



Joan T. Smith

October 8, 1923 - September 1, 2019

Joan T. Smith, retired Vice President, Trust Investments Division, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., died peacefully on September 1, 2019. She was 95 years old.

Joan was born October 8, 1923 in East St. Paul, MN, the only child of Marie and Charles Smith. She graduated from Johnson High School and enrolled at the University of MN at the tender age of 16. Joan earned her BS in Statistics in 1943 and her MBA in 1959. While at the UofM Joan's academic success earned her an invitation to join the academically prestigious Phi Beta Kappa as an undergraduate student, and Beta Gamma Sigma, the international business honor society for AACSB accredited business school, as a graduate student.

Joan became the first female Vice President in the Trust Investment Division at Norwest Bank (now Wells Fargo) at a time when women and commerce didn't often mix. She was a professionally certified Chartered Financial Analyst and an active member of the CFA Institute Twin Cities Society of Security Analysts and the Minnesota Society of Municipal Analysts. She also sat on the State of Minnesota Board of Investments Advisory Council.

Extremely civic minded, beyond her quiet philanthropy to safety net organizations, Joan served on many boards and advisory committees. She became the first female President of the Board of Trustees for House of Hope Presbyterian Church and sat on the Board of Directors for the Twin Cities Opera Guild. She was involved in the American Association of University Women (St. Paul College Club) Budget Program and House Committees. She was an active member of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association.

Joan valued higher education and was a fierce advocate for the advancement of women's education. In 1999 she established the Joan T. Smith Fellowship for the Advancement of Women in Investment Management at the Carlson School of Management. She delighted in meeting her fellowship recipients, hearing their stories, and encouraging them as they pursued their MBA and dreams of careers in investment management. The joy of this fellowship and her numerous trips to Africa inspired Joan to help more women earn their degrees. In 2005 she established the Joan T. Smith Scholarship Fund Honoring Graca Machel, an internationally recognized human rights advocate and former first lady of Mozambique. Joan's philanthropy supports undergraduate women who are African immigrants, refugees, asylees, or citizens of African countries who are now living in the United States and attending the University of Minnesota.

Joan's father Charles, who traveled extensively through his association with the Shriners, instilled his adventurous spirit and global interest in Joan. During

her childhood, he sent her postcards from every port of call. She later traveled widely, visiting six of the seven continents. She loved nothing more than to research and plan her next adventure. She frequently included pictures of herself at some exotic location in her Christmas cards.

Joan strongly supported the arts. She was a member of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts- Friends of the Institute and an enthusiastic patron of the opera and many theater and dance programs. She was a life-long learner and an avid reader. She frequently attended UofM lectures, book clubs, Minnesota Public Radio and TPT events, and museum functions.

Joan had many friendships and loved planning events to introduce people. She fondly said that her social life interfered with her social life. Wherever in the world she was, she always received admiration for her wonderful sense of fashion, her extensive jewelry collection, her love of theater and her infectious laughter. Joan will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Joan's life will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept 24, at Washburn McReavy Hillside Chapel, 2610 19th Ave NE, Mpls, MN 55418. Visitation one hour prior to the service.

Per Joan's request, consider helping those less fortunate because their plight

might not be their fault, be a life-long learner and fiercely support education, and join her in recognizing the legacy of her and her parents at Shriners Twin Cities. Memorials may be sent to Shriners Healthcare for Children - Twin Cities at 2025 E River Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

www.Washburn-McReavy.com

Hillside Chapel 612-781-1999

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **24.** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
2610 19th Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-1999
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Chapel Service

SEP **24.** 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
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Minneapolis, MN 55418
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Tribute Wall

SB

“ Found this letter few days back from my grandmaa's rack. I didn't know Miss Joan personally. May be I wasnt even born then but I am sure she was a good friend to my grandmother and to our family. Pretty sure she loved to be here in India. May God bless her soul. I am Sanjeeb. If anyone from her family get my message. Please do contact me on gmail at sanjeebkubarick@gmail.com
Thank you



Sanjeeb barik - October 08, 2019 at 12:29 AM