



Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith

February 5, 1936 - May 27, 2024

Services for Rev. Edmond "Eddie" Earl Smith, age 88, of Tyler will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at 3pm at First Baptist Church Tyler with Rev. Pike Wisner and Dr. David Stubblefield officiating. Burial will follow at Cathedral in the Pines. Visitation will be prior to the service at 2pm, under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Eddie passed away on Monday, May 27, 2024, in Tyler. He was born on February 5, 1936, to Walter and Nellie Smith in Hearne, Texas. After graduating early from Hearne High School in 1953, he moved to Tyler, where he became the Minister of Music at Queen Street Baptist Church. He attended Tyler Junior College and was in the Apache Marching Band. Eddie then attended Baylor University, graduating in 1958 with a Bachelor of Music. He earned a Master of Church Music from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1968. During these years, he served faithfully at churches in Tyler, Mart, Bryan, Kilgore, Grapevine, Richland Hills, and Greenville. While music was Eddie's vocational calling, he was a true shepherd of the flock wherever he was called, and so many have been impacted by him as a friend, counselor, and pastor.

In 1956, while serving at Queen Street Baptist Church, Eddie married the love of his life, Lois Langley, and together they had five children, 19 grandchildren, and 35 great-grandchildren. This August, Eddie and Lois would have

celebrated 68 years of marriage.

Eddie was preceded in death by his parents, sister, and three brothers. He is survived by his wife, Lois, his children Melody (Michael) Berryhill of Plano, Mariann (Rickey) Hassell of Tyler, Marsha (Don) Cook of Flint, Eddie Jr. (Dee) Smith of Tyler, and Mindy (Jeffrey) Hamilton of Gilmer.

Pallbearers will be his grandsons, Aaron Berryhill, Eddie Smith, III, David Cook, Christian Smith, Jonathan Cook, Andrew Hassell, Nicholas Hamilton. Honorary pallbearers will be all of his granddaughters, Candi Watters, Michah Casper, Sarah Clarkson, Meghan Finley, Rebecca Robinson, Mallory McDonald, Lexie Hood, Elizabeth Hamilton, Lela Hamilton, and Laney Hamilton.

The following was a letter written by our beloved Daddy to his children on his 87th birthday in 2023:

“I am 87 and on the way to Heaven!!! I thank God for calling me into the ministry as a "Teen-Ager". (I led many revivals around the Hearne area even in my teens) I can't begin to express how I miss it. One year when I was at Queen Street I led the music in 8 revivals. I am grateful today for the many churches He allowed me to serve – my home church of Hearne, Queen Street in Tyler, First Baptist in Mart, Emmanuel Baptist in Bryan, First Baptist in Kilgore, First Baptist in Grapevine, Richland Hills Baptist in Ft. Worth, and Ridgecrest Baptist in Greenville. There were many disappointments, hurts and sorrows, but I choose to remember the tremendous blessings. I just pray that I had a positive impact on some lives along the way. I am proud to say that at Ridgecrest I was able to build a strong Music and Youth Ministry and many friends. I am so very proud of each of you and while Mother did a great job of raising you, I just pray that I had a positive influence on your life. I could "brag" more, but I guess I had better stop. I love each of you... YOUR DAD.”

Cemetery Details

Cathedral in the Pines Cemetery

7825 South Broadway Avenue
Tyler, TX 75703

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 1. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
301 W. Ferguson
Tyler, TX 75702

Service

JUN 1. 3:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
301 W. Ferguson
Tyler, TX 75702

Tribute Wall



“ Gary, Tonnie and Michael Greenwood planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.

Gary, Tonnie and Michael Greenwood - June 01, 2024 at 08:57 AM



“ Gary, Tonnie and Michael Greenwood purchased the *Strength & Solace Spray* for the family of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.



Gary, Tonnie and Michael Greenwood - June 01, 2024 at 08:57 AM

GG

“ I just found out of Eddies passing. He called me April 30, about 4 weeks ago and we talked a little about some of the past. I felt so bad for him because I could tell he was struggling; he was not doing well, but as Eddie always has been... he was gracious. I am so glad I got to talk to him one last time before he departed for the new joy, he is now experiencing. Eddie was a dear friend and, in many ways, a great mentor for many of us. I joined the Choir because of his love for church music and I still to this day continue to sing in the Choir. I have grown because of his ministry. He taught me how to be the person (I pray) I have become today. We played golf, racquetball, and about everything that was competitive, all with great fellowship and humor. I have missed him because of the great wisdom that he provided. Eddie was the glue that held so many things together. He will always be one of the greatest men I have ever been blessed to have in my life. The Smith family was very dear to my wonderful late wife Bonnie. I know she is rejoicing now in Heaven to see him there. GOD! I think you for letting me have them in my life.

Gary E Greenwood - June 01, 2024 at 08:42 AM

MC

Thank you Gary for such kind words

Marsha Cook - June 01, 2024 at 01:32 PM

AN

“Brother Eddie was blessed with the task of being our choir director and youth director during the late 60s, and all of the 70s at Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Greenville. He was a vital part of how we got to experience Texas Week at Falls Creek. He took us to Youth Choir festivals in Dallas, Waco, Houston, and beyond. Just to be responsible for the fallout from my mischievous actions during that era should have been enough to make Eddie throw in the towel...and I was not alone. Eddie was at the altar one night at Falls Creek when I walked the aisle to get some counsel on what God wanted me to do. Eddie’s words to me in B.B. McKenny Chapel, were “Andy, you have already made Jesus your Savior, but He also needs to be your Lord and master.” Those words began a new chapter in my life of wanting to follow Jesus no matter where He would lead.

Andy Narramore - May 31, 2024 at 03:00 PM

MC

This is beautiful! Thank you for sharing!

Marsha Cook - May 31, 2024 at 06:30 PM



“Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.



May 31, 2024 at 08:53 AM

MT

“Matt and Cindy Turner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.

Matt and Cindy Turner - May 31, 2024 at 08:53 AM

AL

“ Andy Lawson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.

Andy Lawson - May 30, 2024 at 12:22 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.



May 30, 2024 at 12:22 PM

AL

“ There are very very many memories of Brother Eddie who was really like a 2nd father to me...here are some of my favorites:

1) When he was introduced at Ridgecrest as the full time worship leader and I got to meet him, I said to him "Thanks for taking my Dad's job!" LOL, my Dad was volunteer worship leader at the time and I was obviously more enamored with his volunteer job than his real one and I thought Brother Eddie stole it... :)

2) We moved to Indiana for 4 years shortly after Brother Eddie was hired and when we moved back and came back to Ridgecrest I found out the Ridgecrest adult choir had made an album (The King Is Coming) and I my first thought was "Brother Eddie made them world famous while we were gone!!"

3) My Dad and Eddie became best friends so I was very fortunate to have a 2nd family in the Smiths, and I learned Brother Eddie's great sense of humor, but that was not on bigger display than when he played King Nebuchadnezzar in our children's choir production of "It's Cool in the Furnace"!!! One of my favorite childhood church memories

4) I played golf with him once in high school and was impressed at what a good golfer he was and I remember thinking "Man, how can someone that old hit it that far?!!" LOL...I'm now about 20 years older than he was at the age I was calling him "old" HA!!!

5) While I was not anxious about moving away from home for college, it was the first time I had been away from home and I remember the first piece of mail I received in my college mailbox was a letter from Brother Eddie encouraging me on my college tenure...I'll never forget it...I felt so incredibly loved by him!!

6) Today marks the 15th anniversary of my Mother's passing and Brother Eddie did her graveside service...still a very special memory of a man who loved me and my family INCREDIBLY well!!!!

I love you Brother Eddie and am so happy thinking of the incredible reunion you are having with both of my parents, Brother Hamilton, and so many of the Ridgecrest family who's spiritual lives were improved by you and your ministry!!

Andy Lawson

Andy Lawson - May 30, 2024 at 12:20 PM

AL

And how in the world I missed listing the Stump Phantom saga that lasted for years and years...when you think of "the standard" for pranks among friends, that one is at or near the top!!! :)

Andy Lawson - May 30, 2024 at 07:21 PM

AL

Another came to mind...while I didn't witness this, it became folklore...the time Eddie went in the night to move the speakers into the church stationed above the Living Nativity Scene to protected them from a coming storm, and the Greenville cops showed up thinking he was stealing!! LOLOL :)

Andy Lawson - May 31, 2024 at 10:37 AM

MC

Love this so much!! Thank you for sharing!

Marsha Cook - May 31, 2024 at 06:29 PM

TL

“ *The Langley's purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.*



The Langley's - May 29, 2024 at 12:27 PM

IT

“ *Infinity Project Management Team purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.*



Infinity Project Management Team - May 29, 2024 at 09:29 AM

IT

“ *Infinity Project Management Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.*

Infinity Project Management Team - May 29, 2024 at 09:29 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.*



May 29, 2024 at 12:25 AM

JT

“ *Judy Trapp planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.*

Judy Trapp - May 29, 2024 at 12:25 AM

JS

“ *Joe and Diane Smith purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Rev. Edmond "Eddie" E. Smith.*



Joe and Diane Smith - May 28, 2024 at 08:19 PM