



Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith

November 19, 1935 - June 19, 2020

Ralph Edwin Smith, 84, of Dover, Florida, born in Opp, Alabama on November 19, 1935, entered into eternal rest on June 19, 2020. He was a member of Countryside Baptist Church, where he enjoyed leading Children's Church, and a retired welder with Cargill. He was involved for 20 years with the Dover Cowboy Youth Football Organization serving as President and Equipment Manager. He was a family man, and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, H. Voncille Smith; children, Edwin Ralph Smith (Gale) of Valdosta, Georgia, Belinda Bell (Kenny) of Elkton, Kentucky, and Martha Bell (Roger) of Wesley Chapel; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; sister, Diann McClernan (Jack) of Plant City; and close friend, John "JR" Howell (Marie) of Lakeland. The family will receive friends Tuesday, June 23 from 10-11:00 A.M. at Hopewell Funeral Home, 6005 South County Road 39, Plant City, where a service will follow at 11:00 A.M. Committal to follow at Hopewell Memorial Gardens, Plant City. Due to COVID-19, there will be limited seating for the service, but for those unable to attend, it will be live-streamed at facebook.com/hopewellfuneral, - email office@hopewellfuneral.com for additional information. Masks are recommended. Memorial contributions may be made to Gideons International at gideons.org. Expressions of condolence at HopewellFuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Hopewell Memorial Gardens

6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
(813) 737-3128
office@hopewellfuneral.com
<https://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hopewell Funeral Home
6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
(813) 737-3128
office@hopewellfuneral.com
<http://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

Funeral Service

JUN 23. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Hopewell Funeral Home
6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
(813) 737-3128
office@hopewellfuneral.com
<http://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith



Hopewell Funeral Home - June 22, 2020 at 09:08 PM

BL

Beautifully done. Heart-warming. Filled with love and showed a family connected thru their hearts and souls.

Bettie Lewis - June 25, 2020 at 12:24 PM

LB

“ I remember when I had to be 2 years old or less and I was crying at church wanting my dad and he was so nice. He walked me around church to “ check the water fountain to make sure it was working right, and the air to make sure it was working right” until I stopped crying. Rest In Peace ❤️

Leanne Cody Baker - July 21, 2020 at 03:57 PM

SW

“ Me and my papa would go outside every afternoon after supper and go feed the hogs and goats. He would always let me help even if it was with the tiniest things. But when he hollered for those hogs to come eat I'd always giggle and smile because no matter what they showed up right there at that gate when they heard him doin that call..... I also use to always sing the song "You are my Sunshine" by Johnny Cash and if Papa heard me singin it he'd join right on in and sing along with me and sometimes we'd be there just singing that song on repeat non-stop because we liked how we sounded together..... I'm gonna miss you more than anything Papa, you were someone I always looked up to and well now you're looking down on me from Heaven making sure I'm doing fine. I love you Papa, fly high forever in heaven and in our hearts.

Skiler Woods - June 23, 2020 at 06:57 PM



“ 49 files added to the album Life Tributes



Hopewell Funeral Home - June 22, 2020 at 09:07 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith.*



June 22, 2020 at 02:11 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith.*



June 22, 2020 at 01:11 PM



“ *Ralph Smith, A great friend and neighbor possessing many attributes, kind, considerate, always helping others. A devout Christian and family man. I wish you well on your journey as heaven receives you with open arms.*
Roy

Roy Cotarelo - June 21, 2020 at 10:28 PM



“ *BUNITA RAMLAGAN purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith.*



BUNITA RAMLAGAN - June 21, 2020 at 08:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith.*



June 21, 2020 at 07:41 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith.*



June 21, 2020 at 07:09 PM



“ *My last memory of my 2nd cousin Ralph Edwin Smith was in 2008 when he went with me and my sister Ollie Jo to the Dover First Baptist Church cemetery to show me where my Great Uncle Lloyd Butler and infant baby brother were buried. Our relative's grave (Q.P. Smith) was next to my baby brother's grave and a big gopher (turtle) had a giant hole going under his Headstone. Ralph told me he was going to move him to a new home. I had not seen Ralph and Voncille since childhood and it was so good to see him and Voncille again. I live in West Virginia, but have maintained connection with them since that time. I love the photo of him with his wonderful smile. He had a long hard earthly struggle but I know he is free now with God. Will never forget you Ralph. Bettie*

Bettie Lewis - June 21, 2020 at 06:08 PM

BL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bettie Lewis - June 21, 2020 at 05:33 PM

BA

“ *Butler Girls: Jo, Bobbie, Melba, Bettie, Ann purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Ralph Edwin Smith.*



Butler Girls: Jo, Bobbie, Melba, Bettie, Ann - June 21, 2020 at 04:52 PM

JW

“ *Brother Ralph, what a man of God if it wasn't for him and Mrs. Voncile I have no clue where I would be today. I helped on Saturday mornings bus ministry he picked me up first on Sunday morning oh the memories, camping in the cow pasture, the house boat trip. I think of them often and will be praying for the family.
Love in Christ Jeannine Norris Weaver*

Jeannine Weaver - June 20, 2020 at 10:53 PM

KM

*Well, Without this Faithful man of God I don't know how I would have made it to church each Sunday morning to hear about Jesus. Every Saturday I could always count on him knocking on my door with a GREAT BIG SMILE to remind me he would be there on the bus tomorrow to pick me up. Oh how I cherish those Sweet memories. And then as I grew up into my teen yrs. I really learned what it was to be a Christian. WOW, He sure lived that life in front of us.
Bro. Ralph, (without a doubt Jesus brought you down that long BUMPY road just to get me that day) and I'm so glad he did !!!
RIP I'm sure you are collecting your many due rewards.
Always know how much I Love Ms. Voncile, Edwin, and family and will be lifting them up 🙏❤️*

Karen Morgan - June 21, 2020 at 07:41 AM

PV

“ Heaven sure is sweeter now. Ralph was one of a kind, and if you knew him, you loved him. I don't think he ever met a stranger, if so, they weren't one for very long. I pray that God will continue being with Voncile and the rest of the family. Love and hugs, Pat

Patricia Varnum - June 20, 2020 at 10:53 PM

LD

“ Prayers and thoughts to all the family



Lola Dobbs - June 20, 2020 at 10:48 PM

Denise
Monroe

“ Denise Monroe lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Ralph Edwin Smith



Denise Monroe - June 20, 2020 at 10:07 PM

PD

“ Voncelle, may you & your Family receive
peace & comfort in Ralph's passing. He was a
great person, who loved everyone he met. He
was a very special Friend to Moody. I can only
imagine the Cowboy talk going on, while they
are strolling those streets of Gold. May God continue to Bless &
Comfort you. 🙏❤️
Love, Peggy Damron



Peggy Damron - June 20, 2020 at 09:59 PM

LB

“ Oh my. The best friend ever
We love him so ❤️ much. Sending hugs and sympathy to Voncel
and family. Our hearts breaks 💔. Love you all. Linda &Dewayne
Bingham 🥹💔❤️🙏

LINDA Bingham - June 20, 2020 at 09:47 PM