



## James Richard Smith

April 27, 1950 - March 12, 2026

James Richard Smith, affectionately known as "Smitty," passed away peacefully at his home on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at the age of 75. Born April 27, 1950, in Detroit, Michigan, Smitty was the dear son of Clarice Estell (née Thorne)

and Abbie Junior Smith, both of whom preceded him in death. He graduated from Northwest High School in House Springs, Missouri, Class of 1969. He went on to earn an Associate's Degree in Computer Technology from Jefferson Community College, which laid the foundation for a successful, rewarding career marked by an unwavering work ethic. In his younger years, Smitty's enthusiasm for Harley-Davidson motorcycles was unmatched.

Following his retirement, he dedicated his time to his greatest passions. He was the proud founder of the annual "Good Ole Boys" fishing tournament, a legacy that will be carried on by many. Smitty was also an avid gardener and had a lifelong, deep affection, and love for dogs. Later in life, he grew to have a great fondness for bird watching. Smitty will be remembered for his genuine nature, kind heart, impeccable integrity, and a memorable, hearty laugh. He possessed a sentimental quality and was a loving presence to all whose paths he crossed.

Smitty is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years, Sonya Smith (Grimes); his two daughters, Cindy Vogel-Langley (Craig) and Toni Voss; four grandchildren, Cody (Jenna) Vogel, Allyson Cutter, Brady Cutter, and

Savannah Vogel; one great-grandbaby expecting in November 2026; his siblings, Jerry Smith, Mary Maxwell (Joe Maxwell-deceased), Shirley Smith Godsil; brother-in-law Edward Olson (Judy Olson-deceased), and numerous cherished nieces, nephews, friends, and family.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Judy ( Smith) Olson. The gratitude shared for the time spent with Smitty exceeds his earthly existence. His memory will remain a treasure in the hearts of his family and friends.

Visitation- Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Chapel Hill Mortuary, 6300 Highway 30 Cedar Hill, Missouri 63016

Funeral Ceremony - Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 10:00 a.m. in the funeral home chapel.

Memorial Donations- In Lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Second Chance Ranch, 272 Hillsboro Road, High Ridge, MO. <https://secondchanceranchstl.org/donate>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 17. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Cedar Hill  
6300 Highway 30  
Cedar Hill, MO 63016  
(636) 274-4100  
info@stlfuneral.com  
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

## Funeral Ceremony

MAR 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Cedar Hill  
6300 Highway 30  
Cedar Hill, MO 63016  
(636) 274-4100  
info@stlfuneral.com  
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

## Memorial Donations

MAR 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Second Chance Ranch  
Second Chance Ranch 272 Hillsboro Rd.  
High Ridge, MO 63049  
<https://secondchanceranchstl.org/donate>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Chapel Hill Mortuary, Funeral Homes & Cemeteries created a Tribute Video in memory of James Richard Smith*



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**Chapel Hill Mortuary** - March 15 at 11:05 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Richard Smith.*



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March 17 at 09:45 AM



“ *Love, The Becky & Jason Romaine family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of James Richard Smith.*



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**Love, The Becky & Jason Romaine family** - March 16 at 02:47 PM

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“ *Michelle Hahn & family purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of James Richard Smith.*



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**Michelle Hahn & family** - March 16 at 12:29 PM