



## Donald Harry Smith

May 26, 1934 - January 9, 2017

Donald H. Smith of Rensselaer, Indiana went to be with his Lord Monday, January 9, 2017. Don was born at home on May 26, 1934 in Remington, Indiana. He was the third child of Clarence Alonzo and Thelma Mae (Noland) Smith.

Don began a childhood of fun with the neighborhood boys, attending and graduating from Remington High School in 1952. Some of his fondest memories included playing basketball for the Remington Rifles and ping pong with John Turner in his aunt's basement.

After graduation he and his best friend, Glen Stockment, started the Starlighters Orchestra. Their lifelong friendship started when Glen dropped Don's lunch pail in a water puddle at the age of six.

On February 20, 1960, Don married the love of his life, Judith Marie Pettet George in Rensselaer, Indiana. She survives.

Don was a member of the First Christian Church serving as Elder, Trustee, and enjoying singing in the choir. He served in the US Army and attended South Bend College of Commerce.

He began his working career as a bookkeeper for Rensselaer Auto Parts, later working as a self-employed agent representing Prudential Insurance, as a licensed Real Estate agent for Century 21, and doing private accounting for the Northwest Indiana Rural Crisis Center.

Don was an avid woodworker and his family members have been the recipients of many treasures. His love of sports extended to IU basketball and

the Chicago Bears football team.

While the days of the Starlighters were certainly one of Don's highlights his greatest enjoyment came from his family.

His children are Jeff (Nancy) Smith, Annette (Victor) Mattocks and Julie (Mark) Hunsley and his nine grandchildren: Kristina Koons, Scott Mattocks, Ashley (Cory) Cheever, Ryan (Megan) Hunsley, Kyla (Zack) Simmons, Josh Smith, Rachel (Stephen) Dick, Jake Smith and Jon Smith. He was always very proud to tell everyone that he and his wife of 56 years had 33 people in their family. This included his 11 great grandchildren: Reagan and Christian Koons, Hunter and Brooklyn Cheever, Gabriel, Rylan, Malachi, Kaylyn and Azarel Simmons, Mathew Hunsley and Zeke Dick. Don was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Thelma Smith, and his sibling's Bobby Smith and Doris Eldridge.

A Celebration of Life service will be held Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. with calling beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer. Pastor Andy Majorins officiating.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations be given in honor of their grandson, Jonathan Smith, to the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation for "Team Jon", or to the First Christian Church of Rensselaer.

# Cemetery Details

## Weston Cemetery

Weston Cemetery  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5626

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 14. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

## Celebration of Life

JAN 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



Jackson Funeral Chapels - January 13, 2017 at 11:42 AM

JS

*Beautifully done.*

judy smith - January 31, 2017 at 10:37 AM



“ *Don's loving spirit and his ever-smiling face will be missed by so many. His memories, however, will remain forever. Our deepest sympathy Judy and to your entire family. Mick & Janice Odom*



Janice Odom - January 15, 2017 at 08:20 AM

CS

“ *Carol Spall lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



Carol Spall - January 13, 2017 at 09:07 PM

GK

“ Our deepest sympathy to Judy and family. Don was a great guy and so talented. You all must be so proud of him, and will miss him dearly. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. God Bless. George & Joan Kanne



George & Joan Kanne - January 13, 2017 at 12:38 PM

FS

“ Judy and family, My condolences and prayers to you all upon Don's pass. I recall seeing Don when I was in Rensselaer last October and we chatted for a few minutes. My earliest memory of him is from getting to know him and serving as a Deacon with him at First Christian Church back in the 1960s. And buying a life insurance policy from him way back when. Blessings to you all

Frank R Shirer - January 12, 2017 at 06:46 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Donald Harry Smith.



January 12, 2017 at 04:19 PM

SZ

“ SHERRI ZICKMUND lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith



SHERRI ZICKMUND - January 12, 2017 at 01:16 PM

SZ

*Judy, keeping you and your family in my prayers.*

**SHERRI ZICKMUND** - January 12, 2017 at 01:16 PM

JL

“ *Jim & Dorrie Lefler lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



**Jim & Dorrie Lefler** - January 12, 2017 at 12:09 PM



“ *Prayerful condolences to Judy and all of the Smith family. Don was always such a kind and encouraging person while we attended First Christian Church. He was very proud of his family and it was easy to see that he loved and valued all of you. We are truly sorry for your loss.*

**Pamela Saylor** - January 12, 2017 at 10:10 AM

PL

“ *Phil & Sharon Lewis lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



**Phil & Sharon Lewis** - January 12, 2017 at 10:07 AM

DJ

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you. So sorry to read of your loss. Dale & Lola Johnson.*

**Dale Johnson** - January 12, 2017 at 09:14 AM

DW

“ *Doug & Kathy Wilcox lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Doug & Kathy Wilcox** - January 12, 2017 at 08:14 AM

SB

“ *Steve & Donna Bailey*



---

**Steve and Donna Bailey** - January 11, 2017 at 10:49 PM

GN

“ *Glenda Nagel lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Glenda Nagel** - January 11, 2017 at 08:27 PM

SD

“ *Sending condolences to the entire family.*



---

**Steve and Sharon Yeoman Dill** - January 11, 2017 at 04:08 PM

DR

“ *Diane Reeder lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Diane Reeder** - January 11, 2017 at 03:56 PM

VR

“ *Vicki & Ron Robinson lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Vicki & Ron Robinson** - January 11, 2017 at 03:32 PM

VI

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you Judy and family. Know he is your guardian angel now looking down upon you from above!!!!*

---

**Vicki** - January 11, 2017 at 03:34 PM

DW

“ *Our sincere sympathy to you Judy and your family.*  
*Don & Gloria Waymouth*



---

**Don & Gloria Waymouth** - January 11, 2017 at 03:24 PM

PA

“ *Pat And Dave Arnold lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Pat and Dave Arnold** - January 11, 2017 at 03:12 PM

DM

“ *Don & Jenny McClellan lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Don & Jenny McClellan** - January 11, 2017 at 02:06 PM

MG

“ *Meredith Grow lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Meredith Grow** - January 11, 2017 at 12:51 PM

MG

*Prayers for all the family during this time and always, I know your heart is breaking*

---

**Meredith Grow** - January 11, 2017 at 12:53 PM

MN

“ *Mary Lou Nelson lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Mary Lou Nelson** - January 11, 2017 at 09:37 AM

RN

“ *Rose Nesius lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Rose Nesius** - January 11, 2017 at 09:15 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Donald Harry Smith.*



---

January 11, 2017 at 06:11 AM

CT

“ *Judy, we know that Don gave it everything he had as he battled for many years. We join you in your sorrow, wish the best for you and your family, and we mourn your loss.*  
*Chuck and Gayla*

---

**Chuck Tilton** - January 10, 2017 at 10:12 PM

SS

“ *Sherry (Hickman) Schmidt lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Sherry (Hickman) Schmidt** - January 10, 2017 at 09:02 PM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Judy Burvan** - January 10, 2017 at 08:34 PM

BG

“ *Beth Glicken lit a candle in memory of Donald Harry Smith*



---

**Beth Glicken** - January 10, 2017 at 08:15 PM