



James M. Smith

October 12, 1928 - June 25, 2019

GREENFIELD - James "Jim" Malcolm Smith, 90, of Greenfield, Indiana passed away surrounded by loved ones on June 25, 2019. He was born on October 12, 1928 in Brookville, Indiana to Robert Louis Smith and Sarah Elizabeth (Reese) Smith.

Jim began his career as a communications chief in the US Army. He attained the rank of staff sergeant and was a veteran of the Korean War. Jim maintained active membership with his local VFW and American Legion posts for many years following his military service. As a civilian, Jim continued his career in communications as an employee of GTE and served as President of the CWA Local 5770, receiving special recognition for his work with the union's political action program. He was a charter member of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Rushville, Indiana where he served in various capacities including Sunday school teacher, President of the congregation, Deacon and Elder. In 2000, he and his family became members of Faith Lutheran Church, Greenfield, Indiana.

Jim was an avid gardener who also enjoyed winemaking. His love of music led him to form a band while in the Army and inspired his extensive record collection. Jim also loved to draw and create humorous comics and cartoons to amuse his children. In retirement, Jim enjoyed reading books from his vast library, fishing near his hometown, watching classic movies, and visiting with family and friends.

Of all his accomplishments, the most meaningful to him was being a dedicated, loving and supportive husband, father and grandfather.

Jim is survived by his wife Maria Smith, his two sisters June (Joe) Turco and Claudia (Melvin) Hertel; his children, Robert (Katy) Smith, Patricia (Robert) Lynch-Donough, Shirley (Yancy) Colvin, Caroline Smith-Ferguson, and Curtis Smith; his grandchildren, Christopher Smith, Danielle Ferguson, Elizabeth Ferguson, Crystal Lynch Baugh and Daniel Lynch and seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Sarah Elizabeth Smith, six sisters and three brothers.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, July 2, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 200 W. McKenzie Road, Greenfield, IN 46140. A funeral service will take place immediately following the visitation at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Wm. Daniel O'Connor will be officiating. A private committal will take place at Maple Grove Cemetery in Brookville, IN.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Building Fund for Faith Lutheran Church, Greenfield, IN or to the Walter Reed Society Warrior/Family Support Fund for combat veterans.

Friends may share a memory or condolence at <http://www.erleweinmortuary.com>. Arrangements are being handled by Erlewein Mortuary in Greenfield, Indiana.

Cemetery

Maple Grove Cemetery
8978 Maple Grove Road
Brookville, IN, 47012

Events

JUL 2 Visitation 10:00AM - 11:00AM

Faith Lutheran Church
200 W. McKenzie Rd., Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

JUL 2 Funeral Service 11:00AM

Faith Lutheran Church
200 W. McKenzie Rd., Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

Comments



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Beate Favorito - July 02, 2019 at 01:06 AM



“ Dearest Smith family, This is Carol Nelson Watson coming to you from Denton, TX now. I have so many wonderful and fun memories of your husband, Dad, Grandfather, Uncle...etc. as time spent at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Rushville. He was usually the one who made us laugh yet at the same time, was grounded in God's Word and faith. Jim and Maria were literally pillars of that church back in the day; we thank them both for their love and dedication. Maria was such a good friend and confidant to our Mom, Marge Nelson, and Jim and our Dad, John Nelson helped found that church and make so many decisions together. Needless to say, good memories of our families working together, praying together, building together and having fun together! And Maria, I am especially sending a big warm hug to you my friend, you are always so loving and giving! May God comfort you and your family in your time of loss as you celebrate his eternal life with our Creator and Redeemer Jesus Christ! Love always, Carol (& Ken)

Carol Watson - June 30, 2019 at 02:10 PM



“ I have fond memories of Mr. Smith as I called him in my younger days. He will always be Mr. Smith to me. Every Sunday he gave me a wink and a smile, said Good-morning, and asked how my week went. He enjoyed being humorous and making others at least grin if not all out laughter. He was interesting to listen to for he had many stories to tell. Most of all he loved all of his wife and all of his children dearly. They are his pride and joy! With this memory, I'd like to express my deepest and sincerest condolences to Maria, all his children, and all his grandchildren. Mr. Smith is in heaven now with the Lord God Almighty where he suffers from pain, illness, and disease no more! May God bless everyone in his family with peace and comfort at this time. You are all in my prayers.



Christie Nelson - June 30, 2019 at 10:53 AM



“ I remember so many good times with uncle Jim and my cousins growing up. It was sad that we had to live so far apart in our adult lives. He will be greatly missed. I know he has reunited with our Mom, his sister Dorothy, and all his other siblings that have passed before him. We love you uncle Jim and our prayers and love go out to all your friends and family. We know you are resting in peace now With much love,
Karen Riley Tafreshi

Karen Tafreshi - June 29, 2019 at 12:44 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you and your family. Cory and Donnette Johnson (Cory's Auto.)



Cory Johnson - June 29, 2019 at 10:06 AM



“ Thank you so much for the kind message. - Danielle

Danielle - June 29, 2019 at 05:55 PM



“ Memories ... Words are few; thoughts are deep; memories of you will always keep.

Cousins Reunion in SC - April 2018.

Great times with laughter and reuniting with one another in person since 1972.

Rekindling and building our relationships with greater strength and understanding, enjoyable and exciting days will never fade away ...

Those we love don't go away ... God Bless, my thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Ellie - cousin from Australia

Beate Ellen Favorito - June 28, 2019 at 09:23 PM



“ Genesis 12,2

...AND I WILL BLESS YOU

...

AND YOU WILL BE A BLESSING

Thanks God for blessing
Jim so much in his life.

Thanks God
Jim was a blessing for
our family
and for many other people

Sissi,
(Maria's sister, Germany)

Elisabeth Wolf-Steffens - June 30, 2019 at 07:47 AM



“ Beate Ellen Favorito lit a candle in memory of James M. Smith



Beate Ellen Favorito - June 28, 2019 at 09:13 PM



“ Thank you Ellie - Danielle

Danielle - June 29, 2019 at 05:46 PM



“ sorry sorry for your loss. I have many fond memories of Uncle Jim. I remember him coming to visit us in San Antonio. my thoughts and prayers to your whole family.
Connie (Riley) Wagner

Connie Wagner - June 27, 2019 at 10:02 PM



“ Hi Connie. This is Danielle, Jim's granddaughter. Thank you so much for the kind words & lovely memory. Grandpa had many post cards & pictures from San Antonio. I can tell he loved the time he spent there. He loved Aunt Dorothy very much. He would be very touched by your memory.

Danielle - June 28, 2019 at 04:28 PM



“ My condolences to the Smith family. The Smith's and Nelson's go back a long time. My first remembrances of Jim and Maria are at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Rushville while Jim worked at the phone company, Bell, I believe. He was active in the church and a faithful member. I looked forward to seeing the Smith family in church each week since we were a small group. Maria was always cheerful and welcoming, a great friend to my mother, Marge Nelson. She and Jim were pillars of the church. I am happy to know Jim is home with Jesus. Patty was in my sister's confirmation class, Shirley with her bright red hair, and Curtis and Caroline, a lively set. Many happy memories with the family. I grieve with you all. As Jim loved gardening and enjoying his produce, so God reminds us to sow seeds of love and forgiveness, the Holy Spirit waters, and God harvests. Let the Earth be our garden so the harvest is plentiful. All my best to all the Smiths.

In Jesus Love, Scott Nelson

Scott Nelson - June 30, 2019 at 09:36 AM



“ That was just lovely brother Scott; thank you for sharing some of the Nelson-Smith memories! Jim was a blessings to us all at Good Shepherd many years ago!

Carol - June 30, 2019 at 02:04 PM