



## Irene Smith Saffell

June 28, 1925 - December 27, 2019

Irene Smith Saffell of St. James City, FL, and formerly of Kent Island, MD, died on Friday December 27, 2019, at Select Care Hospital in Fort Myers, FL. She was 94.

Born of June 28, 1925, in Centreville, MD, to the late Jack Bishop and Stella Davis, she attended Centreville High School, graduating Class of 1942. In June of 1942, she married James D. Smith, and the following year moved to Miami Beach, FL.

After her husband returned home from the military, they moved back to Maryland. She remained home to care for the family and in the 1950's began attending business college. In 1953, she began working at Lipton Tea and, in 1958, with the Leaver Brothers. After years with Leaver Brothers, she took a bookkeeping position with United Shellfish in 1961. That same year, she and her family moved to Kent Island. After 14 years, she opened Captain Jim's Restaurant in Queenstown, MD. In 1980, her husband, James, passed away.

In November of 1982, Irene married Elmer Saffell and resided on Kent Island. They became very active in boating and later made their home in Fenwick, DE, and in 2002 in Florida. He predeceased her in 2007.

Irene was very active in her communities. She was past president of the

Women's Auxiliary of the VFW #7464 in Grasonville, MD, where she received her 10 year medal; was past president of Kent Island Yacht Club; charter member of Bay County Moose Lodge in Queenstown, MD; member of the Kent Island American Legion Post #278; appointed to the board of Social Services for Queen Anne's County for six years; and was elected to the Democratic Central Committee throughout the 1970's and into the 1980's. While residing in Florida, she was an active in the Red Hat Society and St. James Hobby Club, serving as a past president and five terms as treasurer. She also enjoyed line dancing and playing cards with friends.

She is survived by two children, Diane Ruth (Jeff) and Ronald Smith (Carol); nine grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren. Her son, James Smith, predeceased her, as did her brother, Frank Morris, and sister, Betty Sietsma.

A visitation will be held on Friday January 3, 2020, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, 106 Shamrock Road Chester, MD, where a funeral service will be held on Saturday, January 4, 2020, at 11a.m. Burial will follow the service in Woodlawn Memorial Park in Easton, MD.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association, PO Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241-7005 or Compass Regional Hospice, 160 Coursevall Drive, Centreville, MD 21617.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Memorial Park

11365 Ocean Gateway  
Easton, MD 21601

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 3. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
info@fhfuneralhome.com

## Service

JAN 4. 11:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
info@fhfuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - December 31, 2019 at 03:29 PM

BI

*What a wonderful family, what a wonderful life ! What a great lady, my aunt Irene .My Aunt Irene*

**Billy** - January 02, 2020 at 02:34 PM

MH

*That was so beautiful*

**Mary Hammer** - January 02, 2020 at 04:47 PM

BT

*Hugs and prayers for the family of Aunt Irene. So many precious memories with her when we were all growing up. Love to all!*

**Brenda Thompson** - January 04, 2020 at 07:40 AM

PB

*Loved her and will never forget her, forever in my heart n💙💙*

**Penny Britton** - January 08, 2020 at 10:39 AM

DR

*Such a classy inspirational woman! Dedicated to family and friends. I feel lucky and blessed to have known her.*

**diana reed** - January 09, 2020 at 05:47 PM



“ Irene Smith Saffell

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Irene Smith Saffell

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Irene Smith Saffell

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ Irene was an amazing woman who made a wonderful difference in so many lives. She will always be with us in our memories.

Henny & Joyce Perkinson - January 06, 2020 at 05:44 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rhonda & John Corder - January 05, 2020 at 05:22 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Aunt Irene's passing, our thoughts and prayers are with her family.  
Gwen Lynch

Gwen Lynch - January 03, 2020 at 07:09 PM

KR

“ Beautiful lady inside and out ~ she will missed by many! Love, Scott and Kim Ruth

Kim Ruth - January 03, 2020 at 03:49 PM

KL

“ You're in our thoughts and prayers. We always loved seeing Mrs. Irene.



Kerry Legg - January 03, 2020 at 03:48 PM

JG

“ We know we will never meet another lady like Ms. Irene. We shared many 5 p.m. Happy Hours with her at Cape Windsor and many fun times at the Elk's Club. She was the best! Condolences to all of her family. She loved you all very much. Bless you Ms. Irene.

Ray and Joan Groszkowski

Joan Groszkowski - January 03, 2020 at 11:50 AM

LP

“ Sincere Condolences to all the Smith family. Ms. Irene was a wonderful lady.

Lisa Plummer - January 03, 2020 at 10:35 AM

FU

“ Frank ,Doris Updike purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Irene Smith Saffell.



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**Frank ,Doris Updike** - January 03, 2020 at 09:09 AM

GI

“ Grover Rose And Dave Irons lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



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**Grover Rose and Dave Irons** - January 02, 2020 at 09:40 PM

PF

“ Peggy Fitzpatrick-Laird lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



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**Peggy Fitzpatrick-Laird** - January 02, 2020 at 09:37 PM

PF

*Irene never met a stranger... She was always the Life of the party! Thankful for so many happy times/memories with her in Md., as well as Florida! RIP Dear Friend !*

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**Peggy Fitzpatrick-Laird** - January 02, 2020 at 09:46 PM

BS

“ *Bob & Sheila sent a virtual gift in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Bob & Sheila** - January 02, 2020 at 12:49 PM

PB

“ *Irene's Memory will never leave our hearts. We only knew her 20 years but each one of those years are filled with way too many antics to mention. Especially our Senior Spring Break trips, where she was supposed to be in charge of us, we all had to keep her in line, but of our 12-14 woman that went, it was Irene they picked to judge the hairiest man contest. She was in her glory. And that's what she loved most, the fun . She will be sadly missed by all that knew, I her, But she lived her life.*

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**Penny Britton** - January 02, 2020 at 10:06 AM



“ *Beckie King lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Beckie King** - January 02, 2020 at 09:51 AM



*Our heartfelt sympathy to you Diane and Ronald. We shared so many wonderful times with your Mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Hers was a life well lived.*

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**Beckie King** - January 02, 2020 at 09:51 AM

AK

“ Dear Irene you will be missed. Our senior break will never be same.  
Miss you already

arlis kelly - January 02, 2020 at 09:36 AM

MF

“ Margie Freeman lit a candle in memory of  
Irene Smith Saffell



Margie Freeman - January 02, 2020 at 09:19 AM

LH

“ Lynn Hirschauer sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Irene Smith Saffell



Lynn Hirschauer - January 01, 2020 at 04:03 PM

LL

“ Larry & Lynne lit a candle in memory of Irene  
Smith Saffell



Larry & Lynne - January 01, 2020 at 03:13 PM

JC

“ June Clark lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



June Clark - December 31, 2019 at 10:22 PM

BK

“ Diane, Duffy and families,  
Another elegant lady is gone. She was such a wonderful mom,  
cherish your memories.  
Bea O'Donnell Kelley, Florida

Bea Kelley - December 31, 2019 at 05:16 PM



“ 91 files added to the album Life Tributes



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - December 31, 2019 at 02:53 PM

KA

“ *Kevin M. Aus lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Kevin M. Aus** - December 31, 2019 at 12:47 PM

JP

“ *John And Phyllis Perkins lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**John and Phyllis Perkins** - December 30, 2019 at 07:15 PM

MC

“ *Mary Ellen Caldwell lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Mary Ellen Caldwell** - December 30, 2019 at 02:12 PM

MC

*Loved Ms Irene; a great Friend to my mother Ruth Yewell  
So Sad to hear the news. She was always full of life; she will be missed.*

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**Mary Ellen Caldwell** - December 30, 2019 at 02:18 PM

FP

“ Frank And Tish Palmatary sent a virtual gift in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



Frank and Tish Palmatary - December 30, 2019 at 11:51 AM

DR

“ So sorry to hear of Aunt Irene's passing, our thoughts and prayers are with Dianne, Ronald and their families. May the Lord comfort you all in this time of sadness.



Dean and Sandie

Dean& Sandie Rhodes - December 30, 2019 at 10:57 AM

CA

“ My sweet grandmother, Rest easy❤️



Camryn - December 29, 2019 at 09:07 PM

DC

“ Donna Coursey lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



donna Coursey - December 29, 2019 at 09:01 PM

EM

“ Ellen and Jim Myers purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Irene Smith Saffell.



Ellen and Jim Myers - December 29, 2019 at 05:03 PM

EM

“ Ellen And Jim Myers lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



Ellen and Jim Myers - December 29, 2019 at 04:46 PM

SA

“ Sewardie, Mary & Annie lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



Sewardie, Mary & Annie - December 29, 2019 at 03:45 PM

TF

“ Tracy & Stacey Schulz And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Irene Smith Saffell



Tracy & Stacey Schulz and Family - December 29, 2019 at 03:14 PM



“ *Jim Ewing lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Jim Ewing** - December 29, 2019 at 03:03 PM



“ *Teresa Rutter lit a candle in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Teresa Rutter** - December 29, 2019 at 02:40 PM



“ *Bob & Sheila sent a virtual gift in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Bob & Sheila** - December 29, 2019 at 11:32 AM



“ *Gene & Lynda Palmatary sent a virtual gift in memory of Irene Smith Saffell*



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**Gene & Lynda Palmatary** - December 29, 2019 at 11:26 AM

GP

*Diane and family: Thinking of you in our prayers and blessings during the loss of your mom. We had many great times playing golf, laughing and just talking. Hold onto the wonderful memories of her and it will surely help you get through this difficult time. She loved life and her family. God Bless each one of you. Gene and Lynda Palmatary*

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**Gene Palmatary** - December 29, 2019 at 11:28 AM

TR

*Duffy/Carol....Diane/Jeff and families, condolences on Ms. Irene's passing. She lived life to the fullest and enjoyed every minute. You will miss her but find comfort in knowing she is at peace. Warm hugs, Teresa ❤️Rutter*

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**Teresa Rutter** - December 29, 2019 at 02:43 PM

DS

*Irene, so grateful that I got to spend time with you, Senior Break cruises, Clearwater Beach and New years with you. Irene you were the classiest woman , love listening to some of your stories about years passed . God has a special angel and I am sure you are now the best "dressed" angel in heaven.*

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**Darlene Sattersten** - January 09, 2020 at 07:53 AM