



Dr. Harold L. Smith

February 13, 1923 - October 13, 2023

Harold Leslie Smith, 100, of Tyler, Texas died peacefully on Friday, October 13, 2023.

He was born in Pleasureville, Kentucky on February 13, 1923 to Lloyd Smith and Hazel Hudson Smith. He grew up in Middlesboro, Kentucky and had two sisters, Lois and June.

Harold attended the University of Florida his freshman year before enlisting in The United States Army and serving in the 77th infantry division in the Pacific Theater.

While being stationed at Camp Fannin, Harold met Margaret Melrose Murphey of Tyler and the two were married November 3, 1944, at Marvin Methodist Church. While serving in WW2, he decided to pursue a career in dentistry and upon completion of his service, enrolled at SMU to finish his prerequisite classes. He was admitted and graduated 4 years later from Baylor College of Dentistry in 1951. Upon graduation, he and his family moved to Tyler and he practiced dentistry for over 50 years. Harold was very involved in organized dentistry and served many roles over the years in the American Dental Association, Texas Dental Association, and East Texas Dental Society. In 1986, the Texas Academy of General Dentistry awarded him "Texas Dentist of the Year" for his outstanding

service to the dental profession.

After Melrose passing, Harold married Joanne Henry.

Harold was very involved in his church, Marvin Methodist Church, where he served in different roles. He was also an active member in the Tyler Corvette Club and drove a red corvette most of his life. Harold loved spending time with his family and traveling the world.

Harold is preceded in death by Melrose Smith, Joanne Henry, and his sons Mark and Stephen Smith.

He is survived by his daughter Stephanie Smith of Tyler, step-daughter Allyson Sullivan and husband Mark of Tyler, daughters-in-law Pam Smith of Palestine and Karen Smith of Mabank.

Grandchildren: Shannen Smith of Tyler, Dr. Zachary and Kelsey Smith of San Antonio, Hunter and Anna Sullivan of Frisco, Victoria and Thomas Johnson of Conroe, Margaux and Hunter Sanders of Tyler, and Layla Sullivan of Austin. He is also survived by 7 great grandchildren.

There will be a viewing and visitation Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 from 6-8 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy in Tyler. There will be a memorial service at Marvin Methodist Church on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 10:30 AM.

Cemetery Details

Rose Hill Cemetery

2400 S. Donnybrook
Tyler, TX 75702

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 17. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

OCT 18. 10:30 AM (CT)

Marvin Methodist Church Chapel
300 W. Erwin St.
Tyler, TX 75702

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Harold L. Smith



Stewart Family Funeral Home - October 17, 2023 at 04:52 PM

FB

“ I am so sad to hear of Dr. Smith passing. I worked for him at least 14 years beginning at the Bryant petroleum bldg, then we moved to East Lake Prof Plaza and finally helped him retire from a local dental office.



He was a caring man, in his profession and his personal life. I was fortunate to have met his family.

I remember so many funny incidences at the office...

Hearing him slowly “pecking” at his electric typewriter in his office, where papers, magazines and charts were stacked so meticulously. Him falling backwards in his dental chair as he was greeting his patient coming down the hall. Then Jumping up as if nothing had happened. LOL.

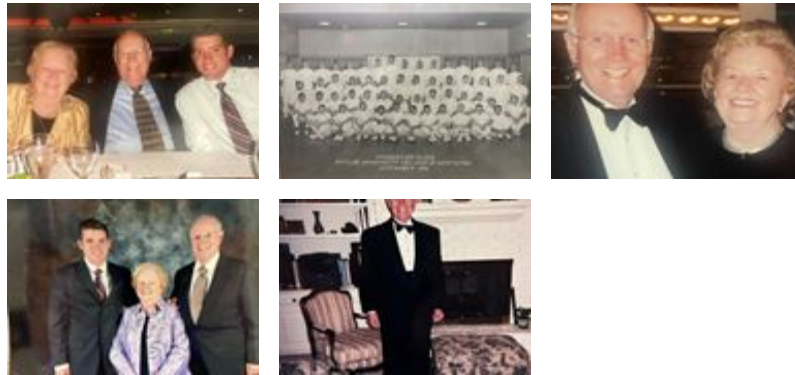
His patients were very devoted to him.... May he rest in peace. He will be missed.

Frances Bearden

Frances Bearden - October 26, 2023 at 02:03 PM



“ 59 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - October 17, 2023 at 04:51 PM

LT

“ I met Dr. Smith at Atria Copeland. What a person of great character. I read your thoughts and I concur. Dr. Smith treated all his caregivers with such kindness. I believe for a moment, he thought he was still doing dentistry and we were his patients. I read to him, sang a few songs, and prayed. He talked about his life and if there were regrets; he had made peace with them. I met a man for a little while and what I'll always remember was his delightful smile.

Leatha Taylor - October 17, 2023 at 10:31 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Harold L. Smith.

October 17, 2023 at 09:56 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Harold L. Smith.*



October 17, 2023 at 09:56 AM



“ *Harold (Pop) was a great father to Mark and father-in-law to me. He helped so much when Mark got sick by coming over and visiting with Mark when I was at work. After Mark's death in 2011, I traveled with Pop on several cruises to Cozumel, Danube River and Mediterranean. We had great times together and I will always cherish how he continued to treat me like a daughter. Now he travels the golden roads of heaven with Mark. He in a corvette and Mark on Harley.*

Pamela Kirby Smith - October 16, 2023 at 11:40 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Harold L. Smith.*



October 16, 2023 at 03:03 PM

S(

“ My Dad had a devilish sense of humor which I’m proud to say I inherited. When I first started dating (at 15), we followed the required little dance where your date talked with your parents for 5 minutes and then you came up and the two of you left. (Girls were not supposed to appear too eager). On my first date with one unsuspecting victim, we all followed the formula. We got about 25 blocks without my date saying a word. I kept asking if something was wrong and he finally said, “Does your father always act that way?” Doom...My Dad had met him at the door in a red corduroy jumpsuit and a wolfman mask as though it was completely normal and had changed his outfit before I came up to the den. I never went out with that boy again, but now it’s hilarious and sounds like the kind of thing I would do. Oh, and he still denies it happened.

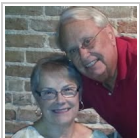
Stephanie Smith (Daughter) - October 16, 2023 at 12:45 PM

CT

“ Corvettes of Tyler purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Dr. Harold L. Smith.



Corvettes of Tyler - October 15, 2023 at 03:32 PM



“ We are members of Marvin Church and were blessed to take communion to Harold once a month for the last 3 years. What a joy it was to visit with him. He was such a gentleman, so positive and fun to be with. We will miss him.
Mike and LaVerne Simpson

LaVerne Simpson - October 15, 2023 at 12:04 PM

ZS

Thank you, Mike and Laverne for serving Harold communion the last few years. He very much enjoyed seeing you and I know he appreciated being able to partake. God Bless!

Zach Smith (Harold's grandson)

Zach Smith - October 16, 2023 at 07:21 PM

BS

“*Harold was my friend, and neighbor and was a distinguished and respected colleague for more than 50 years. He was always cheerful and positive. He expressed himself as he spoke-with great clarity that reflected his gentlemanly demeanor and kind spirit. To be in his presence was to be uplifted and at ease. We will miss him so very much. Brady P. Swinney,DDS*

Brady P. Swinney,DDS - October 14, 2023 at 11:13 PM

RM

Uncle Smitty was a dear friend and father figure after my Dad Reaves passed away. Was privileged to be his dental patient for close to 50 years. Judie and I will miss his candor, his laughter and being in his presence. Rick Murphey

Rick Murphey - October 16, 2023 at 11:29 AM

ZS

Dr. Swinney, my grandfather spoke of you many times and I really appreciate your friendship to him and the kind words. God bless!

Zach Smith - October 16, 2023 at 07:23 PM

MP

“ I've known Harold for over 40 years as a friend and a colleague. He was never without a smile on his face and a chuckle in his voice. He was also a Corvette advocate and drove his Corvette to the Corvettes of Tyler club breakfast well into his 90's. We will miss him.



Dr. and Mrs. Matt Prosser

Matt Prosser - October 14, 2023 at 08:12 PM

ZS

*Dr. Prosser,
Thank you for the kind words!
God bless!*

Zach Smith - October 16, 2023 at 07:24 PM



We are so saddened at the loss of our friend, Harold. So many wonderful memories to think back on and smile. May his memory be a blessing, always.

*In faith and friendship,
Adele Regan and Family*

Susan Donnenfield - October 18, 2023 at 01:21 PM



“ *Dr. Smith lived across the street from us in Manor Place. He was such a great man and will be missed by so many.*



Sherry & Ray Kent

Sherry Kent - October 14, 2023 at 07:07 PM