



## Donald Hugh Smith

January 11, 1943 - December 29, 2024

Donald "Don" Hugh Smith, a man that was known by his family for being a wonderful provider and organizer, died on Sunday, December 29, 2024, after a short battle with cancer. Don, 81, of Charlotte, was born on January 11, 1943, in Detroit, MI, the son of Milton and Adelaide (Kelemen) Smith. In his senior year at Alma College Don met Susan Raymond while on a skiing trip. On August 21, 1965, the couple would marry. Don later earned a Master's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Idaho. He taught middle and high school math, computer science, and science in the Jackson Public School system until his retirement in 1994. Don was a very intelligent man who knew a lot about a lot of different things. He was a man with a dry sense of humor, he was gruff but very loving. This earned him the nickname of General Grumpa by his family. Don was a faithful man of God, he was a devoted member of the Jonesville First Presbyterian Church where he served as a church elder, worked in the kitchen, and frequently ran the church sound system for services and events. He was a collector of many different things, his biggest pride being his car collection he had over the years. Don had a need for speed and his last car was a limited yellow Pontiac Solstice convertible. He enjoyed putzing around the yard on his tractor, and was known for mowing his yard several times a week. Don enjoyed the family Michigan State vs Michigan rivalry and the banter back and forth leading up to the big game. Above all his proudest accomplishment in life was how he was brought up with nothing and how he was able to get an education and provide

for his family.

Don is survived by his wife of 59 years, Sue; children, Ken (Amanda) Smith, Jim (Paige) Smith, Jennifer (John) Carr, and Mike (Tara) Smith; 15 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; sister, Linda Elliott; numerous extended family members; and his beloved fur babies. He was predeceased by his parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Don's family by attending services or sharing memories on his Tribute Page at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com). A celebration of life will be held at the Jonesville First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, January 5, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society or your own local church. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JAN 5. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church  
300 E. Chicago St.  
Jonesville, MI 49250

# Tribute Wall

OA

“ *Our love, Steve and Paula Alcott purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Donald Hugh Smith.*



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**Our love, Steve and Paula Alcott** - January 04, 2025 at 10:20 AM

PE

“ *Grumpa and MJ's first meeting. He had tears and sparkles in his eyes the entire time.*



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**Persie** - December 31, 2024 at 03:46 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - December 31, 2024 at 09:49 AM