



Joe Smith

August 25, 1930 - November 10, 2011

Heading: Joe K. Smith

Dateline: Greer

Joe Keller Smith, 81, of 106 Peachtree Drive, Greer passed away peacefully at his home on November 10, 2011 due to complications from Parkinson's Disease.

Joe was born on August 25, 1930 in Greer to the late Dortcha Freeman and Hazel Keller Smith. He attended Greer Public Schools and graduated from Greer High School, where he played left guard on the football team of the legendary Walt Pinson. Joe then attended North Greenville Junior College, where the Editors of The Aurora yearbook voted him Best Looking man on campus.

After finishing Furman with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, Joe married his longtime sweetheart Patricia Ann Edwards on October 7, 1954.

Joe served for 25 years in the 178th Field Artillery of the South Carolina National Guard, and was full time First Sergeant for a number of years. He retired from military service in 1969 at the rank of Sergeant Major.

Joe was an active member of Greer First Baptist Church for over 50 years, where he served as deacon, President of Baptist Men, and Junior High Sunday School teacher. He was a member of the Greer Kiwanis Club, where was Kiwanian of the Year for 2000-2001. Joe also served with Greer Community Ministries in its Mobile Meals outreach for over 25 years.

After brief careers with Life of Georgia, Credit Manager for Williams Tire

Company, and the Army Guard, Joe found his niche as an entrepreneur, operating several service businesses in Greer and Greenville where he was known as "Mr. Joe" to his many customers. He reluctantly retired from his work in 2006.

Joe's hobbies were family, work, church, community service, and enjoying football by television and in person with his friends in IPTAY. He was active in the Tryon Precinct of the Greenville County Republican Party and attended several state conventions.

Even casual contact with Joe Smith left no doubt about his genuine Christian faith and his unique ability to find the humor in life. With a ready laugh and a bottomless trove of anecdotes, Joe's personality drew you in. In Joe Smith's character, there was not a hint of guile. He was a sincere man of The Word and of prayer.

Well done thy good and faithful servant! Enter into the joy of thy Lord!

Joe is survived by the girl he called "Patsy," Pat, his wife of 57 years, who to the end, tenderly cared for him with love, dignity and grace. He is also survived by his son, Oran Perry (Kristin) of Leesville, SC, his daughter Sarina Jo Snow (Jeffrey) of Greer and his daughter Heather Anne Weeks (Ben) of Greer. He will be missed especially by his six grandchildren, Stephen Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Courtney Snow, Rebecca Weeks, Margaret Smith and Abigail Weeks. Joe is also survived by his brothers Dortcha Smith Jr. and the Rev. Dan Smith, both of Greer. He was preceded in death by his older brother the Rev. Gus Smith.

The family wishes to express their deep love and appreciation to the caregivers who keep him active and later comfortable in his own home: Kevin Gibson, Evelyn Durham, Regina Nuckols, Pam Messer and BJU students Kristin Hanson, LeeAnn Tune, and Rebecca Martin.

A service of Christian worship of the Lord and Savior of Joe Keller Smith will be held at The Wood Mortuary on Sunday, November 13 at 4:00 p.m., with Rev. Dr. Rick Ezell officiating. Pallbearers will be Manley Bright, Ted Brown, Kevin Gibson, Danny Smith, Stephen Smith, Jeff Snow, and Ben Weeks.

Honorary escort will be deacons and members of the Willing Workers Sunday School Class of First Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends at the mortuary from 2:45-3:45 p.m. Sunday. A private family burial will follow in Mountain View Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial offerings may be sent in memory of Joe to Greer Community Ministries, P.O. Box 1373, Greer, SC 29652 or Palmetto Family Council, P.O. Box 11953, Columbia, SC 29211.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Previous Events

Service

NOV 13. 4:00 PM (ET)

The Wood Mortuary Chapel
300 West Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29650
(864) 877-3351
woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Tribute Wall



“ Pat, Sorry to hear tonight at Gap Creek Singers rehearsal about Joe. I feel very blessed that I had the opportunity to serve with Joe at HHC 1/178th FA in Greer. He was a wonderful 1SG and a great soldier and gentleman. Sorry we found out about the funeral to late to attend. Our prayers are with you and the family and if we can do anything to help please let us know. We sure would like to have you back in Gap Creek Singers anytime you feel like coming. May God bless you and your family during this time.##imported-begin##COL(R) Boyce D. Nodine##imported-end##

November 15, 2011 at 10:34 PM



“ Pat
I am sorry to read about Joe, but we know where he is now. He was a great Christain man. Please let me know if I can help in anyway.

With Love,
Merle Blevins
864-270-2360;##imported-begin##Merle Brockman
Blevins##imported-end##

November 15, 2011 at 04:30 PM



“ Pat, my heartfelt smpathy is with you and your family. I have such wonderful memories of Joe from our high school days. He was a good neighbor, a great pal, and a terrific friend. He will be missed by all who ever knew him.##imported-begin##Edna Garrett
Arnold##imported-end##

November 13, 2011 at 08:46 AM



“ To all in the family, I express my sincere sympathy.

I always remember Joe as a good friend and christian. He made a difference in everyones life he touched.

Pat, I know the grief you are experiencing and pray for God's hand to lead you through the coming months. He will be with you every step of the way.

Again, my sincere sympathy to all of you, as you will always have a special place in my heart.

God bless you.

Karen Burnette Robertson##imported-begin##Karen Burnett Robertson##imported-end##

November 12, 2011 at 01:22 AM



“ Dear Heather and family,

I am so sorry to hear about your father. I never had the chance to meet him but always heard how great a man he was. I am sure he will be missed.I know the feeling of losing a parent. It hurts but always remember the good times and remember he is not suffering now. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. If there is anything that I can do please call me.Love you friend.##imported-begin##Lonni B. Brown##imported-end##

November 11, 2011 at 09:05 PM



“ You were thought of often as a dear uncle. I will miss you.##imported-begin##Juan Smith Tyner##imported-end##

November 11, 2011 at 08:28 PM