

Manda Marie Sorich Smith
(Baba)



Manda Marie Sorich Smith (Baba) 1917-2011, passed away on May 18, 2011. She died as she lived, with dignity, peace and considering others. Manda was born in Highland Boy (Bingham Canyon), Utah to John & Louise Sorich. She was proud of her graduation from Bingham High School in a time when that was an unusual accomplishment.

Manda married H Clayton Smith (Smitty) in 1941 and their home was always overflowing with family and friends. She was open-hearted and served her wonderful meals to all her visitors, even when times were hard and food was scarce.

After Smitty died suddenly in 1961, Baba worked tirelessly to help her 3 children through college. Then when her grandchildren needed her, she retired to watch over them. She taught us all to be honest, respectful and to succeed at whatever path we chose.

Manda is survived and revered by her children & their spouses: son Clay (wife Suzy, deceased) and their daughter Sarah (Mike) Brandstetter and first child expected this Fall; daughter BJ (Larry) Holmberg, daughter Beverly (Kirby) Caywood and their children Robyn (Jared) Copinga, Jason (Melissa) Caywood, and Steven Caywood and his finance, Angela Job; great grandchildren Aidan, Ella & Lily Copinga; Roman & Ava Caywood. She was “Baba” to her extended family of nieces and nephews and to the Holmberg family including Randy & Long, children and grandchildren; Steve & Diane (TJ) Josh & Nichole (Mason & Toby) Joie & Scott Norby (Khian, Maiya & Lilah). Baba’s brothers John and Mike and her sister Matilda Eltz, as well as her parents, are deceased.

Baba loved to travel and always had her bag packed and ready to go. She visited over 20 states and a dozen countries including Australia, Hong Kong, Italy and her parents' home country, Croatia. Baba lived independently throughout her life with the daily support of Beverly and Kirby in the last few years. She was proud and tough, loving and supportive, and her sense of humor cheered us up in the hardest times. We are all going to miss her.

The viewing will be held from 6 - 7:30, with Rosary at 7:30, on Sunday evening, May 22 at St. Therese Catholic Church, 624 West Lennox St. in Midvale. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 23 at St. Therese. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to St. Joseph the Worker Building Fund, PO Box 98, West Jordan, UT 84084. Please indicate that it is in memory of Manda Smith.