



## Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith

March 2, 1948 - May 2, 2024

James Michael "Mike" Smith, 76, loving husband of Renee Gainey Smith, died peacefully Thursday, May 2, 2024, surrounded by his family at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, GA.

Graveside services with Full Military Honors will be held Friday, May 17th at 10:00 am at M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery, 140 Inway Drive, Anderson, SC, conducted by Dr. Bev T. Kennedy, Jr. The Directors of Kennedy Mortuary, Laurens, SC, are caring for the family.

Mr. Smith was born in Hartsville, SC, to the late James Marion and Janice Galloway Smith and reared by the late James E. and Evelyn Galloway Harrell. He attended USC in Florence, SC. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War and was awarded a Purple Heart. He was self-employed as a grain inspector for over 35 years.

Mr. Smith cherished moments involving family as he was a true family man devoted to his wife and four children. He was an avid reader, loved sports, and enjoyed Western movies. He learned to love the Clemson fighting Tigers after most of his children attended Clemson University. Mr. Smith had a strong faith in God and was a member of West Hartsville Baptist Church. His family will forever miss his quick-witted humor, his light-hearted attitude toward life, and his loving ways.

Mr. Smith is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 47 years, Renee G. Smith. Together, they built a family filled with love and laughter, which became the cornerstone of his life. He was a devoted father to children and spouses: Megan Smith Johnson (Walker) of Charlotte, NC; Keelan Smith (Ryan) of Greer, SC; Blake Smith of Greer, SC; and Rebecca Smith Haney (James) of Charleston, SC.

His ten grandchildren brought him much love, joy and purpose: Elizabeth Johnson, Emily Johnson, Henry Johnson, Hannah Johnson, Palmer Smith, Emory Smith, Eden Smith, Shepard Smith, Hazel Haney and Mac Haney.

He is survived by sisters, Betty Carol "BC" Smith, Barbara Weatherford, and Brenda Chapman, and a brother, James Harrell, all of Hartsville, SC.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Cindy Baumgardner, and nephew, Jason Baumgardner, of Chuluota, FL.

He was predeceased by a brother, Ronnie Smith, and sisters, Ann Andrews and Betty Byrd.

Memorials may be made to DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Charitable Service Trust, 860 Dotwick Drive, Erlanger, KY 41018, or Winship Cancer Institute of Emory Hospital, Development Office, 1762 Clifton Road Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30322.

# Tribute Wall



“ Jay Benson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



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**Jay Benson** - July 31, 2024 at 02:15 PM

LB

“ We were a privileged few who served together in the Mekong Delta of Viet Nam. James, "Smitty" was and will forever be a brother of that trusted few and will never walk alone. Rest in peace brother.



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**Larry George Booker** - May 24, 2024 at 03:34 PM

TC

“ I had the privilege to have served with Smitty in Vietnam. I remember him as a fine soldier and nice kind person. Everyone in our platoon trusted and respected Smitty. I was an honor to have known him in 1968-69. Terry Campbell. Celina, Tennessee. I am so glad he had a personal relationship with Christ. I will see him again.  
Tc

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**Terry Campbell** - May 24, 2024 at 02:02 PM

TL

“ *Tru Lawton lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



Tru Lawton - May 17, 2024 at 08:17 PM

BU

“ *These things I never want to hear. He and I were friend through school until I moved from Hartsville. We reconnected at USCF and had great times. I had several conversations with him about his service and his receiving the Purple Heart. Somehow we lost connection as I was living in Kentucky. This saddens my heart.*

Braxton Usher - May 14, 2024 at 12:08 PM

WW

“ *So sorry to learn of Mikes passing. We attended school together. I pray for Gods loving arms to surround his family and give them the strength and comfort as they go through the weeks and months ahead.*



Wittie Waldron - May 13, 2024 at 09:08 PM

MA

“ *So saddened to learn of Mike's passing. He was a loyal friend who treated everyone with respect. I enjoyed the precious few times we were together after retirement. May you experience the comfort of God's love and renewed strength for all that lies ahead. Much Love, Manly Kelley*

Manlykelley - May 13, 2024 at 07:13 PM

VB

“ Renee and family, so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. You are in my thoughts and prayers during this time of grief. Let the tears flow but at the same time think of those wonderful times you all shared. Focus on those wonderful memories.

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**vernon G boyd** - May 11, 2024 at 11:19 PM

BM

So sorry for your loss. Prayers for the family.

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**Bubba Morrison** - May 13, 2024 at 07:23 PM

TH

we will miss another brave soul ..may he rest in peace

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**thomas j haser** - May 29, 2024 at 05:06 PM

DB

“ I am very sorry for your loss. Praying for the family.



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**Danny Beasley** - May 11, 2024 at 09:45 AM

PW

“ Dear Renee and Family, John and I are so saddened to hear of Mike's passing, We were unaware of his illness. We will continue to keep each of you in our thoughts and prayers. Sincerely Jphn and Patty Whitehead

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**patty Whitehead** - May 11, 2024 at 09:41 AM

LP

“ Linda Parker lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



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Linda Parker - May 09, 2024 at 09:22 PM

RW

“ Renee and family, we are so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. You and the family are in our thoughts and prayers!

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Rita & Jimmy White - May 09, 2024 at 07:09 PM

JR

“ Renee and Family, So saddened to hear of Mike's passing. I always enjoyed being around him as we watched the kids growing up on the soccer and softball fields. I'm smiling now as I remember working the concession stands and making up our own menu! What a great Husband, Father, and Friend. I am blessed to have known him. Sending Prayers to you all.  
Joe Regan

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Joe Regan - May 09, 2024 at 06:38 PM

JA

“ MIKE WAS A TRUE FRIEND

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JIMMY ANDREWS - May 09, 2024 at 12:47 PM

SJ

“ Fondly remembering Mike from our high school years. My prayers for his family in their time of loss and grief.



Sally Johnson - May 09, 2024 at 11:45 AM

BG

“ So sorry to learn of Mike’s passing. He was an all around great guy. Sending our condolences and prayers for your family.  
Bess and Don Gore

Bess Gore - May 08, 2024 at 10:08 PM

SF

“ Steve And Gail Funderburk lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



Steve and Gail Funderburk - May 08, 2024 at 08:39 PM

SC

“ Renee, Jimmy and I are so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. I'm praying for God to comfort you in the days ahead and wishing you loving memories to warm your heart, today and always.

Sherry Cross - May 08, 2024 at 06:48 PM

CB

“ Carol Elmore Bryant lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



carol elmore bryant - May 08, 2024 at 06:40 PM

CB

Renee: I am so sad that you have lost Mike. But I am happy I saw you two at Sugar Rush recently. He looked great and had his usual smile and kind words. He always was a Class Act and I will always remember him as one of the nicest guys ever. You and your family will be in my prayers today and in the coming days. Blessings, Carol

carol elmore bryant - May 08, 2024 at 06:46 PM

LR

“ Lester And Lori Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



Lester and Lori Reynolds - May 08, 2024 at 06:38 PM

CF

“ Renee and family, my prayers and love to you. I got to know Mike in grammar school when we rode the bus together. He and my brother became a good friends. We were in the same class in high school. Mike was a perfect example of a well rounded and respected man. I wish you peace and comfort, Carole Flowers

Carole Flowers - May 08, 2024 at 04:24 PM

DS

“ *Dianw Sheffield-Wilkes lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



**Dianw Sheffield-Wilkes** - May 08, 2024 at 03:55 PM

TW

“ *My heart is saddened to hear of Mike's passing... He was an all around great guy to know. A wonderful friend to all and truly a great hero. Sending love and prayers for comfort at this time..Terri*

**Terri Northcutt Woodham** - May 08, 2024 at 02:32 PM

DG

“ *Deborah Gandy lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



**Deborah Gandy** - May 08, 2024 at 02:27 PM

BH

“ *So sorry to hear this, Mike was a great friend. Renee and family, you are in my thoughts and prayers, sending hugs and love* ❤️🙏

**Bobbie Henderson** - May 08, 2024 at 01:55 PM

BH

“ *Bobbie & Tony Huggins lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



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**Bobbie & Tony Huggins** - May 08, 2024 at 01:50 PM

BJ

*Sorry to hear about Mike's passing. He and I have been friends for most of our lives and he will truly be missed. My prayers go out for his family. Mike was always a great and kind person.*

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**Bruce Johnson** - May 09, 2024 at 12:14 PM

RJ

“ *Thinking of all the family. Prayers & condolences.*

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**Regina Jones** - May 08, 2024 at 01:17 PM

BM

“ *It seems everyone in Hartsville knew Mike. His personality was as wide as his smile. We will pray for comfort for his family.*

*Billy and Gayle McDonald*

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**Billy and Gayle McDonald** - May 08, 2024 at 12:44 PM

SH

“ *Sandra And Larry Huggins lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



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**Sandra and Larry Huggins** - May 08, 2024 at 10:50 AM

SH

*My was a wonderful person and a quite hero. Our prayers to the family.*

**Sandra and Larry Huggins** - May 08, 2024 at 10:54 AM

RW

“ *Rebecca Wadsworth Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



**Rebecca Wadsworth Walker** - May 08, 2024 at 10:42 AM

RM

“ *Rodney And Kathy McFarland lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



**Rodney and Kathy McFarland** - May 08, 2024 at 10:32 AM

JG

“ *My sweet Rebecca,Renee family and friends so very sorry to hear of Mike's passing.He was a special husband,father,grandfather and friend to all who new him.Always greeting you with a smile.Prayers and love to this special family.Love Ms. Jewel*

**Jewel Gibson** - May 08, 2024 at 09:30 AM

BS

“ *Bill & Angela Stokes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



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**Bill & Angela Stokes** - May 08, 2024 at 09:29 AM

JG

“ *Jewel Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



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**Jewel Gibson** - May 08, 2024 at 09:22 AM

DB

“ *David And Beverly Byrd lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



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**David and Beverly Byrd** - May 08, 2024 at 08:48 AM

PS

“ *Pam Sansbury lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



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**Pam Sansbury** - May 08, 2024 at 08:37 AM

JB

“ Jeannie Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



Jeannie Brown - May 08, 2024 at 08:32 AM

VJ

“ Von & Linda Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



Von & Linda Johnson - May 08, 2024 at 08:22 AM

VJ

RIP cuz!! You will be missed by everyone

Von Johnson - May 08, 2024 at 08:24 AM

RW

“ Ron Wall lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



Ron Wall - May 08, 2024 at 08:00 AM

JB

“ Renee, Debra and I were deeply saddened to learn of Mikes passing. Please accept our deepest sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you during the days and weeks ahead.

J Glenn Beckham - May 08, 2024 at 07:53 AM

LS

“ Mike was a good man. Fought well for our country. Prayers to his family.

*Larry Stewart*

Larry Stewart - May 08, 2024 at 07:34 AM

TG

“ Tony And Denice Grant lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



Tony and Denice Grant - May 08, 2024 at 07:19 AM

RM

“ Ronnie And Tanya McDonald lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith



Ronnie and Tanya McDonald - May 07, 2024 at 11:29 PM

PA

“ Renee and family, you are in our thoughts and prayers.. hugs and love..  
*Patsy and Chip Auman*



patsy Auman - May 07, 2024 at 11:17 PM

GG

“ *Gene And Teresa Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Michael "Mike" Smith*



Gene and Teresa Gibson - May 07, 2024 at 09:22 PM

KL

“ *Renee and family, oh how I know you will the love of your life. I have such fond memories of Mike and the good times we all shared on the tennis courts as well as the softball fields. Mike loved each of you and has prepared for this day. I love each of you too. My prays continue hoping you will find comfort in your coming days. Hugs to all, Kathy Lawhon*

Kathy Lawhon - May 07, 2024 at 07:46 PM

EH

“ *Renee. I am so sorry to hear about Mike. I have know him all my life. He and my brother have been best friends for over 70 years. He was a great guy and always a friend. Sending you and your family much love, strength and peace during the coming days.*



Elaine Hubbard - May 07, 2024 at 06:05 PM

JS

“ 🙏🙏🙏🙏 *Condolences & prayers for the Smith family, other relatives, & friends. May God wrap His loving arms around them all as God receives another Angel.* 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Jim Stewart - May 07, 2024 at 05:28 PM