



Helen Elaine Smith

October 18, 1953 - December 5, 2023

Helen Elaine Smith 70, of Lancaster, South Carolina, passed away on December 5, 2023 after a valiant three-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Elaine was born on October 18, 1953 to Nubar and Josephine Hagopian in Visalia, California. Elaine grew up in Reedley, California and graduated from Reedley High School in 1971, she then went on to study at Fresno State. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree from Fresno State, she started a career in the soft drink industry with Coca-Cola, that would last for 37 years.

In 1986 Elaine met Greg Smith at Coca-Cola in Los Angeles. They married on June 25, 1988. Elaine and Greg lived in South Pasadena and Clovis, California before finally settling in San Ramon, California, where they resided for 26 years.

Elaine retired in 2018 and found her dream home in Lancaster, South Carolina. She and Greg drove across the country with 3 dogs in the car and moved in June of 2019.

Elaine loved to travel. Especially to Europe and just completed a wonderful cruise to Greece and Turkey shortly before her death. She cherished her yearly "girl's trips". Where she would gather with her High School friends in a different location every year.

Elaine loved her San Francisco Bay area sports teams. The San Francisco 49ers, the San Francisco Giants and the Golden State Warriors. Even after she moved to South Carolina, when there would be an infrequent Warriors game

televised, she would always try to make it to the end, even if it was after midnight.

Elaine was predeceased by parents Nubar and Josephine Hagopian and brothers Jim Miller and Mike Hagopian. She is survived by husband Greg Smith, sister Carol McCain (Don), nieces Becky McCain and Kristi Rines (Matt) and their children Luke, Jackson and Carli.

There will be no formal service. If you would like to honor Elaine's life, please consider donating to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network or your local animal shelter.

Tribute Wall

DO

“ Sweet Elaine.. you are so missed❤️ we talk about you so much. I hope you knew how much we loved you and you were a part of our family! Miss our chats, your wisdom, and our nightly conversations.my family and myself are blessed of knowing you. We love you n miss you. Keep being our guardian angel. Till we met again my friend xo

Donna Ort - December 05, 2024 at 07:20 PM

DD

“ Miss you every day, our phone calls even though you were just around the corner and your strong spirit. We will see you again.

Dee Dee - December 05, 2024 at 06:24 PM

RO

“ To say you are missed every single day is an understatement! I still cant believe you aren't here with us. I hold onto Decades of memories and moments we shared together from all of our years together at Coke to our many adventures traveling! You will always be remembered! My life was better for having met you. Our friendship is something I will cherish💖. Never forgotten and Always Missed!

Rosanne - December 05, 2024 at 03:01 PM

RU

“ Though you are no longer physically present with us, and we miss you on our Zoom visits and annual girls’ trips, memories of you live on, Elaine. I will always remember you as strong, confident, take-charge, and a rock solid friend. Your smiles and laughter light up memories of the times shared together. While I finish my morning coffee just now, I smile through the tears as I remember that “first” experience. As you encouraged me that it would be good, I sipped my first cup of coffee with you, your mom, Jo, and aunt, Anita. 😊

On this one year anniversary of your passing, I pay tribute to you, the full life you lived, the courageous battle you fought, and the dear friend that you will forever remain. Love you always.💕

Ruth - December 05, 2024 at 02:20 PM

DN

“ Can’t believe it’s been a year. I still feel I’ll see you at our next zoom or girls trip. We shared so many fun times together. You will always remain in my heart. Miss you. ❤️👍

Debbie Nicklaus - December 05, 2024 at 11:46 AM

DE

“ We will always swim in memories of her.

Derenny - December 05, 2024 at 11:43 AM

DK

“ Missing my Bestie Elaine and thinking of all our wonderful memories and trips together👍💕 from decades together as our friendship grew❤️💕. You will never leave my heart and I will always cherish our times and laughter together 🙏🌈👍 Our Italy trip together was the best ever👍💕🌈❤️💕 I Love You!

Darlene Kim - December 05, 2024 at 11:41 AM

JD

“ I can not believe it has been a whole year since you died. I will always have wonderful memories of our high school and roommate days! I am so glad we had all those fun times on our annual bestie trips in the later years. You will never be forgotten my bestie!

Joanne Daley - December 05, 2024 at 11:40 AM

SB

“ It's hard to believe a year has passed but our friendship will endure the test of time. The places we've gone together and the memories we've shared will always be close to my heart. You will always be missed, my friend. 💔

Susan Bettencourt - December 05, 2024 at 09:33 AM

EF

Elaine, I miss you so much. Wordle isn't the same without you. Remembering your sense of humor and laugh still bring a smile to my face. I'm so glad we were able to travel together. Miss you, Love, Evie

Evie Frechou - December 05, 2024 at 11:35 AM

MS

Elaine, it is hard to believe a year has passed since you left us. I cherish each and every memory from the time we met in high school up to our lifetime of continued friendship. You are always in my heart!!

Monica Strambi - December 09, 2024 at 11:54 PM