



Banner Smith

June 8, 1928 - August 19, 2020

Banner Smith passed away on August 19th, 2020 in Flowery Branch, GA at the age of 92. He was born on June 8th, 1928 along with his identical twin brother Kennett to Bill and Sarah Smith in Greensboro, NC. In addition to his parents and four siblings, he was preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Jean Hoffner Smith of Salisbury, NC, and one of his grandsons, Shane Smith.

Banner served in the U.S. Army from 1946-1949, and was stationed in occupied Japan after WW2. He was an accomplished Golden Gloves boxer as well as a middle-distance runner in his youth, and he qualified for the 1948 Olympic trials in the 1500 meters. A proficient guitarist and singer, he was known for playing the harmonica with a neck holder while picking his 1950 Gibson that he never replaced. Banner kept a large notebook in which he had written the words to old mountain/bluegrass songs that he played throughout his life.

Banner and Jean raised their family in Tucker, Georgia. They were active members of Tucker First United Methodist Church, and belonged to the Christian Friendship Sunday School Class for 50 years. In later years, he was proud to be one of the oldest members participating as a musician in the Church Street Station Band. Banner retired from the Engineering Department at AT&T in the early 1990's after working with them throughout most of his life.

He is survived by five children - Colin Smith (Shelley), Leonard Smith (Jan), Melinda Knowles (Andy), Maureen King (Bill), and Kyle Smith, along with 11 grandchildren and four great-grandsons.

Banner was a humble man of strong moral character who always put others before himself, and strove to live according to the teachings of Jesus. He was well respected and loved by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

A graveside service will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, August 22nd at the City Memorial Park Cemetery in Salisbury, North Carolina.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Tucker First United Methodist Church, Tucker, Georgia.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Smith family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

City Memorial Park

1316 West Innes St
Salisbury, NC 28144

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

City Memorial Park
1316 West Innes St
Salisbury, NC 28144

Tribute Wall

TG

“ My condolences to Banner's family and in memory of a fine gentleman with whom I shared experiences at AT&T

Tom Gurley - August 28, 2020 at 03:19 PM

CM

“ To the Smith family, i am so sorry for your loss, I worked in the group with Banner at AT&T, I also worked with Maureen his daughter, and I attended her wedding, Banner was one of the nicest guys that i have ever known. may God give you comfort during this time.

Carol May

carol may - August 24, 2020 at 09:46 PM

JM

“ Banner, Jean and their family were neighbors In Tucker, GA for years. I also worked with Banner at AT&TIt was always a pleasur to know th family. Jack McClain Age 99, Suwanee;, GA.

Jack McClain - August 24, 2020 at 06:23 PM

LL

“ My husband and I were in the same Sunday school class for years with Banner and Jean. Banner was unfailingly pleasant and kind, and I never heard him say a bad word about anyone. And we were fortunate to enjoy hearing him perform many times. The world is a sadder, dimmer place without him and Jean. It's a huge loss for all who knew him.

Laura Leathers

Laura Leathers - August 24, 2020 at 02:57 PM

JK

“Banner will always be a musical and personal hero of mine. I met Banner I when I moved to Georgia in 1982 at Marcus Bailey’s house- during those 38 years it feels like at every jam session I attended with Banner he sang a song I had never heard before. I’m going to sit on my porch and play a few of his songs on my banjo for Banner and think about what a fine man he was. He will be missed by Marcia and I.

Dr. John Kelley

John Kelley - August 23, 2020 at 08:05 PM

DW

“David Williamson lit a candle in memory of Banner Smith



David Williamson - August 22, 2020 at 11:49 AM

ME



melinda - August 23, 2020 at 10:54 AM

PD

“Sincere sympathy to the Smith family, we’ve missed them so much since they left Tucker, but treasure the days we had with them! I know that you are comforted a little during these sad days knowing that they are now happily together in heaven!
❤️🙏’s

Peggy Denmark - August 22, 2020 at 07:36 AM

ME

Thanks, Peggy. They sure loved their Tucker friends. Happy they’re together again, too, and not burdened by their worn out earthly bodies. ❤️

melinda - August 23, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Banner Smith.



August 21, 2020 at 10:13 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Banner Smith*.



August 21, 2020 at 03:37 PM