



Jennings Smith

May 29, 1953 - October 20, 2006

Celebration of life services for Jennings L. "Mr. Red Fox" Smith, 53, will be held at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, October 22, 2006 at the Hartsville High School Gymnasium. The Revs. Steve Winburn, B. J. Smith and Hazel Mixon will officiate. The family will receive friends immediately following the service. Burial will be at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, October 23, 2006 in the New Market United Methodist Church Cemetery directed by Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home. To honor Jennings it is recommended that those attending the service dress in their school colors. Memorials may be made to the Jennings Smith Wall of Fame, c/o Hartsville High School, 701 Lewellyn Avenue, Hartsville, SC 29550 or to Helping Hands Hospice, 202 S. 2nd St., Hartsville, SC 29550.

Mr. Smith died Friday, October 20, 2006. Born in Darlington Co., SC, he was a son of the late John Wesley and Beler Mae Wallace Smith. He graduated from Hartsville High School in 1971, graduating in the top ten percent of his class. He was a member of the National Honor Society, was an honorary member of the Red Fox Club and a member of P.A.L.S.(People Always Lending Support) for 14 years, serving as their assistant director for the past 3 years. He played church basketball and church softball. He coached t-ball, basketball, and worked with the American Legion Baseball program for 34 years. He was a statistician for Hartsville High School Athletics for 30 years and Hartsville Middle School Athletics for 27 years. He was the sports writer for Darco News and Buyers Guide, the High School Sports Report, and the sports show on

WSDC radio. He was awarded several accolades including: the Jaycees' "Hartsville's Most Outstanding Young American" in 1985, the "High School Sports Report Fan of the Year" in 1988, and Relay for Life's "Sexiest Legs in Darlington County" for the past two years. He tutored many students, touched the lives of over 18,000 Athletes, attended over 8,000 ballgames. He will be missed by all.

Surviving are his brothers and sister-in-laws, James and Betty Smith of Lamar, SC, John Henry and Hattie Smith of McBee, SC, Charles and LaVonde Smith of Murrells Inlet, SC; sisters and brothers-in-law, Margaret Morrell, Jeanette and Ray Winburn, Patricia and Roy Flowers all of Hartsville, SC; adopted brothers and sister-in-law, Thomas and April Sellers, Jack O'neal; godchild, Jennings Rufznak; numerous nieces and nephews; special friend, Judy "Mama Judy" Lyles.

Previous Events

Service

OCT **22**. 3:00 PM.

Hartsville High School Gym

Tribute Wall



“What can I say that everyone else hasn't already said about my Uncle Jennings aka "Mr.Red Fox"? I don't really know where to begin. Who doesn't have a story about Uncle Jennings? Well those of you know I was "Lissa Pissa" to him. I don't know why he nicknamed me that but I do know I went to Kindergarten and had to stand in the corner on the first day because I proudly told them my uncle called me Lissa Pissa and straight to the corner I went. I always hated when he called me that but what I wouldn't give now to hear that name again....He was a great man with a great sense of humor. But he also was dedicated and strong-willed. I have never known anyone more stubborn than him(with the exception of Grandma). I do rest easier knowing that he is in heaven with Grandma and Granddaddy and everyone else he loved so dearly and there is no doubt in my mind he is finally walking again, probably even running. I just hope Grandma hasn't had to wack him too many times with the walking stick..(LOL) It brings a smile to my face to think of Grandma and Jennings being together after all this time. I am grateful to be a part of this family. I have a new found respect for all of you. I admire how you all stuck together to make Jennings last few weeks the best they possibly could be for him. I know it was hard going through that but you did it out of love for him. I just am proud of my uncle Mr. Red Fox Jennings Smith. I know my kids are young and probably won't remember Jennings the way alot of us can, but I will make sure they hear all the crazy stories about him and how even as sick as he was, he tried to play with my youngest, Elaina, and told her he loved her. I love you Jennings, I always will and I will never ever forget you, as will no one that ever knew you...I don't know how life will be without him but I am glad he is no longer suffering and he is where he wanted to be. Aunt Margaret, Aunt Jeanette, Uncle Charles, Uncle John Henry, and Uncle James, I love you all and am here for you in any way I can be. And to Ma, I love you with all my heart and can't even imagine the hole in your heart right now but just remember Jennings wouldn't want you to be sad because he is happy. He is walking again, walking among angels, and he is with the best angel of all, Grandma. Everyone knows Grandma will take care of him. Love all of ya'll and I am so

proud to be a part of our loving family..And more importantly I am proud of my Uncle Jennings and proud to have known him.##imported-begin##Melissa Flowers##imported-end##

October 27, 2006 at 12:47 PM



*“ To the family of Mr. Red Fox,
I am sorry for the loss of a great man, a very sweet and caring person that placed others first. I only knew Jennings for a brief time. I met him thru his nephew Billy. I miss him and always will and remember the things we had in common and how he took me in as family. Jennings, May you rest in peace along side your Mother now. God Bless you and your Family in this time of need. All I can say is God has a great man amongst his Angels now. Teach them Angels the way you taught here on earth. Love you always. Sadly miss.
Love Dee##imported-begin##Dee Tyndall##imported-end##*

October 26, 2006 at 02:00 PM



*“ To the family of Jennings Smith,

Although we are out of town we wanted you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you during your time of loss. Jennings was a good friend. He will be missed. His life touched many lives as he was a mentor to many.

Love in Christ,

David and Valerie Johnson
Glendale Arizona##imported-begin##David and Valerie Johnson##imported-end##*

October 25, 2006 at 11:04 PM



“ Jennings, you were and always will be an inspiration to me. I have always admired your courage and strong determination to do whatever needed to be done no matter what. Always such an independant person and a little hard headed at times (that you got from grandma of course). It is hard to think of much else right now other than how much I love and miss you. There have been lots of funny memories and stories shared between the 2 of us. From the time I fell in the mud puddle in your drive way and looked like a swamp monster to the time a bat got in the house and was after you and grandma. I will miss your stories and the sound of your laughter. I write poetry and was amazed to discover that you did too. I have created a scrapbook in your memory filled with all the newspaper clippings, poems, and other special memorabilia because I feel that I cannot do enough to ensure that your memory will live on forever. Thank you for the special gift of your piano. We used to sit together and play ever since I was a little girl. I would like to take lessons so that you will be proud of me. Please tell god to watch over our whole family especially Ma. She will be lost without you but knows that you are in a much better place than any of us are right now. These mere words I feel cannot express enough of how very much that I love you and how very proud I am to call you "Mr. Redfox" my uncle!!!##imported-begin##Jennifer Flowers##imported-end##

October 25, 2006 at 06:57 PM



“ Uncle Jennings was such a joy to experience on this earth. His personality is matched by no one that I know. I rejoiced with God and the angels in heaven when he went home. My family, please hear me when I say that this is NOT it for Uncle Jennings. Just as I said at the gravesite. John 8:51. His body died October 20, 2006, but HE STILL LIVES! He is in the presence of the Almighty Creator of heaven and earth. He made a decision to commit his life to Christ, and I would give anything to have the rest of this family make that same commitment. If any of you ever have questions about how to do that, please, please don't hesitate to call me. I know Uncle Jennings wants that for the rest of you as well. He loves you, and I love you.

Mr. Red Fox lives on!##imported-begin##BJ Smith##imported-end##

October 25, 2006 at 05:50 PM



“ Although I did not have contact with Jennings through sports, I do remember his dedication to the athletic department and enjoy just speaking to him. He will be greatly missed by all even those who was not associated with him through sports. Jennings, you fought a good fight. God will sustain your family in this difficult time. God Bless.##imported-begin##Cardelia Brewer##imported-end##

October 25, 2006 at 08:57 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Jennings. He played a big part in my life when i was younger. I remember walking to the store almost everyday and stopping on the porch to talk with Jennings and his mother. He then lived on Coker Avenue, my grandmother lived around the corner on McNair. I remember how great a listener he was. He was a super guy and he will be greatly missed. our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.##imported-begin##Sheri Coates Rogers##imported-end##

October 24, 2006 at 11:04 PM



“ I am so glad that I got to know you and spend time with you. You made me laugh often and you always seemed to help bring life back into me when things went wrong. I know you are shining down on us all and I can't wait to see you again##imported-begin##NicolebBarefoot##imported-end##

October 24, 2006 at 06:38 PM



“ To the family of Jennings,
I was in Rhode Island when I received the news about Jennings. I want you to know, we are very sorry to hear about his passing away. Jennings left his mark in the community, and will be sadly missed. I can say that he cannot be replaced. He did so much, for all sports at H.H.S. All of you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Ron & Carole Howard##imported-begin##Ron Howard##imported-end##

October 24, 2006 at 03:45 PM



“ TO ALL THE FAMILY,
WE ARE VERY SORRY OF YOUR LOSS, JENNINGS WAS A
VERY SPECIAL PERSON WHOM WE ALL LOVED.I KNOW MAMA
IS HAPPY TO SEE HIM AGAIN SHE LOVED HIM SO.
WE LOVE YOU.
JACKIE @ GUY##imported-begin##JACKIE@ GUY##imported-
end##

October 24, 2006 at 09:48 AM



“ As a varsity football player for four years Jennings was always there
to help when needed. He was a great man and a great friend.
Jennings will always have a place in our hearts and in Red Fox
Territory. We love you Jennings.##imported-begin##Avery Lyles and
Megan Winburn##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 08:04 PM



“ we will miss seeing jennings around town. he always wore a smile.
we will miss him in hartsville sc##imported-begin##burke and
wendy hoffman##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 07:33 PM



“ DEAR SMITH FAMILY
I JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW YOU ARE IN MY
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.JENNINGS WAS A TRUE
INSPIRATION AND WILL BE GRATLY MISSED.JUST REMEBER
THAT HE IS NO LONGER IN ANY PAIN AND HE IS WALKING ON
HOLY GROUND NOW.##imported-begin##wade harris ##imported-
end##

October 23, 2006 at 07:33 PM



“ *The Norment family extends out deepest sympathy to the family of Jennings. He was a dear friend to me for many years and was a true inspiration in many ways. He will be missed but I am thankful for the wonderful memories and the smile he always shared. May God bless and comfort you in the days ahead.##imported-begin##Lou Norment ##imported-end##*

October 23, 2006 at 06:39 PM



“ *Jennings was a very inspiring man. Sorry for the loss of such a precious person.##imported-begin##Tammy Davis & Debra Weatherford##imported-end##*

October 23, 2006 at 05:21 PM



“ *Jennings was a wonderful person and he will be missed by so many. God bless you all. You will be in my prayers.##imported-begin##Anna Gore##imported-end##*

October 23, 2006 at 02:28 PM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. May your faith be strong and may your love for Jennings live for ever in your heart and mind.##imported-begin##Ronda Fountain-Covington & Family##imported-end##*

October 23, 2006 at 02:13 PM



“ Charles and Family, we are sorry for your loss and the loss to the Red Fox family. Jennings was such a wonderful influence on so many young lives. The Foxes have their own guardian angel now. God will comfort you in the days ahead. Bess and Don##imported-begin##Bess and Don Gore##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 11:44 AM



“ You will be in our thoughts and prayers.
Love, Sue Leazer##imported-begin##Sue Leazer##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 11:15 AM



“ You where a inspiration to so many. Even though I did not know you very well at all. I am proud to call you family. You were a living testimony. God has a new angel.

Cherie Barker (Betty Wallace Sobacki's daughter)##imported-begin##Cherie Barker##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 10:03 AM



“ To the Smith Family...
My thoughts and Prayers are with each of you at this most difficult time. The Hartsville community and the Red Foxes have suffered a GREAT loss. May God give each of Jennings' family members and loved ones and friends the peace, comfort, strength and courage in the days and months to come. We all have such Wonderful memories of Jennings to cherish deep in our Hearts. May God Bless the Jennings Smith Family.
Connie Sells Wallace##imported-begin##Connie Sells Wallace##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 09:38 AM



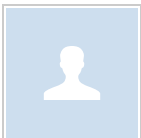
“ To the Jennings Smith Family: You will be in our thoughts and prayers and we will miss Jennings at PALS especially when we play bingo.##imported-begin##Charles and Elaine Boatwright##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 09:38 AM



“ Jennings you will be missed. Anyone who has ever known or been associated with you are better people because of it. Rest in peace we will miss you.##imported-begin##Jason and Christina Bozicevich##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 09:31 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts & prayers will continue to be with all of you.##imported-begin##DeeDee & Roger Smith##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 08:43 AM



“ Jennings was a very special person who will live on through the many lives he has touched...Our prayers are with the family.##imported-begin##Tammy & Donnie Douglas##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 07:00 AM



“ So very sorry to hear about the loss of Jennings. He will definately be missed in the world of the Red Foxes. As with me, I'm know he touched the lives of many former HHS athletes. I'm sure he'll be wearing red and black in heaven! Will be praying for the family in this time of mourning.##imported-begin##Kacee DeWitt##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 06:11 AM



“ Grandma,

Your strength is something that I only wish I possessed. You are the glue that keeps everyone together. I love you so very much and I am here always. I love this family and I loved Jinx. Uncle Jinx was a wonderful man that was more than just Mr. Red Fox. I remember his laugh, his smile, his jokes, and bickering with great Grandma like they were an old married couple...and his pain that only he knew, that is no longer there. Though you know he is no longer suffering, I cannot imagine the void in your heart now that he is gone. This has made me realize how very precious my baby brother is to me, and I cannot imagine being in your shoes...or in any of your brothers and sisters shoes. I look at this family and I know that I am lucky to have all of you because not everyone has a family as loving and as big as we do. We pulled together to help him and now we are together to celebrate his life and to grieve because he will be missed so much...and we have all learned something from Jinx. Live life to the fullest, just as he did. None of us in this family will ever take walking for granted, because we know it could or already has effected us...

but I realized when Aerial and I gave him perhaps the last pepsi that he ever drank the other night...that something as simple as the way a drink fizzes and swirls around the ice and the way it tastes after being so thirsty is just one of the many things that I do take for granted. We are never promised another breath, and only God can give us all the comfort that is needed now. Jinx is not in a wheelchair any longer...and he is walking in heaven, and that is something that I never saw him do. I will be praying for you Grandma, and Uncle John Henry, Uncle James, Uncle Charles, Aunt Jeanette, Aunt Patricia...and the rest of the family and friends that he loved so dearly. It will never be the same without him.

Love,

Brandy##imported-begin##Brandy Morrell##imported-end##

October 23, 2006 at 12:42 AM



“ We love you always, and you always inspired everyone you came across God Bless you, we will see you in heaven some day Love Always
Virginia, Betty, Debra ,Jimmy, JB, and Clifton###imported-begin###From James les Wallace's children ###imported-end###

October 22, 2006 at 11:57 PM



“ To all of the Smith family: Our family would like you to know how sorry we are at the passing of your dear Jennings. He was an inspiration to many and he will truly be missed. He always had time to talk to students , past and present. My son Tyler was about 3 years old when we would attend the HHS football games, Jennings always took the time to ride Tyler on the back of his wheelchair- Tyler still remembers that to this day. Jennings is with his father now and I am sure that come basketball season he will be keeping the stats from heaven! Just know that he is still with us in our memories, as he always will be. Our deepest sympathy, Caroline Wilson, Megan Harris, Lindsey Wilson , Allen Wilson, and Tyler Wilson.###imported-begin###Caroline Wilson###imported-end###

October 22, 2006 at 09:54 PM



“ Jennings was greatly love and will be greatly missed. Words can't describe the way we feel right now, We've lost a wonderful man(brother/uncle). It's gonna be hard for a while to except our lost, but we all know he is no longer in pain.He'll be watching over all of us...###imported-begin###Betty,James,Billy,Phyllis,Donna,Raymond, & Madison###imported-end###

October 22, 2006 at 09:00 PM



“ *Jennings was a special person. Always had a smile.He will be missed.May God with you during this time.*
Jackie,Angie and Billy Gainey###imported-begin###Angie###imported-end##

October 22, 2006 at 03:50 PM



“ *I was a classmate of Jennings and always thought highly of him. I was sadden to hear of your loss and know his family will miss him. You have my condolences at this sad occasion.###imported-begin###Larry Price###imported-end##*

October 22, 2006 at 02:05 PM



“ *He will be greatly missed.###imported-begin###Jimmy and Amanda Beck###imported-end##*

October 22, 2006 at 02:04 PM



“ James, John Henry, Charles, Margret, Jeanett, Patricia and extended family, On behalf of the staff of Helping Hands Hospice, please know that we are so very sorry for your loss and want to express our heartfelt sympathy during this difficult time of sorrow. Jennings "Mr.Red Fox" was a true Red Fox and such a wonderful person. He will be truly missed. Our staff is also thankful that we had the opportunity to know and to serve the Smith family. Jennings will be a great loss to the athletic programs of Hartsville, and to our community as well. Remember, this earth is not our home and we are only passing through this land as we travel lifes journey! Once again, we are praying for your family and we are here for you should you need our assistance in any way. Sincerely, John Griggs - Community Awareness Coordinator - Helping Hands Hospice###imported-begin##John "Bootsie" Griggs###imported-end##

October 22, 2006 at 12:24 PM



“ My Uncle Jennings was a great person. The biggest fan anyone could have ever known. The word that most describes him though is "A Legend". I know that he will be missed by everyone especially his family. He just always had that "spunk" about him. I am content in my heart to know that my Uncle Jennings is right where he wants to be know doing just what he wants to do...walking. I will miss him so much but the love I have for him will always be in my heart. I love u Uncle Jennings!###imported-begin##Aeriel Morrell, Jason & Caden Byrd###imported-end##

October 22, 2006 at 11:18 AM



“ *Jennings is a good friend of many athletes and he will always be remember in the lives of everyone that attending of have ever been to HHS. I know i will always remember him.##imported-begin##Kirby Hodge (Mascot)##imported-end##*

October 22, 2006 at 09:47 AM



“ *Jennings you will be greatly missed. You touched my life in ways you'll never know. Though you won't be with us in person, you'll always have a special place in our hearts and in the press box with us as well. Rest easy my friend.*

Buster##imported-begin##Buster Freeman##imported-end##

October 22, 2006 at 09:00 AM



“ *To all the family, I know this is a hard time for all of you, but he's not suffering anymore. Jennings was a special person and we loved him very much. May God be with all of you at this time.##imported-begin##Pat & Robert James##imported-end##*

October 21, 2006 at 11:22 PM



“ Jennings was a very special man to everyone and will be greatly missed by all who were privileged enough to know him. I am very proud that Jennings is my uncle. I am not quite sure how HHS will survive without Jennings. He has been committed to the Red Foxes for a very long time and it will be difficult without him there now. But we all know that right now he is in a much better place than we all are.

Jennings I just want to say to you that we love you very much and we will miss you greatly. We know that right now you are up there in heaven doing the one thing that you have been waiting to do for a long time....you're actually walking around looking down on us.##imported-begin##Holly & Drew Freeman & Zachary Smith##imported-end##

October 21, 2006 at 10:54 PM



“ To Jennings Family, Jennings will be missed. He was a true friend, devoted to services of others especially the "Red Foxes". His love for God was very obvious through his difficult times.##imported-begin##Edna Sims##imported-end##

October 21, 2006 at 09:49 PM



“ We were very sorry to hear about the loss of Jennings. We will always remember Jennings as "Mr. Red Fox" and how much he loved Hartsville High School and the Hartsville Red Foxes. The town of Hartsville has suffered a great loss at his passing and our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.##imported-begin##Darryl and Kristie Walters##imported-end##

October 21, 2006 at 08:16 PM



“ jennings has meant alot to my family for a very long time. we all love jennings very much, and we will all miss him terribly. i am so sorry for your loss.

love deedee and the hodge family##imported-begin##deedee blue##imported-end##

October 21, 2006 at 07:31 PM



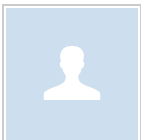
“ So sorry to hear about Jennings. He loved those "Red Foxes." He was a good friend and classmate. He will be missed.....Roberta (class of 1971)##imported-begin##Roberta Driskell-O'Steen (class of 71)##imported-end##

October 21, 2006 at 07:14 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family. He touched so many lives. I am so sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Brandy Zeller##imported-end##

October 21, 2006 at 06:14 PM



“ I knew Mr.Smith's Parents for several years, they were Watkins Customers of mine, My sympathy goes out to all of the family,& to friends, extended Fans,& Loved ones. The Smith Family & the Wallace Family were dear to us. W.R & Audrey Price##imported-begin##William R. Price##imported-end##

October 21, 2006 at 06:08 PM



“ *To All Jennings Family,
We were so sorry to hear of his passing, He will be missed very
much, we will miss seeing him at the games. If there is anything we
can do please let us know.*

*Charlie, Patty and Heather Gainey##imported-
begin##Charlie, Patty, and Heather Gainey##imported-end##*

October 21, 2006 at 04:09 PM