



## Ralph Keith Smith

July 17, 1939 - March 13, 2021

Ralph Keith Smith, 81, of Huntington, passed away at 8:30 am Saturday, March 13, 2021, at his residence surrounded by his loving family.

Keith was born on July 17, 1939, in Clarion, PA, the son of Albert Smith and Alice (Traister) Smith. He graduated from Knox PA High School with the class of 1957, earned a Bachelor's Degree from Anderson College, and a Masters Degree in Education from University of Pittsburgh. He married the love of his life Janet E. Howard on June 20, 1964, in Sturgis, MI. He retired from Ohio State Neuro Psych Hospital in 2005. Keith had a strong faith and was a member of the Faith Community Church of God in Huntington, IN. He spent many years as a teacher, coach, athletic director, church camp director, and recreational therapist. In 2013, he was inducted into the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford Athletic Hall of Fame on the university's 50th anniversary, in recognition of his significant role establishing the athletics department during the university's infant years. He was an avid sportsman, but his passions were fishing and Ohio State University football. Keith was devoted to his family and friends.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Janet, of Huntington, IN; Two Daughters, Joell M. (Holling) Smith-Borne of Nashville, TN, and Janell J. (William J.) Webb of Moorpark, CA; Son, Jeffrey K. (Judy) Smith of Columbus, OH; 6 Grandchildren; and 5 Great Grandchildren. He is preceded in death by

his Father, Albert L. Smith, and Mother, Alice M. Smith.

A Memorial Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Preferred memorials to Parkview Hospice or American Alzheimer's Association, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN, 46750.

Please sign the online guest book at [www.baileylove.com](http://www.baileylove.com).

Bailey-Love Mortuary is honored to serve the family of Ralph Keith Smith.

# Tribute Wall

SH

“ Dear Jan and Family, Dave and I send our love and condolences to you all in your time of loss. College days together at AU made for great memories. Though living miles apart, we've enjoyed having your friendship all this time. It's a blessing to know that the relationship we saw in its budding stage took root and blossomed for well over 50 years - for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in health and in weakness. We smile to remember our weekend in Pittsburg with our husbands when we two girls, and our great friend Sandra Clark turned 50. It was such great fun that we vowed we'd do it again. As you said, Jan, maybe you and I can pick it up in a year or so when we celebrate another landmark birthday. May God light your path, walk alongside you, and keep you close to his heart in all the days to come. With Love, Sheila and Dave Harp

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**Sheila Harp** - March 24, 2021 at 04:19 PM

JB

“ Jan, Judy and Jim Bradley send you our prayers and condolences. You were good friends in our time in Tallmadge. Our baby daughter, Jaime loved you dearly. Your support in our lives and the ministry of the church will continue to be a blessing. May God's Spirit comfort and sustain you. Jim and Judy Bradley

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**James Bradley** - March 21, 2021 at 05:20 PM

KL

“ Dearest Jan and family, we are saddened to hear of Keith's passing. Our sincere love and thoughts are with you. We have many fond memories of our times together at Northmoreland and the Talmadge church. You and Keith were a part of our lives for so long and have a special place in our hearts. Keith and his wonderful smile and sense of humor will be missed. He was a special man.

*Pat Kupisch  
Kim and Mark Lindahl  
Karen and Brian Ewell*

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**Kim E Lindahl** - March 20, 2021 at 11:00 AM

PL

“ Dear Jan and family, just heard about Keith's passing and how hard it's been for all of you and especially you , sweet Jan... Our prayers are with you, will miss Keith's great laugh and smile... we had lots of fun at Meadowpark..... especially when Keith played Santa Claus !!! Love and Prayers to you all, Larry and Patty Lilly

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**Patty Lilly** - March 18, 2021 at 03:47 PM

JA

*Thank you Patty. We did have good times. I was telling someone recently about your White Castle nights! 😊 I hope you and Larry are doing well. 💕*

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**Jan** - March 19, 2021 at 07:45 PM

BS

“ Keith was a Great Brother! Our lives were always very interesting because we never knew what he would find for us to do. His love and care for Carol and me was never ending. His example and his walk with Jesus was a beacon to all who knew him! I am so thankful he is whole again and I know he is fishing again!! I look forward to coming home with you: 1: 🙏🙏🙏.

Betty Smith Solms - March 17, 2021 at 09:11 PM

SB

“ Smitty was one of our favorite people. His laugh was contagious. Although most of our times together were in college, his friendship lasted through the years. We are grateful for his life and his influence for good in his world. Blessings to his family. Sandy and HL 😊😊

Sandy and HL Baker - March 16, 2021 at 07:13 PM

JA

Thank you HL and Sandy. Keith treasured your friendship. 💕💕

Jan - March 17, 2021 at 02:49 PM

KM

“ Uncle Keith you will be missed so very much. I always knew I could go to you and Aunt Janet if I ever needed someone to talk to. I'm forever grateful for you both guiding me along the path to Jesus. I'll always be "Krissy Belle" when I think of you. Cha cha cha! So glad that you are whole again. Heaven won't be the same with you there. Earth isn't the same without you now.

Kris Meacham - March 16, 2021 at 05:20 PM

AJ

Thank you Kris. We love you. 💕💕

Aunt Janet - March 17, 2021 at 02:50 PM

GG

“ *The never ending BIG smiles and the easy laugh. Could have never asked for a better roommate. Proud to have been his friend!! Rest easy Smitty.*

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**Gary Gerould** - March 16, 2021 at 05:19 PM

JA

*Thank you Gary. Keith treasured your friendship. 💕💕*

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**Jan** - March 17, 2021 at 02:51 PM