



Janis K. Smith

July 18, 1960 - October 10, 2022

Janis K. Smith, 62, of Fond du Lac, died on Monday, October 10, 2022, at her residence.

She was born on July 18, 1960, in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, the daughter of William A. and Doris J. Murray Smith. She was a graduate of Rhinelander High School, Class of 1979. Janis attended the School of Pharmacy at U.W. Madison, she then attended U.W. La Crosse, and later Western Technical College, where she received a degree in Commercial Arts. On July 29, 1989, she married Leonard E. Greenwood in Pine Lake Township, Wisconsin.

Janis worked in the commercial arts field for 20 years. She then went back to school to continue her education, receiving a degree in Management Information Systems from Western Technical College and later received a Bachelor of Business Administration from Viterbo University. She was then employed at Collaborative Consulting in Wausau and later for Brunswick Corporation at Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac. Janis enjoyed her many crafts including crocheting, tatting, basket weaving and many other crafts. She was a member of the Crochet Guild of America and the Phi Theta Kappa honors Alumni at Viterbo University. She was an avid walker and loved her cats.

She is survived by her husband, Leonard Greenwood of Fond du Lac, her brothers John (Jean) Smith of Indiana, Jim (Maureen) Smith of Virginia and Jerry Smith of Texas, her nieces, nephews and her cat Cali.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Cremation has taken place and a private burial will take place.

Tribute Wall

CS

“ Hello,

I went to high school with Janis. She and I played french horn together in the band and often did duets for Solo & Ensemble. I lost touch with her after high school but I still remember her as being a very sweet person. I always enjoyed having her in the horn section. I'm so sorry for your loss!! Sure wished I'd been able to connect with her later in life!

Celia Sturzl



Celia Sturzl - December 01, 2023 at 03:33 PM



“ I just wanted to say Janis/Ed is not someone I will ever forget, even though we were out of touch for so long.

When I saw her again at Barb's, it was just like the past few decades hadn't happened. It can be like that, with a few special people. All the brightness, intelligence, sparkle, and humor I remembered were there, even though she was ill. I remember feeling grateful that the people I loved being young with are just as much of a joy to be old with.

And I am so sorry I didn't manage to reconnect with her earlier. She did find me on Facebook some years ago, but that sort of fizzled out. I don't think Facebook was really her thing. I should not have been so passive, but I didn't want to pursue contact if she wasn't interested. I think that was my mistake.

I am so glad she had you, and your family and circle of friends. I love knowing she had a good life and was happy and loved. I wish so much that she could have had more time, but I guess it wasn't to be. I feel like the world is poorer for not having her in it any more, but while I'm not particularly religious, I believe that her essence is safe and vibrant and still growing and evolving. somewhere/somehow that I can't even begin to imagine.

No need to answer this. I'm sure you're still swamped with things to sort out. I just wanted to say I'm thinking of you, and won't forget either you or Ed.

Tinney

Leonard Greenwood - October 24, 2022 at 05:24 PM

KQ

“ I love the love seen in this photo at my daughter Ashley's wedding. What amazed me with conversation with Janis is that she never once showed any sense of feeling sorry for herself in her crazy cancer journey. As I reflect, I have taken this with me. I recently had a challenging work day and thought of Janis and decided how can I even have one iota of feeling bad for myself after seeing her strength and resilience. Her heart will remain with us all.



Kerryl Greenwood Quaintance - October 23, 2022 at 12:17 PM



“ 4 files added to the album SCA Days



Leonard Greenwood - October 19, 2022 at 12:09 AM



“ I thought it was really cool that her and others would crochet in the breakroom. It was an interesting contrast to see Janis crocheting alongside Troy who was quite the contrast in appearance. Janis, the typical Midwest Mom with Troy's Goth appearance of black clothing and elevator boots for his 6 foot plus frame. The conversation was always pleasant and relaxing. Janis and I went to the Wausau art fair one year. She was an intelligent kind person who had a big heart and had a little experience with trying to do artwork of her own. She had shown me some items she had carved out of soap stone. I will miss Janis.

Justine Pawelski

Leonard Greenwood - October 19, 2022 at 12:07 AM



“ Hello Leonard,

Janis was a doll, generous with her knowledge and very intelligent, a friend. I am praying for peace and acceptance to come. Losing a loved one is not easy.

I recall many private discussions with her about work things, troublesome errors and stop points in code, but she never let any of them beat her! She talked with her hands as much as her mind. You could tell when she was working something out, her hands moved.

We often sat around the lunch table with our crochet hooks in hand, I actually still have one of her hooks...she was so feisty and did not take much harassment, although she could dish right back when teased! She will be missed...she WAS already missed when she moved away. She didn't talk much about personal things, but she talked about your love of bowling...she carried your bowling ball like a baby. 😊 We talked about the next plan for the homeless shelter here in Wausau and how she took such pleasure in helping them - as we all did. Janis started many of us to crochet more, she was so good at it. It helped her to get past rough spots I think. We talked about your cat(s) and how they made pets of us. Janis liked my rainbow hummingbird and we both laughed at the cracked egg meme. She also stated that you knew you had a friend when they brought the shovel...

She was quiet when she was in pain and rather introspective at times. But she always had a smile on her face. Didn't much like interruptions while she was working, but she was always quick to answer a question.

Janis was a kind person to me, sort of a mentor, and I truly hope her memory will bring you peace and comfort. She was prepared and I am sure ready to go. Now we just have to let her...

Sending a hug for you and yours, Leonard. It was nice to meet you at our events and get together. Believe in the promise of this day, one day at a time...

With sympathy,

Dawn Marie Franco

Leonard Greenwood - October 15, 2022 at 05:19 PM

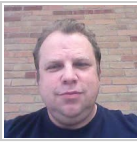


“ *My fond memories of Janis*

- *Minecraft adventures of course*
- *All the bunnies. So many bunnies.*
- *All the desert (Sun) temples, and learning about the booby trap*
- *Glass fishing platforms*
- *"Don't mind me I'm just sniping mobs"*
- *Whenever I travelled for a client I would bring home a cheap toy for Janis. One in particular that she seemed to really like was a wind-up robot that would dance. I remember her giggling over it, and showing people all the time.*
- *When Janis watched Deadwood, and found out that the bad guy had my last name, she would giggle when calling me by the mispronunciation in the show (Sweejin I think it was)*
- *Coming into the office to find a Creeper crotcheted out of I think embroidery thread. I still have it on my desk at home*
- *Random breakfast burritos from Downtown Grocery with "You look hungry"*
- *Lunches at Chang Garden! So fun. Janis always had tea with her lunch.*

Chris

Leonard Greenwood - October 15, 2022 at 05:17 PM



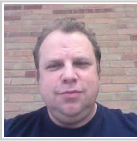
“ *Janis headed up the Crochet group, we made little trinkets for everyone in the office. We left them on everyone's desk to find as a surprise when they got to work.*

Barb Buchholz

I remember lunches in the breakroom with Janis, Troy, Alex, and a few others. They ate lunch while knitting blankets for the women and homeless shelters.

Justine Paweleski

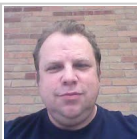
Leonard Greenwood - October 15, 2022 at 05:15 PM



“ *5 files added to the album SCA Days*



Leonard Greenwood - October 15, 2022 at 05:12 PM



“ *3 files added to the album SCA Days*



Leonard Greenwood - October 14, 2022 at 11:30 PM

RO

“ Leonard, I am sorry for your lose.

I will miss the talks about the La Crosse, La Crecent, and Northern Wisconsin. The Mississippi River is magical as both Janis and you are aware. I will miss our talks on tea and other subjects including her cat.

"So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you." - John 16:22

God bless you and your family

Rod - October 14, 2022 at 11:46 AM

JG

“ One day my dog started barking and I looked out and this car I didn't recognize was at my house. Here Janis and Lenard were driving around delivering ice cream... she drove 30 miles out of her way to bring me a treat.... That is the kind of person she was. Going to miss that....

jodi Garvey - October 14, 2022 at 07:49 AM



“ Comfort & Light 30" Sonnet was purchased for the family of Janis K. Smith.



October 13, 2022 at 02:37 PM

KB

“ Thank you for being a friend. You were a unique person, and I had the pleasure of witnessing your strength and your playfulness. You were hard-nosed when you needed to be, and I respected you for it. We shared a love of crochet, and you helped me figure some patterns out. I enjoyed our many conversations and will treasure them. I miss you.

Kim Brown - October 13, 2022 at 02:17 PM