



## Olisea Mary Rourke Smith

October 15, 1924 - May 3, 2026

Olisea Mary Rourke Smith

Rayne / Crowley, LA - Olisea Mary Rourke Smith, 101, died Sunday, May 3, 2026, at her residence in Crowley, LA.

Olisea was born on October 15, 1924, in Rayne, LA, to Martin Rourke and Elise Cormier Rourke - the second of seven children. She lived most of her life in Rayne, and she is fondly remembered as a kind and generous person, always helping and caring for others. She loved reading, her garden, early morning walks, and her Catholic faith. Olisea worked at the Rayne Acadian-Tribune and Mervine Kahn Company and was a generous supporter of St. Jude Children's Hospital and other causes close to her heart.

Olisea's survivors include her sister, Sybil Rourke Nickel, and numerous nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, and great-great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Irvin Pierre Smith; sister, Dorothy "Dot" Rourke Prudhomme and spouse J.B. Prudhomme, Sr.; four brothers: Vernon Rourke and spouse Ethel Lee Rourke, Burney Rourke and spouse Mildred Rourke, Pauvin Rourke and spouse Evelyn Rourke, and Mervin Rourke and spouse Thelma Rourke; and brother-in-law, Milo Nickel,

Sr.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, May 7, 2026, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rayne, with Very Rev. Brent L. Smith, VF, as Celebrant. Interment will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery #2 in Rayne.

Visitation be observed in Gossen Funeral Home in Rayne on Thursday, May 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with a Rosary prayed at 11:00 a.m.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Dr. Satinder Saini, Hospice of Acadiana and all her caregivers that took great care of Mrs. Smith.

Friends may view the obituary and guestbook online at [www.gossenfuneralhome.net](http://www.gossenfuneralhome.net).

Arrangements have been entrusted to Gossen Funeral Home, Inc. of Rayne, LA, (337) 334-3141.

Gossen Funeral Home, Inc.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph Cemetery #2

400 East Betty Street  
Rayne, LA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 7. 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.  
504 N. Polk Street  
Rayne, LA 70578  
(337) 334-3141  
[info@gossenfuneralhome.net](mailto:info@gossenfuneralhome.net)  
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

## Rosary

MAY 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.  
504 N. Polk Street  
Rayne, LA 70578  
(337) 334-3141  
[info@gossenfuneralhome.net](mailto:info@gossenfuneralhome.net)  
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

## Mass

MAY 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
401 S. Adams Ave.  
Rayne, LA 70578

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gossen Funeral Home Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Olisea Mary Rourke Smith*



**Gossen Funeral Home Inc.** - May 07 at 09:20 AM



“ *Susan Stelly lit a candle in memory of Olisea Mary Rourke Smith*



**Susan Stelly** - May 06 at 11:36 PM



“ *Maddie Besse lit a candle in memory of Olisea Mary Rourke Smith*



**Maddie Besse** - May 06 at 05:45 PM

HM

“ I have fond memories of Olesia, having worked with her several years at *The Rayne Acadian Tribune*. She was a quiet and gentle person, always pleasant. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out to Sybil and family. —Carol and Helen Menard

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**Helen Menard** - May 05 at 08:51 PM

JD

*Mrs. Smith was my dental patient for the past 20 years and saw her just recently. Please accept condolences from my office staff and myself. Dr. Jerome Smith*

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**J. Jerome Jerome Smith, DDS** - May 06 at 12:31 PM