



Dr. Bill Raymond Smoot

January 20, 1934 - July 29, 2014

Services for Billy "Bill" Raymond Smoot, Sr., 80, of Tyler, will be held on Saturday, August 2, 2014, at 2:30 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Rev. Pike Wisner officiating.

Burial will follow at Rose Lawn Cemetery in Tyler under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Bill passed away peacefully on the morning of July 29 at Emeritus Senior Living surrounded by all four of his children. He was 80 years old and had been living with Alzheimer's for some time. Billy Raymond Smoot was born on January 20, 1934 in Ft. Worth, Texas to Raymond McGee and Ruth Wilkins Smoot. He was the first born of four children and was pre-deceased by his sister Betty Miller and brother, Jim Smoot. He is survived by his brother Bob Smoot and children Billy Smoot Jr., Stephen Smoot, David Smoot and Laura Neal. He was the proud and loving grandfather to Alex, Caroline, Emily, Noah, Bridget and Jamie.

Bill was the son of a Baptist preacher, who was also an Army Chaplain. This meant that the family moved quite a bit. While Bill didn't have fond memories of having to move around so much, it turned him into a person that never met a stranger. He was very easy to talk to and confide in. Many of his life-long friends were neighbors. He loved to do for others and frequently put other's needs before his own. During retirement he started a hobby of baking dozens of loaves of cinnamon bread at a time, which he shared with family and friends.

Bill was a firm believer in education and truly cared for children. He earned his PhD in Education from the University of Texas in Austin. From 1968 to 1973 Bill taught at The University of Arkansas in Fayetteville in the area of Curriculum and Instruction. But his primary love was public education. He spent most of his career as either a school teacher or school administrator. From 1988 to 1991, he was the principal at Robert E. Lee High School in Tyler, TX. He then served Tyler ISD through his job in Central Administration. Bill had a very strong work ethic and his retirement didn't slow him down a bit. He had an intense interest in genealogy and did years and years of research tracing his ancestry back to 1596. He was always the family photographer and videographer. In his retirement years, he would make multiple copies of all the pictures he took, write detailed descriptions on the back and share them with the family. He took great pride in his yard and could be seen outside mowing, raking and working in the flower beds most days.

Visitation is scheduled from 7:00 to 9:00 PM on Friday, August 1, 2014, at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, in Tyler.

Bill will be greatly missed by family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County, 211 Winchester, Tyler, TX 75701 or PATH, 402 W. Front St., Tyler, TX 75702.

Cemetery Details

Rose Lawn Cemetery

2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.
Tyler, TX 75703

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 1. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Service

AUG 2. 2:30 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall

HH

“ Dr. Smoot was my principal when I taught at Robert E. Lee High School. He always lead with integrity, thoughtfulness, kindness, and wisdom. Every decision he made was carefully thought through and examined by him to insure that it would accomplish his goal of enriching and bettering the school. His primary goal was to provide an opportunity to all students to achieve an outstanding education. I will never forget the sadness of the faculty and students when it was announced that he would be moving to the administration building. Dr. Smoot was admired by all those who knew him. He truly left the world that he touched as a better place because of his presence.

Hedwig Hardie

Hedwig Hardie - August 28, 2014 at 03:36 PM

FR

“ I had the pleasure of becoming good friends with Dr. Smoot when he came to the TISD Admin. Bldg. He was always so friendly and had a funny true story to tell me. He had a pimento cheese sandwich for lunch every day brought in a brown paper bag. I am sad to hear of his passing. My deepest sympathy to the family.

Faye Lynn Ryan

Faye Lynn Ryan - August 17, 2014 at 02:02 PM

BM

“ I am so sorry we were not able to attend Bill Smoot's services in Tyler. Distance, time and age prevented us from making the trip. My wife, Linda, and I have spent several hours remembering Smoot and all the wonderful times we had with him in college and later after he moved around. We visited with him and his family in Arkansas and he spent several days with us at our home just remembering those good times and using our house as a headquarters for going and coming while visiting back in Slaton.. Whether working at Allied Van Lines, or pumping gasoline, or heading up the instructional programs at Austin ISD. Bill was always quick to become the leader of any group he was with. I could tell stories for hours and laugh at most of them...and so. What a great friend...and when he told me we could double-date and go to the TT-Baylor football game in his Dad's Cadillac, little did I suspect it would be a 1940 model, complete with horsehair upholstery. Wow! But it was a Cadillac Ha! God bless the Smoots and enjoy the wonderful memories of a wonderful guy. Bob Martin, Levelland

Bob Martin - August 04, 2014 at 08:15 AM

JS

“ I first met Bill when he was the principal of Robert E. Lee. He was a true gentleman and will be greatly missed. My condolences to the family.

John Sims

John Sims - August 02, 2014 at 09:08 AM

RB

“ So sorry to hear about Mr. Smoot's passing. Nothing but great memories growing up next door to the Smoots back in the 70's here in Austin. Our families spent many great times together especially Billy, Stephan, David and I. Condolences go out to Bill's entire family. May he rest in peace.

Rick Baldwin - August 01, 2014 at 08:08 PM

AR

“ I am so sorry Billy we pray for you and your family

Alejandro Rodriguez - August 01, 2014 at 03:41 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Bill Raymond Smoot.



August 01, 2014 at 01:46 PM

DR

“ One never knows when or where his influence stops. Bill Smoot will be remembered.

Derly Rivera

Austin

Derly Rivera - August 01, 2014 at 10:01 AM



“ *Blooming Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Bill Raymond Smoot.*



July 31, 2014 at 07:49 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to Stephen and your entire family. Your dad was a real educator and I remember how very much he loved his family. Prayers for comfort in your time of loss.*

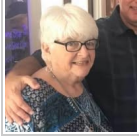
Laura Butler

Laura Butler Smith - July 31, 2014 at 05:41 PM



“ *I had the honor of not only working with but also being a personal friend of Bill Smoot. He will always remain one of the finest people I've known. He possessed a quick dry wit, an intelligence that was unmatched, and was indeed a man of principle. Bill had a quality about him that made those around him feel immediately at ease and comfortable. He will be greatly missed. Dr. Bill Smoot was a leader, a friend, and one of the most honorable men I've been blessed to know.*

Tom Gregory - July 31, 2014 at 04:38 PM



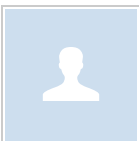
“ Bill Smoot was my principal, my mentor, and my friend. He encouraged me in all areas of my educational journey. He was a strong administrator who knew how to support his assistants without fencing them in. He let us make our own mistakes, but was always at our back. Many memories of all the "sayings" he lived by and quoted over and over. Those of us who shared time with him knows exactly what I am talking about and some really can't be shared here. He told us that his dad always said "when a man borrows some wood from a neighbor, he must always leave the woodpile higher than when he took the original wood." And I can say without a doubt that the world is a better place because Bill was here. My love and prayers are with Billy, Stephen, David, and Laura and all of his extended family. He couldn't have ask for a more supportive family and was so proud of each of you as you chose your path.
Penny and George Miller

Penny Miller - July 31, 2014 at 01:45 PM



“ I was the Instructional Consultant at Lee when Dr. Smoot came as Principal, and I had to work closely with him. My strongest memory of him was his integrity and his commitment to treat all students, parents, and teachers fairly. He was a good Principal and more importantly, a good man. My sympathy to his family.

Lugene Tucker - July 31, 2014 at 12:33 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Bill Raymond Smoot.



July 31, 2014 at 11:53 AM

JR

“ *Dr. Smoot was a caring educator and a great friend. I shall miss him.*

Jim Raup

Jim Raup - July 31, 2014 at 10:27 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Dr. Bill Raymond Smoot.*



July 31, 2014 at 09:32 AM

C(

“ *Uncle Bill was such a role model and as very Godly man. I have many delightful memories, but one special one was when they took my sister and I to six flags over Texas. They bought us a dress and it was a memory that will stay with me forever. Just like sitting on Grandmother Smoots front porch in the swing. Uncle Bill... You will be missed aa great deal and I love you so much. But I will see you agaain in Glory land with our lord Jesus Christ and our almighty father. Say hi to grandmother and grandpaw for me. I and to all the family....uncle Bob,sand the boys sand the wives that I got the pleasure to meet... god Bless you and keep you. I pray for comfort from the spirit, and that God pour his blessings out on you and your. Love you guys!!!*



*In Christ Love....
Cindy Peters (Smoot)*

Cindy Peters (Smoot) - July 31, 2014 at 01:59 AM

CB

“ *Carl and Linda Baehler purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Dr. Bill Raymond Smoot.*



Carl and Linda Baehler - July 30, 2014 at 04:33 PM