.

August 8 at 2:05 PM



Mike And Donna Troiano sent a Serene Retreat to the Smaller family.

August 7 at 1:44 PM



Mike And Donna Troiano planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 7 at 1:44 PM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Smaller family.

August 7 at 1:29 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.

August 7 at 1:29 PM



Lena R. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of LaVinia.

August 6 at 11:32 AM





Tribute Wall

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Jennifer Chance posted:

I wanted to take a moment to share a few heartfelt words about our dear neighbor, Lalvinia. She was truly a special person who touched our lives deeply with her warmth and generous spirit. I will always remember her kindness and how she welcomed us to South 10th Street, making us feel special and that we belonged anywhere we chose to live. Even after moving away, Lalvinia ,continued to keep in touch, reminding us how much she cared. She will always hold a special place in our hearts. She often made time for friendly chats and how could we ever forget those delicious cookies she shared with us? Lalvinia, has now gone to a place where we all will go one day. Take your rest, dear Lalvinia, God knows best. We will surely miss you. Jack, we are praying for you, may God continue to comfort and keep you in his care .With fond memories,Grenville & BourneLindenhurst Neighbors

August 6 at 10:38 AM



Frank , Nidia ,Amanda, Brian, Maia sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Smaller family.



August 6 at 8:26 AM



Frank , Nidia ,Amanda, Brian, Maia planted a Memorial Tree in honor of LaVinia.



August 6 at 8:26 AM



Love John,Dawn And Lois Pettit sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Smaller family.



August 5 at 2:52 PM



Tribute Wall

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Laura Welker shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Every Kwanzaan tree and every cherry blossom will remind me of your beautiful smile. Helping with 1942 hair, well wishes for family and loved ones, shanty night and old timey drinks, the meals we shared together, and walking around Lewes with you and Jack will always be cherished memories. We love you and will keep you close to our hearts forever. Laura, Catie, and Lynnette



August 5 at 6:44 AM



Donna Maziarz shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 12 at 11:11 AM





Media

LaVinia M. Smaller
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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a video to the **Memories Album** album. August 12 at 9:41 AM



SCAN TO WATCH



Joe Keller shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 10 at 11:53 AM





Media

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Jenn Palmatier shared 7 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 8 at 8:00 PM





Media

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Media

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Frank Nicosia shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 8 at 2:05 PM





Media

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Laura Welker shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 5 at 6:44 AM





Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring LaVinia by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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