



J.D. Smith

June 9, 1927 - December 12, 2011

J. D. Smith, age 84, of Pierce City, MO died on Monday, December 12, 2011, at Freeman Health System West in Joplin, MO. Mr. Smith was born in Star City, MO on Thursday, June 09, 1927. He was the son of Thurman and Lou (Oaks) Smith. Mr. Smith was married to Kaye Kelly on Friday, June 22, 1956, in Monett, MO. He was a member of the First Congregational Church in Pierce City, Decatur Lodge #400 in Pierce City, and Abou Ben Adham Shrine Temple in Springfield, MO.

J.D. graduated from Cassville High School and received an undergraduate degree at S.M.S. in Springfield. He went on to receive his Master's degree from the University of Arkansas. J.D. was a well known superintendent in several Southwest Missouri schools. He served in Pierce City, Southwest R-5, Exeter, Marionville, and after retiring, again served as superintendent back at Pierce City.

Surviving are the following: his wife, Kaye of the home; his daughter, Melissa Smith of Pierce City, MO; and one sister, Ruby Marbut of Springdale, AR.

The family will receive friends at the Lakin Funeral Home in Pierce City, MO on Thursday, December 15, 2011, from 7:00 - 8:00 PM. Services will be at the Lakin Funeral Home in Pierce City, MO on Friday, December 16, 2011, beginning at 11:00 AM with Rev. Darren Helms and Rev. Bob Hubbard

officiating. Burial will follow at Sparks Cemetery in Butterfield, MO.

Memorials may be made to: The First Congregational Church in memory of J.D. Smith.

Cemetery Details

Sparks Cemetery

Butterfield, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **15**. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Lakin Funeral Home
501 N Elm St.
Pierce City, MO 65723
(417) 476-2626
lakinfuneral@suddenlink.net

Funeral Service

DEC **16**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Lakin Funeral Home
501 N Elm St.
Pierce City, MO 65723
(417) 476-2626
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Tribute Wall



“ *J.D. Smith*

October 09, 2023 at 08:34 AM



“ *I remember going to the visitation for JD on December 15. Kaye knew it was my birthday. Kaye made pies for me and my husband for our birthdays. JD and Kaye went out to dinner several times with me and my husband. We all enjoyed it so much.*

Kristin Nama - August 20, 2023 at 01:53 AM



“ *R.I.P. my very good and trusted friend, J.D. You've been in my heart as a friend, and was a stellar and loyal customer of Freightliner Trucks I represented. I'm looking forward until we meet again. Love you, sir. Katie and Melissa, I'm praying for your peace and comfort.*
— *Floyd Smith (Smitty)*

L. Floyd Smith (Smitty) - December 20, 2011 at 07:06 PM



“ *JD.*
You helped me out in a time of need. You came to Exeter when we needed someone to take over even though I don't think you really wanted too. You did for me and I will never forget that. I loved the times we spent together, visiting and talking about old times. You are a great man and will be greatly missed by all.

We love you,

Jerry, Tammy, Chase and Kaleigh Ennis

Jerry Ennis - December 16, 2011 at 03:11 PM

JD

“ My favorite memory of JD was when he was the Principal at SWHS, Washburn 1954-56 : He would play the piano boogie woogie sometimes during lunchtime in the gym and he also would accompany me when I would sing Courtin' In The Rain. I remember he was quite a Ping Pong player in 1954-56. JD an John Beattie would always play each other. In those days he would sign his name slanted to the left, today I still sign my name that way.

JD may you rest in peace ole teacher friend of mine.

*J. D. Day
San Antonio, TX*

James Darrell (JD) Day - December 16, 2011 at 10:50 AM

DD

“ J,D, you will be greatly missed. Thanks for all the great advice you gave me, Rest in Peace, May the Good LORD comfort you Family and Friends. Don Day

Donald Day - December 16, 2011 at 09:51 AM

DL

“ Dear Kaye and Melissa, first let me express how sorry I am for your loss. JD gave me so much wonderful advise through my teenage years. One very memorable talk we has been with me throughout the past 30 years and I still use his words of encouragement today. These words are very simple but so true. He said "remember, it's not a problem if you can solve it!". I use this in business, with my children, friends, etc...his words and advise live on in me!
You are in our thoughts and prayers during this time.
Debra Layton

Debra Kaye Layton - December 16, 2011 at 07:31 AM

BL

“ *The Smith family has been a blessing to all of us through the many years, I loved going to Uncle Thurman and Aunt Lou's home getting to visit with all of their children .Lots of good memories. J.D. would get everyone together to sing a few old hymns. Aunt Lou always shared a Word from the Lord --what a testimony. J.D. will be missed. Blessings to all of the family.*



*Bonnie Hemphill Long
Springdale, Ar.*

Bonnie Long - December 16, 2011 at 04:22 AM

GB

“ *Well, when you had an Uncle that in the late 50's could sing and play the piano like Jerry Lee Lewis and looked like a distant cousin of Elvis, and drove that new big Pontiac... and he probably married the cutest gal in SW Missouri... but lost the wedding ring just before the ceremony....many, many fond memories of that time in my young life. I feel so fortunate to have been a part of that family and all the good times we shared.*

Kay, Melissa, and Aunt Ruby, you'll be in our thoughts and prayers.

Greg and Mary Bennett

Greg Bennett - December 15, 2011 at 09:55 PM



“ *The first time I met JD in church he told me that he always tried to remember all his staffs names. I remember that impressed me greatly as to the type of man JD was; it showed me that he cared about his fellow human beings and that his relationship's were built on personal enter action. He also told me that it now found it difficult to remember peoples name so he always called me reverend. I knew by the sincerity in his voice and the smile in his eyes he truly was nurturing our relationship as Christian brothers. It was an honor to know him. Peace of God*

Darren Helms

Darren Helms - December 15, 2011 at 04:31 PM

BS

“ *Another one in our Smith family has gone to sing and play in Heaven with so many of our other Smith's. My first memory of J.D. was on the Square in Cassville, singing like Elvis Presley. I have seen him, Kaye, Ruby and Melissa at our Smith reunion each year now for many, many years. I will miss him. I found him to be a talented guy, a quiet and gentle man. Kaye, I can visualize his hugging reunion with my Blaine and so many more of our beautiful Smith family. My heart goes out to you, Melissa, Ruby, and all your extended family. God loves you - me too. Barb*

Barbara Jo Smith - December 14, 2011 at 09:38 PM

LC

“ *I just want to express my sympathy to the family of J.D. He was my 8th grade school teacher in Pierce City. What a piano player he was. He inspired me in sports & other endeavors. I will never forget him.*

Rest in peace J.D.

Lee Roy Crow

Tucson, Arizona

LEE ROY CROW - December 14, 2011 at 07:19 PM

PK

“ *My Thoughts & Prayers are with the Family. What a wonderful Kind, Loving, Careing, Christian Man. J D Loved his God, Family, Town & Country. Over the years I have done Lots & Lots of business with J D & Never Ever a Question about J D. He stands tall to All that knew him. J D touched lots & lots of lives. I will miss his Smile so very much,*



Pat Kelly - December 14, 2011 at 09:06 AM

FE

To the family of J.D. may God bless you and give you peace and comfort. J.D. was a great man and we loved and appreciated the help he gave us at Exeter. He was highly thought of by the students and their parents. Rest in peace J.D. we will all meet again in heaven. Flo Ennis

Flo Ennis - December 17, 2011 at 12:46 AM