



Donald Lee Smith

November 16, 1930 - February 15, 2020

Donald Lee Smith, of Jefferson City, Missouri passed away on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at Heisinger Bluffs Senior Living Center in Jefferson City, Missouri at the age of 89. Donald was born at Standing Rock in Gladden, Missouri on November 16, 1930 to the late Hershel Ray and Delsie (Halbrook) Smith.

Donald loved growing up in Gladden, he also enjoyed telling stories about growing up with his sister Virginia, and brothers, Harold, Jim, and Bob. Donald was called Speedy by some, as he just never moved to fast.

Donald attended College in Springfield, Missouri and came back to teach at the Gladden Empire School. He married the love of his life, Miss Ellen Jean Wallis on August 18, 1951, they shared 59 years together before she passed in 2011.

Donald left his new bride to serve his Country in the United States Army during the Korean War. When he returned home he and Ellen started a family that was blessed with four daughters. He was so proud of his daughters, and the women they have become, he adores his grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Donald worked for the Jefferson City Post Office for 34 years, most of that time he was a window worker, which meant he got to talk to the customers, he enjoyed them, and they enjoyed him as well. He was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church in Jefferson City; he enjoyed Cardinal baseball, really pretty much any baseball game he could find to watch, planting flowers on his porch and around the yard, feeding the birds,

and getting to watch them around the yard, but mostly he loved his family and spending time with them; he loved family reunions, visiting relatives, watching any events that included his children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren. He was a loving and devoted father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend, and will be greatly missed by all that knew and loved him.

Donald Lee Smith is survived by his daughters, Diana Jenkins and husband Jim, of St. James, MO, Brenda Maley and husband Randy, of Jefferson City, MO, and Sarah Smith, of Columbia, MO; grandchildren, Matt Jenkins (Tracy), Megan Nieland (David), Rebecca Bristow (Lance), Rachel Weigand (Micheal) and Jared Maley (Sara) ; great-grandchildren, Logan and Ty Jenkins, Audrey Nieland, and Ziba Maley; sister, Virginia White, of Salem, MO; brother, Jim Steelman and wife Christine, of Salem, MO; a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. In addition to his parents, Hershel and Delsie Smith, and wife, Ellen Jean Smith, Donald was preceded in death by his daughter, Linda Mertens, and brothers, Harold Smith, and Bob Steelman. Funeral Services will be held at 12:00PM on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at the Salem Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary. Internment will follow with Full Military Honors at Cedar Grove Cemetery. A visitation for family and friends will be held at the Chapel on Thursday prior to the service from 11AM until service time. Memorials are suggested and greatly appreciated to the Alzheimer's Association/ or the First United Methodist Church of Jefferson City, Missouri, cards are available at all James & Gahr locations.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem
103 West Center
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-3117
jgsalemmo@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Service

FEB 20. 12:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem
103 West Center
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-3117
jgsalemmo@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Military Honors

FEB 20. 12:45 PM (CT)

Cedar Grove Cemetery
Salem, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Lee Smith*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Donald Lee Smith*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Donald Lee Smith.*



February 17, 2020 at 05:59 PM



“ *Don was such a great man, we are so honored we had the privilege to know him the past 19 years. He was a great neighbor who became like family and a good friend. He will always be in our thoughts, his family are all in our prayers.*

Kenny, Shawna and Daniel Walker



Shawna Walker - February 17, 2020 at 05:21 PM