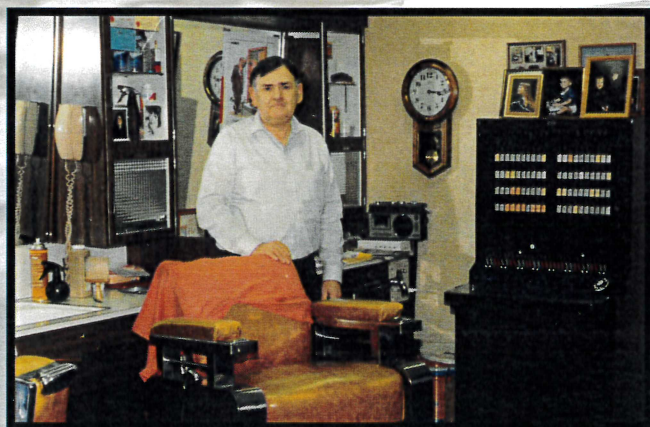


James Smith, Jr., 90, of Williston, ND passed away on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at the Bethel Lutheran Nursing and Rehabilitation Home in Williston, ND.

Jim was born on March 25, 1934, on the family farm north of Williston to Jimmie and (Pearl) Ione Smith. They resided there for six years before moving into town. He attended rural school in Williams County. As a boy, he enjoyed hunting for muskrats at a nearby creek.

Jim graduated from Williston High School in 1952. He enlisted in the U.S. Airforce in 1953 completing basic training at Lackland Airforce Base in Amarillo, Texas as an aircraft mechanic. He was then stationed at Davis-Monthan Airforce Base in Tucson, for three and a half years. Following one particular leave, he was riding the train back when he met Carolyn Koeser. They married June 1, 1955, in Watford City. He was honorably discharged February 17, 1957.

They then moved to Watford City where he was employed as a mechanic at OK Implement until 1959. Following which they moved to Fargo, ND where Jim enrolled at the Molar Barber School. After completing his courses there, the family relocated to Williston. He found work at the Modern Barber shop on Main Street. In 1964, Jim opened Parkway Barber Shop that was in front of The Black Gold Motel on Second Ave. West. During one of Williston's oil booms, he moved his shop inside the Kotana Building. After 48 years of cutting hair, he retired in March of 2008.



During this span of years, Jim did several evening and weekend (excluding Sundays of course) jobs. These included traveling to Crosby, Grenora and the Air Force Base in Fortuna to cut more hair. At one point, he even did

dog grooming. He went door to door selling World Book Encyclopedias, encouraged to do so by his supervisor and aunt, Effie Watts. He was one of the very few people who truly loved his work.

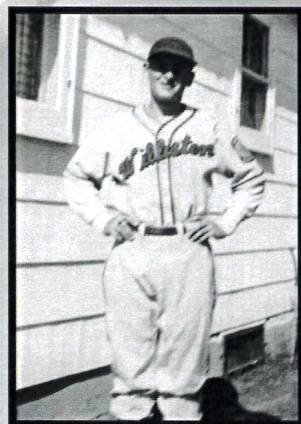
In the rest of his spare time, Jim was an avid supporter of the Williston Keybirds and enjoyed hunting and fishing.

He was a charter member of the Wesleyan Church here in Williston. Every Sunday, he would pick up and then return children from Sunday School. Christmas time found him with others to put together the treat bags that were handed out to children following the Christmas program.

If you knew Jim at all, you know he had a large, sweet tooth, maybe better yet, teeth. He could always be found with treats close at hand, if you didn't notice any treats around, it was because he often hid them. His children had an unsuccessful job of keeping their Halloween candy from him every year. Some of his favorite sweets were tootsie pop suckers, hershey candy bars, juneberry and banana cream pies, and of course caramel rolls.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; daughters, Candyce (L. Blaine) Miller of Crosby, ND, Chari (Jon) Schnaidt of Colorado Springs, CO, son, James Smith III of Williston, ND; grandchildren, Tara Miller (Kurt Wharton) of Scottsdale, AZ, Jarret Miller (Kelly Sheaffer) of Conshohocken, PA, Christopher (Ceci) Schnaidt of Minot, ND; great-grandchildren, Lennan and Ellion Wharton.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents, Jimmie and Ione Smith; brothers, Larrie (Karen) Smith, Ron Smith; sister, Patsy (Ordean) Opsal.



In Loving Memory



James E. Smith Jr.
March 25, 1934 - October 1, 2024





And The Joys I Found...

**I came to a place where two roads met,
One was lovely, straight and smooth,
The other wound a zig-zag uphill,
I pondered which to choose.**

**I longed to travel the easy way,
"Come," it called, "and follow me"
But I looked again at the rugged path
And saw there an earnest plea.**

**So I turned my steps to the narrow course
And climbed the long day through,
And the joys I found as I traveled there
The straight road never knew.**

**There were wild flowers hidden among the crags,
The air was heady as wine,
Birds sang their sweetest carols
On this road I had chosen as mine.**

**So I journeyed on from youth to age,
Often obstacles barred my way
And my feet grew weary but still the road
Beckoned to me night and day.**

**Now at last I have reached the top
Yet another road to see,
It reaches up to the throne of God
And it calls to me.**

**With a prayer in my heart I'll keep going on
Till I come to the very end,
Then I hope to hear the Master say,
"Well done, come in my friend."**

James E Smith Jr.

Born to James and Pearl Smith
March 25, 1934 ~ Williston, North Dakota

Returned to His Heavenly Father
October 1, 2024 ~ Williston, North Dakota

Funeral Service

Wednesday, October 9, 2024 ~ 11:00 AM
New Hope Church
Williston, North Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Aaron Hughes

Eulogist

Christopher Schnaidt

Reader

James E. Smith III

Soloist

Loren Irwin

Pianist

Courtney Koeser

Guitarist

Michael Bearce

Music

"In The Garden" ~ Loren Irwin

"In Times Like These"

"When We All Get To Heaven"

Pallbearers

T J Smith

Tanner Smith

Wade Smith

Trevor Smith

Christopher Schnaidt

Joey Opsal

Honorary Pallbearers

All of James's Loving Family and Friends

Final Resting Place

Riverview Cemetery
Williston North Dakota

Arrangements By

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home
Williston, North Dakota

