



William "Bill" Andrew Smith

January 22, 1935 - November 13, 2014

Services for William Andrew (Bill) Smith will be conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday, November 16 at Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church with Rev. Richard Luna officiating under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Bill Smith passed away peacefully on November 13, 2014. He was born in the New Harmony Community on January 22, 1935, to Maggie and Andrew Smith.

He was raised in the Dixie community, attended Dixie School, Chandler High School, graduated from Tyler High School and attended Tyler Junior College. He survived a bout of childhood polio that left him temporarily paralyzed, but overcame it to become an excellent athlete.

From 1955 to 1959, he served in the U.S. Navy, based at Camp Pendleton, CA, and on the U.S.S. Ticonderoga. He played on the Marines baseball team and was recruited to play major league baseball but decided to return to Texas instead.

He had a brief career in the oil fields of West Texas, and then spent almost 50 years with Coca-Cola Enterprises, retiring in 2000 as the non-metro Texas fleet manager. All who knew him knew what a Coke man he was, and woe be to the person who might try to bring a non-Coke soft drink into his home! Bill was a member of Pleasant Retreat UMC, where he held many leadership positions and was past president of the Tyler West Camp of Gideons International. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, accomplished mechanic and had a beautiful singing voice. He was a loving and joyful man who was always

first to help others in need.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers Johnny, Lloyd and Roy. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sue Hendley Smith; son Andy, and son-in-law, Paul von Wupperfeld, both of Dallas; sister Dolly Hawes, of Tyler along with several nieces, nephews and countless friends.

The family wishes to express their appreciation to the staff of Prestige Estates and Grace Hospice for their loving care.

Visitation will be held from 4:30-6 p.m. Saturday, November 15 at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County, Gideons International Tyler West Camp (P.O. Box 9884 Tyler, TX 75711) or Pleasant Retreat UMC, 417 County Road 1143, Tyler, TX 75704.

Cemetery Details

Tyler Memorial Park

12053 SH 64 West
Tyler, TX 75704

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 15. 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

NOV 16. 2:00 PM (CT)

Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church
417 CR 1143
Tyler, TX 75704

Tribute Wall

RC

“ I had the great pleasure of meeting him the first time, when I interviewed for a employment position with Coca Cola, twenty six years ago. He he had a leadership that influenced me in my career, which I utilize today. I will be forever, grateful to have known him. My condolences to his family, and may god bless you.

Ralph Carrizales

Ralph Carrizales - November 16, 2014 at 06:58 PM

LS

“ Sue,
I will miss visiting with you and Bill at Prestige. Your words comforted my sister and I so much that first day we visited! I pray for our Lord's peace and comfort.

Lynn (Jeanine's daughter)

LS - November 16, 2014 at 04:48 PM

MG

“ Sue....I was sad to hear of Bill's passing. He was a good man who was not only a friend but a mentor. I will always cherish the memories of our time working together. Winnie and I have you and Andy in our prayers. Mike Goldsberry

Mike Goldsberry - November 16, 2014 at 09:52 AM

LH

“ I remember when it was time to pick pecans. He was crawling on the ground to be sure that we got them all.

Love you, Bill and thanks for the memories you made with me.

Lurae

lurae hart - November 14, 2014 at 05:15 PM

BM

I always enjoyed talking with Bill Smith. Of course we had to drink coke. Lol

Bill Miller - November 15, 2014 at 11:56 AM

CD

Sue - You introduced me to my husband of 58 years and Bill talked me into working for Coke. Roots go back to 1st grade. Will keep you and family in our hearts and prayers. Carolyn and Lowell Daughtry

Carolyn Daughtry - November 15, 2014 at 12:14 PM

WG

I will always be grateful for Bill hiring my husband to work at Coke resulting in his almost 40 year career. Bill was a kind and gentle man that truly cared about others. He will be missed by all that had the privilege of knowing him. He made an impact and difference in our life.

Winnie Goldsberry - November 16, 2014 at 07:01 AM