



William Jesse Smith Jr.

December 7, 2017

William Jesse Smith, Jr., 90, passed away peacefully at home on December 7th. He was predeceased by his parents, William J. Smith, Sr. and Nina Spaine Smith, the love of his life and his wife of 56 years, Barbara Inez Smith, half brothers, Robert Smith and Bernard Smith and half-sister Marion Rich. He was a World War II Veteran and served in the Army Airforce Headquarters 79th Fighter Group as an Intelligence Noncommissioned Officer. He worked for over 40 years as an engineer and project manager for Virginia Chemicals, which later became Hoechst Celanese.

“Bill” was an active member of Churchland Baptist Church where he earlier served as a deacon and particularly enjoyed being a member of the Fellowship Sunday School class. He was a member of the Walter Gardner Coffee Club where he excelled at finding speakers for the meetings. He was also a Freemason.

He is survived by his children Ed and Beth, a nephew Fred Smith (Connie), two nieces, Joyce Saller, Barbara Ann Rich and a special little dog named Tillie.

The family would like to say a special thank you to Dr. Charles Lisner and his staff for many years of care. We would also like to thank Bon Secours Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Bill's name may be made to Churchland Baptist Church or to the Suffolk Humane Society.

A funeral service will be held at 1pm Tuesday in Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens Mausoleum. The family will receive friends in the Loving Funeral Home Monday from 3-4pm.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 11. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave.
Portsmouth, VA 23703
(757) 484-3373

Service

DEC 12. 1:00 PM (ET)

Mausoleum Service at Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens
4569 Shoulders Hill Rd.
Suffolk, VA

Tribute Wall

DA

“ To Bill's family, please accept my sincere condolences for your loss. Bill and I worked closely together for about 10 years in the Virginia Chemicals engineering department. We frequently traveled to the plants, and spent many long hours working together during startups. Bill was a genuinely good person, and always showed great respect for others as he sought the ideas and input from everyone involved. In more recent years, Bill arranged several reunions of the VCI engineers, and we all enjoyed reminiscing about our past experiences.

The world would be a better place if more of us were more like Bill Smith, but in my life I think he was a unique and gentle man. I shall always miss him.

Dan Andrews
Indian Trail, NC

Dan Andrews - December 14, 2017 at 09:56 AM