



Bettie Ann Swaims

August 24, 1949 - February 5, 2023

Bettie Ann Swaims, 73, died peacefully while taking a nap on Sunday, February 5 at her home in Bald Knob, AR. She was born on August 24, 1949, in Splinterback, Calhoun County, MS, a stitch of a spot that didn't even have a stop sign, to Pheria Fair "Faye" Bobo and James Robert Elam. Some 70 years after her birth, Bettie learned through Ancestry DNA that her real father was Jacob Ray Clemons, of Splinterback, MS. She was raised from a young age by her mother's brother, James Edward Bobo and his wife Vera, alongside her cousin Annice.

For years, Bettie was a single mother of three who she raised by whatever means necessary. Both resourceful and optimistic, she made the best out of what little she had. She found the good in any situation or person (to a fault). She spent many years working at the Steak and Egg located at the corner of Capitol and Chester. Her own mother had worked in that same building when it was Dobb's House and her daughter worked there when it was Mr. Mason's Barbecue. You might have seen her driving around the metro area in the late eighties in her Pepto-Bismol-pink convertible Oldsmobile 98 with burgundy leather seats, top down, her signature-white hair blowing in the wind. She was kind and never liked to say no to the people in her life whether they needed a place to live, a car-loan that needed cosigning or a helping with a bill that someone needed help paying. She was good to the core where it matters most.

She is preceded in death by her first husband, Kenneth Neal Hawk, and her beloved second husband, Johnnie Lynn Swaims, Sr., whom she missed dearly. She is survived by her daughter, Valorie Kay Elam of North Little Rock, Michael Scott Bingham-Hawk (Steve) of Overland Park, KS and Steven Gary Hawk (Karen) of Bald Knob. She was grandmother to (Valorie's) Tommy Earl Barnes Elam, Valesha Shanta Moore (Roderick), and Johnathon Geroy Elam; (Michael's) Yasmin Lula Elise, Danielle Dianne, and Solomon Jacob James Bingham-Hawk; and (Steven's) Chenoah Lynn Hawk, Tayln Lee Wyatt, Kaysn Terry Wyatt, Lillian Louise Hawk, Layla Noelle Hawk, and was great-grandmother to thirteen.

A graveside service will be held on Thursday, February 9 at 2pm at Barnes Cemetery in Batesville. In lieu of flowers, give forty dollars anonymously to a single mother.

Arrangements are entrusted to Powell Funeral Home, Bald Knob - Judsonia.
www.powellfuneralhome.net

Cemetery Details

Barnes Cemetery

1250 Bethesda Road
Batesville, AR 72501

Previous Events

Graveside

FEB 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

Barnes Cemetery
1250 Bethesda Road
Batesville, AR 72501

Tribute Wall

CL

“ Prayers for peace and strength at this time, with love, Rick and Cheryl

Cheryl Elam, sister in Law - February 09, 2023 at 04:57 PM

JE

“ Sending love and prayers for the family from Jerry and Sharon Elam

Jerry Elam - February 09, 2023 at 04:14 PM

DR

“ Diane & Roger purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Bettie Ann Swaims.



Diane & Roger - February 07, 2023 at 03:06 PM