

# Marie Smith Higby

## Obituary



Marie Higby, a longtime Fontana resident, passed away suddenly but peacefully at home on April 8, 2013 at the age of 82 years. A native of Oregon, she was the daughter of John E. Smith, Sr. and his wife Gertrude M. Mobley. She came to California in 1945 and graduated from Chaffey High School in Ontario, CA. She met and married Carl M. Higby in 1946 while they were both working at Armstrong Nurseries in Ontario.

Marie is survived by her husband and daughters Donna (Richard) Metcalfe of Rialto and Janet Higby of Fontana, a sister Gloria Feagley of Clearlake, CA, brother James Smith of The Dalles, Oregon; step-sister Shirley Rhodes of

Grants Pass, OR; and many nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by her parents and brother John E. Smith, Jr and sister Edith L. Smith.

Marie was very involved with the Girl Scouts, the P.T.A. and the Suicide Prevention Hotline. She was employed as a teacher's aid for many years, for both kindergarten and special needs classrooms. She was deeply interested in spiritual matters and was a Religious Science practitioner. She had a lovely singing voice and preformed with the Nostalgia Singers for many years and up to the time of her death. Marie had many hobbies, she loved her garden, reading, traveling and camping. But most of all she loved people. She had the knack of turning strangers into friends in onc conversation. She had many "adopted" children and grandchildren and we all will miss her very much.

A celebration of her life will be held on April 19, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at Dickey's Mortuary, 8030 Mango Ave., Fontana, CA 92336, the service will be held by Rev. Pam Lau with a reception following. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made in her name to Option House, a charity she supported for many years. ([www.optionhouse.org](http://www.optionhouse.org))`

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