



David Wayne Smith

February 28, 1942 - August 30, 2017

David Wayne Smith, 75, of Olivet, passed away on August 30, 2017 in Charlotte. He was born on February 28, 1942 to JD and Mary Jeannette (Morrison) Smith in Olivet, MI. David and his mother moved to Young America, Indiana where he grew up in the household with his mother and step father Fred Gruhl. He and Eva Brown began their life together as a family when they were married on September 30, 1967. They raised a large family that grew way beyond their children and grandchildren. They always had an open door to friends and those who needed a little help. His children remember David as a "jokester". He was always ready to pull a prank on the unsuspecting kids, grandkids, and neighbor kids. That is one of the many reasons why he endeared himself to so many who would come to refer to David, as "Grandpa", and/or "Papa".

David was employed as a truck driver for "Minor Walton Bean". He developed his love of travel as a teenager, traveling across the country countless times, hitch hiking or riding in train cars. As long as he was on the go and behind a steering wheel he was happy. Following Hurricane Katrina, he helped out the relief efforts by transporting FEMA trailers for displaced residents to live in. For a number of years, he and Eva hosted an Adult Foster Care Home. As a testament to their care and compassion for others, many of their residents became "adopted" members of their already large family. David's favorite

times were spent teaching his grandchildren many things, including how to drive in the "back 40". His family also recalls his glee at moving boulders, rocks, and clearing trees on the farm with his New Holland Tractor.

David is survived by his children, Daniel (Ginger) Smith of Bellevue, MI, Dawn (Scott) Sandin of Bellevue, MI, Cheryl Smith of Charlotte, MI, Timothy Nolan of Bellevue, MI, Amber (Brad) Pieh of Deerfield, MI, Michelle Smith of Charlotte, MI, Darciana Smith of Battle Creek, MI; sisters, Joyce (Wendell) Propes of Walton, IN, Virginia Schofield of Charlotte, MI; brother Bobby Smith of Kalamazoo; sisters-in-law, Elizabeth Manners and Alice Robinson; 13 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. David was preceded in death by his loving wife, Eva; his parents and several brothers and sisters.

Visitation will be held Monday September 4, 2017 2:00- 4:00 pm and 6:00- 8:00 pm at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI. Funeral services will be held Tuesday September 5, 2017 at 11:00 am, at the Bellevue Christian Church with Pastor Danesh Manik officiating. Interment will take place at the Riverside Cemetery in Bellevue. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Bellevue Christian Church. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Family and friends are encouraged to share remembrances and condolences online in David's Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery - Bellevue

201 Main St
Bellevue, MI 49021

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 4. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Visitation

SEP 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

SEP 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bellevue Christian Center
734 W. Capital Ave.
Bellevue, MI 49021

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of David Wayne Smith*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - September 05, 2017 at 10:50 AM



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of David Wayne Smith*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - September 03, 2017 at 09:35 PM



“ *When my daughter was in Saginaw hospital, diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, he drove all the way up to see her, it was a joyful surprise, we all had a nice visit with him, he was a great uncle to us and he will forever be remembered and missed.*

carrie - October 01, 2017 at 06:24 PM

PM

“ I had the privilege to get to know David in his final days, it was an honor to take care of him, and I know he is in a better place, your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Patricia Misner
RCT night shift

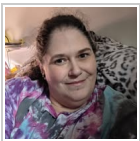
patricia Misner - September 03, 2017 at 11:56 PM



“ 57 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - September 03, 2017 at 08:31 PM



“ He's one of the most living, caring people I know. He rescued my son and I when we were homeless. He and Eva will always be my ma and pa. They always welcomed me like family. I love them both and they will forever be in my heart! RIH Ma and Pa Smith ❤️❤️❤️

Amy Hill - September 02, 2017 at 11:07 AM

TM

“ *The family of Harry & Idabelle Morrison purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of David Wayne Smith.*



The family of Harry & Idabelle Morrison - September 01, 2017
at 05:48 PM

JR

“ *I will be forever grateful to Dave and his wife Eve for the loving manner in which they both took care of my Mother Naomi and my brother Billy. Dave would often take Billy for a ride to town with him and buy him a cup of coffee. Billy loved Dave and wanted me to let his family know he is saddened by this loss. He was a very special man.*

Jim Rundell

Jim Rundell - September 01, 2017 at 10:23 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of David Wayne Smith.*



September 01, 2017 at 10:12 AM

OB

“ Our deepest sympathy for all of David's family and friends...you will continue to be in our prayers...prayers for your strength, healing, peace, and hope...

Ole and Pat Boe

Ole and Pat Boe - September 01, 2017 at 08:59 AM

LC

“ Sincere sympathy to your family. Bob & Linda Cooley.

Linda Cooley - September 01, 2017 at 07:03 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of David Wayne Smith.



September 01, 2017 at 03:20 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Wayne Smith.



August 31, 2017 at 09:39 PM

DR

“ *Deanna S. Pieh, Arin S. Rudd purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of David Wayne Smith.*



Deanna S. Pieh, Arin S. Rudd - August 31, 2017 at 04:18 PM