



Velma Claudette Smith Anderson

June 4, 1944 - July 19, 2025

Velma Claudette Smith Anderson, age 81, of London, Kentucky, passed away peacefully on July 19, 2025, with her family by her side.

Born on June 4, 1944, in Benham, Kentucky, Velma made her home on Bill Mays Road in London, where she lived for over 50 years. She was of the Baptist faith and took pride in accepting Christ as her savior later in life.

Velma was preceded in death by her loving husband, Carl Edwin Anderson; her sisters Lori Miracle, Bonnie Fightmaster, and Sharon Kirkman; her brothers Denver Smith and Jimmy Smith; and her in-laws Ray Miracle, Wallace Fightmaster, Rex Fredericks, James Shepherd, Darrell Kirkman, Linda Smith, Dee Smith, and Dixie Smith.

She is survived by her children: Rhonda (Gary) Hudson, Mark (Stephanie) Anderson, and Greg Anderson, all of London; and Chris (Mandy) Anderson of Carlisle, Kentucky. Velma was a proud and loving grandmother to Andrew Hudson, Carly Hudson, Meg Anderson, Drew Anderson, Mea Anderson, and Cam Anderson.

She also leaves behind her siblings Althene Fredericks, Shirley Shepherd, Marvin (Peggy) Smith, Karen (Tom) Bailey, Bobby (Sheila) Smith, Danny Smith and her wonderful roommate Lorene Vance; along with many nieces,

nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

A true entrepreneur, Velma owned and operated Marjeans Fashions and The Finishing Touch. She had a sharp eye for style and a nose for a great deal. Whether traveling the region for flea markets or scouting her next opportunity, Velma brought creativity and enthusiasm to everything she did. She was known for her strong spirit, quick wit, and deep love for her family and community.

She was a generous and spirited host, always ready to cook for a house full of family, friends or the UPS man. Her home was a hub of love, laughter, and activity—especially for her children’s friends, who were welcomed like family. With a sense of humor both sweet and mischievous, Velma loved to make people laugh, sometimes even blush. She never met a stranger. Her warm, observant nature meant she always noticed the little things—like whether your shoes matched your belt or your pants and jacket were hemmed to the appropriate length. She delighted in giving gifts (especially socks) and was happiest when lifting others up with a compliment or a proud word.

Velma was larger than life—an overcomer, a dreamer, a doer, and collector of all things beautiful. Her strength, warmth, and unshakable love for others left a lasting mark on all who knew her. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

The family would like to acknowledge and thank the staff at Laurel Heights (especially #1, #2, Jill and Brian) for the exceptional care they provided.

A Celebration of Life honoring Velma Anderson will be held on Sunday, July 27, 2025 at 3:00 pm in the chapel of House Rawlings Funeral Home with Joe Allen officiating. The family will receive friends on Sunday, July 27, 2025 beginning at 1:00 pm at the funeral home. The family has entrusted House

Rawlings with the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memory of Velma to Faith Assembly's Laurel Heights Ministry. Contributions may be made through the link below.

https://give.tithe.ly/?formId=9144e332-6865-11ee-90fc-1260ab546d11&locationId=b730ff88-e6ed-4ac4-8e31-c8ca885e2581&fundId=fcbf114b-9dfc-472a-8e3c-9750c9c0a860&fbclid=IwY2xjawLqCthleHRuA2FibQIxMABicmlkETFOR2E0Qko5S1BIMFFYZFRIAR7wtpPOVXIINJOvTVEZ4CQAU8OjEkNIJH5f7x7uJGpxhAJiEloniHU78Dmj_Q_aem_p40eHSrtQ_p4_YHbZDNlbQ

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 27. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

House-Rawlings Funeral Home
510 East 4th Street
London, KY 40741
(606) 864-2158
info@houserawlings.com
<https://houserawlings.com>

Celebration of Life

JUL 27. 3:00 PM (ET)

House-Rawlings Funeral Home
510 East 4th Street
London, KY 40741
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<https://houserawlings.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *House-Rawlings Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Velma Claudette Smith Anderson*



House-Rawlings Funeral Home - July 28, 2025 at 11:13 AM

DK

“ So many good memories of my good friend Velma and her family. Many lunches at her house and laughter with Lorie. A stream of folks would drop by and she would feed the UPS driver even. Always the best lunch I'd have. She'd treat her employees and helpers like family and pay them well and accept their differences. Many would go on to be some of the best decorators in major cities.

We'd howl as they described taking a computer class and how she'd handle difficult people that day. We supplied her with some of the companies she sold in her many retail spaces. Her ideas on products and designs were respected in the entire industry and many ideas she gave me tripled the sales of some of our vendors. One year she sold 200 each of monkey and elephant lamps and had helped design them. She would sell as much as some of the best furniture stores in Cincinnati and Lexington. My competitors and I laughed when a large dealer with locations in Somerset, Lexington and Corbin demanded we not sell Velma and I told him we were sorry to see him go but she did three times as much as he did. He dropped all of us. I don't think he ever recovered from this lol. I've only known 4-5 people in my 43 years in selling to retail stores who were retail geniuses and without a doubt Velma Anderson was one. My mother being one too. Velma would look at an item and know exactly how many she could sell and before social media get the word out she had them. She'd order and sell truck loads if she liked it. Truly one of the highlights of my life knowing her and her family. My sincere sympathies for her surviving family.

Dan Kennedy - August 15, 2025 at 10:12 PM

CE

“ Jack and I are saddened to hear of Velm's passing. We send our deepest sympathy to all of her family, especially her children. Our Jeff LOVED Velma and all the "kids." Her home was his second home. He even stayed there once for a few days instead of going on a trip with us. We are grateful for how included and loved she made him feel. London is a bit darker without her spirit but oh the joy taking place in Heaven. Love and hugs, Carol Eicher

Carol Eicher - July 27, 2025 at 04:19 PM

BC

“ To the Family My Heart is Broken for All of You Velma was Jewel Kermit and I Loved her Dearly I can't Imagine the Two of them together they are keeping things lively I am Sure I Pray God Surrounds All of You in his Loving Arms During this Difficult Time God Bless You All 🙏❤️



Barbara Caudill - July 26, 2025 at 08:06 AM

PH

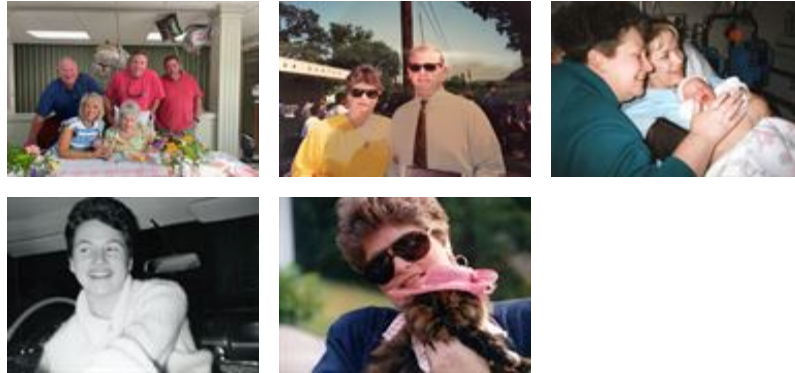
“ PJ Hughes lit a candle in memory of Velma Claudette Smith Anderson



PJ Hughes - July 26, 2025 at 12:56 AM



“ 191 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



House-Rawlings Funeral Home - July 25, 2025 at 10:07 PM

JM

“ *Velma was special and her memory is special now. I grew up in the same neighborhood as the Anderson and had the good fortune to go Lily and catch the bus with Carl every morning. I also have the good memories of her sons both in and out class. Velma always brought my mother, Bertie McDaniel, homemade Xmas peanut brittle which mom loved. My thoughts r with u all as u celebrate a life full of life and laughter.*

Judy McNulty - July 24, 2025 at 05:26 PM

GI

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Velma's passing. She went to high school with my older sister and was always so kind to me. She was a delightful person and always seemed so happy. I always looked her up at the flea market just to brighten my day!! ❤️*

Gloria Bowman Inman - July 24, 2025 at 01:10 PM

PG

“ Pleasant View Assembly of God purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Velma Claudette Smith Anderson.



Pleasant View Assembly of God - July 24, 2025 at 12:35 PM

TS

“ THE FRAME SHOP lit a candle in memory of Velma Claudette Smith Anderson



THE FRAME SHOP - July 24, 2025 at 08:34 AM

PC

“ PAM COX lit a candle in memory of Velma Claudette Smith Anderson



PAM COX - July 24, 2025 at 08:33 AM

LA

“ Velma was a beautiful soul , she will be missed .

Linda Anderson - July 23, 2025 at 07:15 PM

BA

“ She was a great aunt to me when I was little. When I was 11 or 12 her and aunt Bonnie gave me a Barbie dream house for Christmas. I will always remember that... She will be missed.. love always Beverly....

Beverly Anderson - July 23, 2025 at 06:49 PM

GG

“ Mrs Anderson was larger than life. I worked for the Andersons but was never made to feel that I was just the help. I learned how hang wallpaper by working alongside Mrs Anderson also became a collector of things which I still have. An owl, an old typewriter that Mr Anderson used, wooden handled interchangeable purses and a bathtub faucet she said she purchased so that Rhonda wouldn't get burned while taking a bath. It is huge. She laughed and said thankfully Mr Anderson didn't install it. Yes she could make you blush and the last time that I called her she said "It's the I--d. I'm sure Rhonda remembers. Only these things her children will remember but I felt loved that she shared those memories with me. Love and hugs to her family. She was one of a kind! Gail

Gail Goggins - July 23, 2025 at 06:16 PM

BB

“ I too have great memories of Velma even though we rarely spent much time together. However, when we did, we Really enjoyed each other. Our birthdays were close (both in 1944). Heaven is dearer when we have our loved ones there. God's blessings and my prayers are with you
Barbara Lee Fightmaster Bourgeois

Barbara Fightmaster Bourgeois - July 23, 2025 at 06:01 PM

BO

“ Bobby & Louise. Owens lit a candle in memory of Velma Claudette Smith Anderson



Bobby & Louise. Owens - July 23, 2025 at 05:45 PM

GI

“ Velma always was the kindest hearted lady. I will greatly miss my sweet friend. My deepest condolences are with each of you. Prayers and Love, Gena



Gena Irvin - July 23, 2025 at 03:14 PM

ES

“ Evelyn (frog:). Smith lit a candle in memory of Velma Claudette Smith Anderson



Evelyn (frog:). Smith - July 23, 2025 at 02:37 PM



“ Deepest sympathy from all the Mosley family.

Michael D. Mosley Michael D. Mosley - July 23, 2025 at 01:54 PM