



Mark Duane Smuts

January 8, 1953 - February 28, 2017

Mark Duane Smuts, 64, of Charlotte, died peacefully on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 in Lansing. Mark was born January 8, 1953, in Charlotte, the son of Harold Burr and Phyllis Jean (Campbell) Smuts. He graduated from Charlotte High School in 1970 before briefly pursuing a degree in ministry. Mark married his high school sweetheart, Jeaneen Letson, in 1972, and the two started their family farm in Charlotte. He served rural Eaton County in many capacities, including the Farm Bureau Board, Chester Township Supervisor, and as Eaton County Commissioner. Recently, Mark became a devoted member of the Deacon Board at Grace Baptist Church in Eaton Rapids. Many will remember Mark's hard work and dedication to his community, his family, and his church.

Mark is survived by his wife of 44 years, Jeaneen Smuts; son, Duane (Maria) Smuts of Charlotte; daughter, Sarah (Mike) Hoagg of Vicksburg, MI; grandchildren, Jeffrey and Natalie Hoagg and Jadyn and Ethan Smuts; his parents, Harold and Phyllis Smuts; siblings, Diane (Rick) Skeen, Nancy (Doug) Garnaat, Gary Smuts, and Ann (Jim) VanderMey; several nieces and nephews; and mother-in-law, Betty Jean Hogan.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 3, 2017 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, with Pastor Mark Michalcewitz officiating. Visitation will be from 2:00 - 4:00 and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 2, 2017 at the funeral home. Interment will take place in Gresham Cemetery. If desired,

the family suggests memorial contributions to Grace Baptist Church of Eaton Rapids or Eaton Community Palliative Care. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Mark on his tribute page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Gresham Cemetery

4100 Mulliken Rd
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Mark Duane Smuts*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - March 03, 2017 at 10:00 AM

GB

This was wonderful, for those of us who couldn't attend the funeral. Just beautiful and uplifting. A life well lived!

Genon Birch - March 04, 2017 at 06:59 PM



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Mark Duane Smuts*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - March 01, 2017 at 07:48 PM

MC

Loved this video. Awesome picture of Uncle Harold, Mark, Duane and Duane's sons. Also loved the picture of the whole family on and around the combine, plus every shot of Mark and Jeaneen. Praying for all of your loss but Mark's gain

mike campbell - March 05, 2017 at 04:12 PM

LS

“ I don't know if you still check this website but I was cleaning out a drawer of mine and came across a business card for "Smuts Farms" and thought of Mark, who, back in 1971 at Frontier School of the Bible, was my roommate. My name is (Mr.) Laurie Stuck (pronounced like "stook"). Mark was from Michigan and I was from Southern California. While I was doing some research on the Internet, I learned, sadly, that Mark had gone Home to be with Jesus back in 2017. I watched the memorial service for Mark on-line and it was mentioned by one of the speakers that Mark was in a quartet while at Frontier. I was the first tenor in the quartet. I loved Mark and dearly loved Aunt Aggie! I have missed Mark over the years, always thinking about him and once wrote a letter to him in which he returned a letter to me telling about his MS diagnosis. I praise God for Mark and the life he led, being the "fragrance of the knowledge of [Christ] everywhere" he went! I was scheduled to sing at he and Jeaneens' wedding but I was called home to Southern California at that same time due to my younger brother being diagnosed with malignant cancer of the brain. Mark wanted me to sing the hymn "Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord" which I still sing today! Please know that someone here, up in Yakima, Washington, loves Mark and misses him dearly. And if you see this Jeaneen, please know that you are being prayed for, trusting God to provide you with His comfort and His grace as you carry on Mark's legacy. I'm sorry we never got to meet but know this that Mark talked about you a lot!! Lovingly, Laurie Stuck.

Laurie Stuck - January 09, 2023 at 04:09 PM

JC

“ Just finished watching the service and the picture video tribute. Both captured so well what I remember of my cousin Mark. These are so appreciated by those of us who couldn't be there. All my love to Jeaneen, Duane and Sarah, Harold and Phyllis, and all the family. My prayers are with you. - Janeen

jJaneen Campbell - March 05, 2017 at 08:35 PM

GR

“ Gary - sorry for your loss. I remember you talking about your brother. Greg Ross

Greg Ross - March 02, 2017 at 09:04 PM

TP

“ Just watched the video tribute - what a wonderful family you are blessed with! Tim and I are so sorry for your loss of Mark. ~

Tim & Lisa Pruden - March 02, 2017 at 02:55 PM

SS

“ We lost a great man. My condolences to Jeaneen, Duane/Maria and the rest of the family.

Shad Stroh

Shad Stroh - March 02, 2017 at 11:37 AM

DD

Mark was an amazing example of cheerfully living his life and serving the Lord through great adversity. Dave and I appreciated all of his faithful service, especially those years he and Dave were privileged to work together on the deacon board. We are so thankful for Mark and Jeanne's friendship all of these years. We will miss Mark, but heaven has gained a faithful follower of Christ. Our love and prayers go out to you, Jeanne and your family.
Dave and Mary Ann

Dave Dickinson - March 03, 2017 at 08:42 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark Duane Smuts.*



March 02, 2017 at 12:43 AM



“ *Mark always had a smile and was so uplifting to those around him. His cheery presence was such an encouragement to me. His joy was a testimony to his deep and genuine faith in Christ. What an amazing thing to know that he is standing in the presence of the God he loved and served. Jeaneen and family, may God surround you and hold you especially close in the days ahead. Love and miss you.*

Julia Keeley - March 01, 2017 at 11:36 PM



“ *Appreciated Mark's knowledge and support when I ran for County commissioner in 2012.*

Doug Kelsey - March 01, 2017 at 09:16 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mark Duane Smuts.*



March 01, 2017 at 08:19 PM



“ 31 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - March 01, 2017 at 07:46 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Mark's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Especially to you Jeaneen, but I know your faith in God will help you through this sad time.
Sue Gross

Sue Gross - March 01, 2017 at 04:49 PM



“ *Rick, Lois and Jill Carlson purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mark Duane Smuts.*



Rick, Lois and Jill Carlson - March 01, 2017 at 03:19 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Mark Duane Smuts.*



March 01, 2017 at 03:03 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Mark's passing.our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

-Stevenstead Farms

Stevenstead Farms - March 01, 2017 at 01:35 PM



“ *Sorry to hear this. Thoughts and prayers to the family*

Doug Roll - March 01, 2017 at 12:37 PM



“ *To all the Smuts family,*

We are saddened to hear of Mark's passing but rejoice that he is with his Heavenly Father. Heaven is sweeter still. Mark was a godly man and we are better people for having known him. Praying for all of you!

Greg & Marilyn Royston

Greg Royston - March 01, 2017 at 12:35 PM

EE

“ *Everyone @ Citizens Elevator purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mark Duane Smuts.*



Everyone @ Citizens Elevator - March 01, 2017 at 10:23 AM

DB

“ *I am so very sad to hear of Marks passing. Mark was a very special man. He was a special friend and a valued customer. His positive outlook on life was contagious. It was hard to feel down after talking to Mark. He always found the positive. May he rest in peace. My sincere sympathy to the family.*
Debbie Blundy

debbie blundy - March 01, 2017 at 09:21 AM

RR

I COULDN'T SAY IT ANY BETTER. LOVE THIS FAMILY ALSO

Richard Regis and Nellie Regis - March 01, 2017 at 12:58 PM

LA

“ *Jeaneen, Duane and Family-*

So sorry to hear of Mark's passing, He will be missed by all. You are in our thoughts.

Lori Aseltine

Lori Aseltine - March 01, 2017 at 09:18 AM

RW

“ Dear Jeaneen, Harold and Phyllis,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you today. We remember Mark
very well as he always had a lovely smile for everyone.
With our love and prayers,
Rev. Gary & Barbara Williams

Rev. Gary & Barbara Williams - March 01, 2017 at 08:49 AM

HE

“ Jeaneen, Duane & Family-

So sorry to hear of Mark's passing. Thoughts and prayers are with
you at this difficult time.

Heather Kennedy

Heather - March 01, 2017 at 06:36 AM

LW

“ Lori & Tom Wagner purchased the Pink Tribute S
pray for the family of Mark Duane Smuts.



Lori & Tom Wagner - February 28, 2017 at 09:08 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Mark Duane Smuts.



February 28, 2017 at 08:29 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mark Duane Smuts.



February 28, 2017 at 08:17 PM