



Donald B Smith

October 24, 1926 - February 3, 2015

Donald B. Smith, age 88 of Carbondale, passed away at 5:57 am on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 in Manor Court of Carbondale.

He was born October 24, 1926 to Ben and Ida(Cantrell) Smith in Eldorado.

Don married Betty Jane Tyree on October 1, 1950 in Eldorado. Together they shared 64 years.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army in Japan at the end of World War II.

He was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church. He formerly was a trustee, a member of the administrative board, a chairman of the Council on Ministries and a Lay Leader.

He was a past President of the Carbondale Rotary Club and the United Cerebral Palsy of Southern Illinois. He was a member of the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce for over thirty years, beginning in 1954. He was on the board of the Chamber of Commerce, various committees and active in the Downtown Merchants Association. Beginning in 1975 he was on the board of directors for the Carbondale National Bank, now Regions Bank, until 1984. He was the chairman of the local Building Code Board of Appeals and during the

1970's he served on the Carbondale Bicentennial Commission. He and Betty owned the Carbondale Ben Franklin Store which they operated from 1954 to 1985.

Don is survived by his loving wife, Betty Smith of Carbondale; a son, Christopher Tyree Smith of Carbondale; a sister, Norma Noel of Cottonwood, IL; and a brother, John Lee Smith of Louisville, KY; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, 2 brothers and 2 sisters.

Visitation will be Friday, February 6, 2015 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home and from 10:00 to 11:00 am on Saturday, February 7, 2015 at the Grace United Methodist Church in Carbondale.

Funeral Services for Don Smith will be Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 11:00 am at the Grace United Methodist Church with the Rev. In-Sook Hwang officiating. Interment will follow at the Wolf Creek Cemetery in Eldorado.

Memorials can be made to the Grace United Methodist Church and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ Donald B Smith

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ Mr. Donald Smith has been a wonderful neighbor of ours ever since you all moved to that corner. 60 years plus I'm sure. Or at least it seems that long. Will miss his get it done attitude. Perfection in home, yard, and business as well as other community areas. Faithful for sure in many ways. Zimnys, Elliotts, Pattersons, McNeelys, Browns, Ritters, and all your other neighbors love the whole Smith family. Will miss the friendship, smiles, grace, and the pride in the stores and furniture beauty in which He gave light and hope. Keep his legacy alive in your hearts, souls, and minds and join us in keeping his spirit strong. Very honored and proud to have been neighborly all these years. Proud of him passing his driver's license test this last Fall as well as getting that yard perfect from those ornery Fall leaves. We all picture you three riding your bikes and sharing hellos and smiles as your rode by. Always appreciated the short talks from the sidewalk as all of us would walk and in case of Chris's chair wheel by. Hugs and prayers to you all. Stay faithful and strong. Lot of love here still as well as heaven having this fine gentleman in their midst. He is probably getting heaven in order just as He did down here on earth. ----Love, Karen McNeely McMinn

Karen McNeely McMinn - February 06, 2015 at 07:55 PM

DW

“ Mrs. Donald Smith,
I was reading the paper & was very sorry to see that Don had passed away. In 1954 & 55, when I was in high school & college, I worked for Don as a stock boy, at Ben Franklin.

Don was very good to me & taught me a lot about working & getting along with people. I'm a retired high school teacher where I taught Industrial Education & Math for 30 years. I felt that some of the things that he told me, helped me in my life.

The article in the paper showed that he helped the city & many other people as he did for me. It was good to know him.

Sincerely,

Dean Waller

P.S. I had a younger brother, Daryl who was also a teacher at the Carbondale middle school.

Dean & Judi Waller
17520 Ohio Rd.
Nashville, Il. 62263
1-618-327-3106

Dean Waller - February 06, 2015 at 11:42 AM

CH

“ My sympathy and condolences to Chris Smith and family. I am so sorry for your loss. Carol Hall



Carol Hall - February 06, 2015 at 04:44 AM

BD

“ Don made an important contribution to my life. I met Don when he and Betty bought the Ben Franklin store in Mount Vernon. He gave me a job at his store in Carbondale which allowed me to finish school at SIU.

His love for retail caused me to start a career in retail. I was the CEO for three publicly held retail chains. I attribute much of my success to Don Smith.

Blessings on Betty and Chris.

*Bruce Dale
Abilene , Kansas*

bruce Dale - February 04, 2015 at 11:32 AM