



James "Smitty" L. Smith

September 27, 1937 - June 1, 2011

James L. "Smitty" Smith, 73, of Grand Tower, Illinois, passed away at 12:50 a.m. Wednesday, June 1, 2011, at Memorial Hospital in Carbondale, Illinois.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 4, 2011, at Pettett Funeral Home with Rev. Peggy Camp officiating and burial at Walker Hill Cemetery. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

James was born on September 27, 1937, in Sand Ridge, Illinois, to Lester Smith and Reba (Jones) Smith.

Mr. Smith worked as a heavy equipment operator at the Crab Orchard Wild Life Refuge from 1951 to 1993. He was a member of the N.R.A. and Ducks Unlimited. He loved to go fishing, hunting, and exploring Oakwood Bottoms.

James married Ruth A. Wills in Grand Tower, Illinois, on June 1, 1958, in which they were married fifty three years on the day he passed away and she survives of Grand Tower.

Other survivors include two sons Gordon W. Smith and his fiancée Debbie Boucher of Gorham and Guy L. Smith and his wife Judy Smith of Hastings, NE;

four grandchildren Christina Morris and her husband Richard Morris, Wayne Goetz and his wife Jessica Goetz, Brandon Smith, and Gary Lee Boucher and his wife Heather Boucher;

eight great grandchildren;

two sisters Janet Pickering of Murphysboro and Ruth Ellet of Gorham;

and many special nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister Alma Jean Johnson.

Tribute Wall



“ *James "Smitty" L. Smith*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to your entire family. It is never easy to lose someone so dear to you. We hope your many great memories of Smitty will help you get through the hard times. Our thoughts & prayers are with you all. Greg & Julie Richards*

Greg & Julie Richards - June 02, 2011 at 11:26 PM