



Paula Whitson

October 28, 1933 - August 22, 2025

Services for Paula Whitson, 91 of Tyler, will be held on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 10:00 AM at the Graveside with Very Rev. Hank Lanik officiating. Burial will follow at Rose Lawn Cemetery in Tyler Texas under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Mrs. Whitson passed away Friday, August 22, 2025, in Tyler Texas. She was born October 28, 1933, in Shreveport, Louisiana to Gordon and Ermine Snell.

Paula graduated from Centenary College. Moved To Oregon where She lived with her first Husband Robert Smith. in the 80's. Paula and her Family moved back to the South and she was a teacher at the Montessori School in Minden, Louisiana. Paula retired from teaching full-time and moved back to Tyler to be close to her son and his family.

After the Death of her First Husband, she found her second chance at love with George Whitson, a University of Texas at Tyler Professor, who she met at a local senior dance.

Paula was preceded in death by her First husband Robert Smith, her Sister Patricia Jackson and most recently her second love George Whitson. She is survived by her loving family including Son Michael Smith, his wife Lisa and their two children Jessi and Nicholas. Also, By Marty Whitson, his wife Lee

and their two Children Jack and Jillian.

Pallbearers will be:

Michael Smith

Jessi Gomez

Matthew Gomez

Nicholas Smith

Marty Whitson

Ruben Botello.

Honorary pallbearers will be David Weitzman.

If desired, memorials may be made to favorite Hospice or Dementia Help Organization

Cemetery Details

Rose Lawn Cemetery

2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.
Tyler, TX 75703

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Rose Lawn Cemetery
2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.
Tyler, TX 75703

Tribute Wall

JC

“*Paula was my much loved Aunt. I have early memories of being with her in Shreveport . When I was about 6 or 7 yo, Paula took me catfishing in what she told me was the Bayou. We had such fun, getting all muddy and trying so hard to catch my 1st fish. Never caught anything but it was such a fun time. Some years later, when I reminded her, she explained we never went to the Bayou. It was a muddy, messy drainage ditch. We had such a laugh. Many years later, Aunt Paula came to visit the family in Seattle. My parents, brother and sister-in-law, my husband and the 4 cousins were at my brothers house for a barbecue. We got a game of pool going and Paula and her sister, Pattie ,my Mom ,watched the game. We finally coaxed them into playing a round. Paula was the perfect Southern lady as she made sure we all knew she'd never played. She went first and RAN the table on us.*

I have so many memories of my Aunt Paula. I was so fortunate to be able to talk with her several months ago. We laughed and talked for a few precious minutes. What a gift it was to hear her wonderful, Southern lady accent. I will cherish that conversation we had. Paula was my special person. I am very fortunate to be her niece. She is much loved.

we were in a drainage ditch

Jeri Cranney - September 08, 2025 at 05:13 AM