



## Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman

May 1, 1943 - February 19, 2024

Bettie Eugenia "Gina" (Grove) Smitherman, 80, passed away peacefully on February 19, 2024, in Lebanon, IN, at Witham Hospital.

She was born on May 1, 1943 in Sullivan, IN to the late Rev. Melvin E. Grove and Betty (Cox) Grove.

Gina worked for Monon Railroad and in the Indiana State House. She was the administrator of Mr. J's Hair Academy in Gary, Crown Point, and Indianapolis, IN. Gina loved her children and grandchildren fiercely; she loved a good bowl of chili and gospel music. Gina's stories were legendary, and all who knew her will miss her laughter and sense of humor.

Those left to cherish her memory include her children, Kevin Block of Alexandria, KY, Susan Keaton of Frankfort, IN, and Rev. Travis J. Johnson (Jody) of Findlay, OH; six grandchildren, Michael Block, Arie Block, Brian Keaton Jr. (Tiffany), Shaylee Stewart (Corey), Alyssa Long (Nick), and Kendrick Johnson; two great-grandchildren, Presley Keaton and Juliet Keaton.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jack N. Smitherman; infant brother, Larry Grove; infant twins, Terry and Larry Denbo; infant daughter, Karen Jo, and granddaughter, Madison Shyanne Keaton.

A memorial service will be held at 11 AM, Saturday, March 16, 2024, at the Frankfort Bible Holiness Church, 1947 W. Barner St., Frankfort, IN, with Rev. Mark Mowery, Dr. David T. Fry, and Rev. Travis J. Johnson officiating.

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Bettie Eugenia Smitherman.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

MAR **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Frankfort Bible Holiness Church  
1947 W. Barner St.  
Frankfort, IN 46041

# Tribute Wall

YB

“ From: Your Church Family @ Findlay BMC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.

Your Church Family @ Findlay BMC - March 14, 2024 at 09:45 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.



March 14, 2024 at 09:45 AM

DS

“ Gina was Momma II. She was blunt and to the point, but I knew she loved me. She would message me and keep me informed on the goings on. We would laugh and argue, but in the end there was always love!

Denise Decker Slipy - March 12, 2024 at 10:28 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.



March 07, 2024 at 03:02 PM



“ *Genie was in my small high school class at FPC. We were good friends and I knew her parents well. We connected again as friends on FB a few years ago. We will miss her. Harold Wilson*

Harold Wilson - February 23, 2024 at 08:59 AM

EM

*Geni and I were friends in high school at FPC in Frankfort Indiana. She was a lot if fun to be with. I saw her again later in life after my children were born. It was great to connect and remember how it was years before. I had not seen or heard from her for years. Sending sympathy to her family.*

Eleanora massie - February 26, 2024 at 11:08 AM

JW

*I have wonderful memories of her father. We attended the same church when I was in college.*

Joseph Watkins - February 26, 2024 at 11:25 AM

DG

“ *David Grove planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.*

David Grove - February 22, 2024 at 09:32 AM

DG

“ *David Grove purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.*



David Grove - February 22, 2024 at 09:32 AM

JJ

“ My deepest condolences and sympathy for the loss of your mom. My prayers and thoughts are with you during the coming days and weeks. While I knew Gina for a very short time of her life here on earth, she had a sparkle about her that I loved and was blessed to have known her.

*Jan Marie Jones*

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**Jan Marie Jones** - February 21, 2024 at 09:09 AM

JJ

“ My deepest condolences and sympathy for your family's loss. My prayers are with you as you move through the coming days and weeks. While I knew Gina only for a short time of her life here on earth, she had a sparkle about her that I cherished and feel blessed to have gotten to spend time with her. We are all blessed who shared in her love.

*Jan Marie Jones*

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**Jan Marie Jones** - February 21, 2024 at 08:39 AM

MF

“ Mark and Renee Fiskeaux purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.



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**Mark and Renee Fiskeaux** - February 21, 2024 at 07:31 AM

SL

“ Genie as I've always known her by will be missed. I'll forever cherish the memory of her from my childhood thru adulthood years. I bet my mom's standing with her, they're both staring down your dad \*Susan & Travis\* and mine getting ready to let them both have it. 😭 Sending my heartfelt condolences, prayers and love to you all. 💕💕

Stacie Lowe - February 20, 2024 at 10:05 PM

LV

“ You were a total blast, never a dull moment and NEVER had to guess what you were thinking. I will miss you so much, but am so happy to know I will see you again. Love, Lana Gayle

Lana Vore - February 20, 2024 at 08:11 PM

MM

“ Gina was a special one. She had the BEST stories, could always make you laugh, she was so witty and loved fiercely. She is missed already. I'll never forget her..and her love of chili and her family. Praying for you all in this difficult time, but also rejoicing as we know she is lighting Heaven up now!

Megan Hensley (nurse at Wesley Manor) - February 20, 2024 at 07:48 PM

BS

“ Brian Keaton Sr planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.

Brian Keaton Sr - February 20, 2024 at 05:21 PM

BS

“ *Brian Keaton Sr purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Bettie Eugenia "Gina" Smitherman.*



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**Brian Keaton Sr** - February 20, 2024 at 05:21 PM

PF

“ *Susan  
There are way to many stories to talk about.  
She loved her family.  
My prayers for all*

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**Pam Ferguson** - February 20, 2024 at 05:00 PM