



## Mr. Robert Smith Trinkle

May 3, 1934 - September 20, 2024

Robert Smith Trinkle, 90, of Plant City, Florida, passed to eternity on September 20, 2024.

Robert was born on May 3, 1934, to John Raymond Trinkle and Vivian Smith Trinkle. Robert dedicated his life to caring for those around him through his immense generosity and quiet wisdom. His philanthropic spirit and humility were hallmarks of his character, earning him the admiration and respect of all who knew him.

He graduated from Plant City High School in 1952, where he was the Co-Captain of the "Plant City Planters" Southwestern Conference championship football team – All Conference Center. Graduate of Indiana University B.S., with high distinction, in 1955. Member of Beta Gamma Sigma scholastic, honorary, and Delta Tau Delta social fraternity. Graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, Juris Doctorate, 1958. Honorary Doctor of Public Service, Florida Southern College, 2000.

Former President of Trinkle, Redman, Coton, P.A.; Former member of the Florida Bar; Executive Council of the Florida Bar Real Property, Probate, and Trust Law Section; Pro Bono Service Award, 2006; Assistant County Attorney, 1963-1969; Fellow American College of Trust and Estate Counsel; former Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Attorney's Title Insurance

Fund; Director & Secretary of Sunshine State Federal Savings & Loan Association. Trustee and former Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Florida Southern College; former member of the Board of Directors South Florida Baptist Hospital and Chairman of Finance Committee; former Trustee and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees of St. Joseph's Baptist Healthcare, 2004; past President of Florida Strawberry Festival; Citizen of the Year 1966; Chancellor of the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church, 1980-1997; President of the Florida United Methodist Church Foundation, 1975-1978; 1st Lieutenant Florida National Guard Battery "B" Plant City; Boy Scout Distinguished Citizen, 2005; Plant City Photo Archives Heritage Award, 2006 and many other community leadership positions.

An avid tennis player, Robert enjoyed many spirited matches with his friends on his backyard court. He found joy in exploring the world through travel, reading Biblical literature and devotedly cheering on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

He leaves behind a legacy of generosity, kindness, and unwavering support for his family and community. Robert is preceded in death by his parents and his brother, John R. Trinkle along with his son, John Robert Trinkle. He is survived by his adoring wife, Ann Hammer Trinkle, along with his four daughters and their spouses: Amy Trinkle Greene (Tim Greene), Margaret Trinkle Briggs (Andrew Briggs), Rebecca Trinkle Rothman (Mark Rothman), Beth Harrell Early, and thirteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

In celebration of Robert's remarkable life, his family will receive friends at First United Methodist Church at 303 N Evers St, Plant City, FL 33563 on Monday, September 30, 2024. Visitation to begin at 5:00 P.M. and service to follow at 6:00 P.M. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to South Florida Baptist Hospital, reflecting Robert's commitment to caring for the Plant City community. Expressions of condolences at [www.HopewellFuneral.com](http://www.HopewellFuneral.com).



# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **30**. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church of Plant City  
303 North Evers Street  
Plant City, FL 33563  
<http://www.firstchurchplantcity.com>

## Funeral Service

SEP **30**. 6:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church of Plant City  
303 North Evers Street  
Plant City, FL 33563  
<http://www.firstchurchplantcity.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Robert Smith Trinkle



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Hopewell Funeral Home - October 01, 2024 at 06:10 PM



“ Dear Trinkle Family,

*My sincerest condolences to you all. Many years ago in the 70's I worked at Trinkle and Redman Law Offices. Mr. Trinkle was always very kind to all the employees. And then later on in 1999, I was blessed to begin a food bank in Plant City to assist the needy. Mr. Trinkle believed in what we were doing and cared deeply for his community. He came alongside us and supported our mission from time to time. I'll never forget his kindness and generosity. Thank you for sharing this kind man with this community. May God bless and comfort you is my prayer.*

*Sincerely,  
Linda M Lawson*

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Linda M Lawson - October 05, 2024 at 10:35 PM

TG

“ *The Gruendel's purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Mr. Robert Smith Trinkle.*



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**The Gruendel's** - September 30, 2024 at 09:26 AM

JD

“ *Jamie & Bethany Davis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Robert Smith Trinkle.*



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**Jamie & Bethany Davis** - September 29, 2024 at 11:17 PM

HE

“ *Dear Ann and Family, The Stephen L. Evans family remembers with great fondness living across from the Trinkle Family on Pinedale Drive 1989-2003. You and Robert were so kind and courteous about the many baseballs and soccer balls that flew towards your beautiful house! And we appreciated your generosity of spirit and sharing as well! You were the best of neighbors in the best neighborhood ever. We are sorry to hear of Robert's passing and count ourselves fortunate to have known Robert, you, and your family. Warmest Regards, Hallie and Steve Evans*

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**Hallie Evans** - September 29, 2024 at 02:09 PM



“ 76 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Hopewell Funeral Home** - September 27, 2024 at 06:24 PM



“ 8 files added to the album *additional*



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**Edward Verner** - September 27, 2024 at 09:58 AM

PM

“ Dear Ann,

*Please accept my sincere sympathy on the death of your beloved Robert. From all accounts, he was a remarkable person and I rejoice with you that you and he had such a long and loving marriage. Please know I will be thinking of you as you navigate new waters and send my love to you and your family.*

*Love,  
Patti Barnes Martin*

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**Patti Barnes Martin** - September 25, 2024 at 03:50 PM

MS

“ Dear Ann, Although I didn't know your husband Robert, I did know you. Please accept my heartfelt condolences as I too have known your loss with the passing of my wife.

*Blessings.  
Marshall Spoto*

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**Marshall Spoto** - September 25, 2024 at 02:13 PM

JH

“ His kindness and understanding guided me after the death of both of my parents in 2000. I will forever be grateful for his heart. JR Harris

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**Jeffrey Harris** - September 25, 2024 at 01:05 PM

DL

“ *Dana and Michael Levin purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Robert Smith Trinkle.*



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**Dana and Michael Levin** - September 25, 2024 at 09:48 AM