



Don Lee Smithson

July 8, 1946 - January 18, 2021

Don Lee Smithson was born on July 8, 1946, in Columbia, Tennessee, and passed away on January 18, 2021, at his home in Centerville. He was 74 years old.

He is the son of the late Bill and Margaret Scott Smithson.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years Sherry Breece Smithson. Daughter Kristy (Brian) Smithson Campbell of Brentwood, Tennessee. Sons Ryan (Brandi) Smithson of St. Johns, Florida, and Kyle (Brittany) Smithson of Spring Hill, Tennessee. Grandchildren Alex Campbell, Allison Campbell, and Andrew Smithson. Brother Mike (Jenny) Smithson of Centerville. Niece Kelly Smithson Damico (Doug) and their daughter Novie of Collierville, Tennessee. Sister in law Linda Breece Bates (Jerry) of Centerville. Nephew Russell Bates of Nashville, and niece Michelle Bates of Nolensville. Along with many other relatives, friends, and loved ones.

Mr. Smithson was a veteran of the United States Navy.

After serving, he became an air traffic controller and worked from 1970 to 1981 before moving back to Hickman County. He owned and operated Smithson's Florist for over 35 years before retiring.

He was a charter member of the Fairfield Baptist Church. There he was welcoming to so many and reached out to everyone that came. He did not want anyone to feel like they did not have a place.

Don always had a green thumb and an interest in flowers and plants, even from his youth when he would hunt wildflowers. His greenhouse and landscaping work started as a hobby and grew into a career and a passion. He turned what was a carwash into the nursery that was called Smithson's Florist. He put his heart and soul into serving his customers and helped countless people over the years. He truly loved seeing people and taking care of them.

He also loved fishing and spent a lot of time at the beach doing just that. When he moved back home he went as often as his time would allow. He also loved the Tennessee Volunteers and was a life long fan.

Don also loved his family, and family always came first. He was blessed to have many of them by his side during his last days. His granddaughter Allison, who is a nursing student at Samford University, was able to use her education to help take care of him while he was under hospice care. He will be truly missed by each of those that loved and knew him.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Campground Cemetery Fund at 2540 Swan Creek Rd. Centerville, Tennessee 37033 C/O Mike Smithson or to the Fairfield Baptist Church Building Fund.

Private graveside services will be held with Mark Walton Officiating.

Cemetery Details

Campground Cemetery

Centerville, TN 37033

Tribute Wall

AS

“ I just learned today, December 1, 2021 of Mr. Don's death. I am greatly saddened. I was a floral designer and worked for Don part-time for several years. I first met him when I had a small business selling pre-made silk designs and one day he told me that he'd hire me on the spot if I'd come work for him, and he did just that! He was like a dad to me, and I am so grateful for having our paths cross. Thank you for your kindness and friendship, and Fly high Mr. Don!
Anita

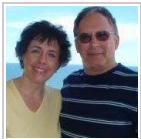
Anita Sweet - December 01, 2021 at 11:15 PM

JS

“ I live in Jaspers, Al and I have depended on Don for graveside flowers for 15 years. He even took them to the cemetery as my parents and his parents are buried side by side.

I enjoyed our phone conversations. God bless his family.

jeanette Smith - January 28, 2021 at 03:19 PM



“ Ray Ragsdale lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson



Ray Ragsdale - January 25, 2021 at 09:46 PM

DM

“ I am saddened to hear of Don’s passing. Don and I were best friends in grade school and high school and even though our paths have rarely passed since then, I have always cherished that friendship. I know that he will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Sherry and the family. God bless you.
Doug and Mary Meador
Panama City Beach, Florida

Doug Meador - January 23, 2021 at 03:20 PM

SC

“ Dear Sherry and family, I am so sorry at hearing the loss of Don this week. I have such wonderful memories of our high school days at Hickman County High and both enjoyed our high school days there. May God grant you peace and blessings during this difficult time.
Sincerely, Sue Nickell Crooks

Sue Nickell Crooks - January 22, 2021 at 02:01 PM

MC

“ Maelynn Campbell sent a virtual gift in memory of Don Lee Smithson



Maelynn Campbell - January 22, 2021 at 11:20 AM

JL

“ Don grew up across the street (South Barnwell Ave.) from my brother Harvey Frye and me. Those were wonderful years full of exploring the woods, playing games with all our cousins, etc. Then in our adult years my sons and my mother-in-law and I would make many, many trips to his wonderful nursery and then florist shop.

We'll miss you Don. The angels will enjoy your flowers and your happy smile.

Love to your family!!!

Jane Frye Lodl

Jane Frye Lodl - January 21, 2021 at 08:38 PM

LF

“ I knew Don to be a fine man of character, my deepest condolences to the family. God Bless you all.
Sincerely,
LARRY FERGUSON

Larry Ferguson - January 20, 2021 at 11:02 PM

TC

“ So sorry!



Terry Chandler - January 20, 2021 at 09:55 PM

MS

“ *Always loved to do business with Don. He will be missed*



Melody Skelton - January 20, 2021 at 06:09 PM

CB

“ *Carolyn Burchard Bennett lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Carolyn Burchard Bennett - January 20, 2021 at 05:15 PM

JW

“ *Jeff-Janet Wright lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Jeff-Janet Wright - January 20, 2021 at 01:59 PM

GG

“ *Glenda Gilmer lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Glenda Gilmer - January 20, 2021 at 01:07 PM

SH

“ Sherry, Kristy, Ryan, Kyle, Mike , Jenny & family, I am so sorry for your loss, my prayers are with each one of you. Don will be missed by so many, he always loved Dan's turnip greens at Thanksgiving, we always looked forward to seeing him and the family. We love you all very much. Dan & Sheila Scott Hunter



Sheila Scott Hunter - January 20, 2021 at 12:49 PM



“ Sandi Westover lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson



Sandi Westover - January 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM

DS

“ Our deepest sympathy to all his family. Debbie and Keith Semore



Debbie Semore - January 20, 2021 at 10:09 AM



“ David Bates lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson



David Bates - January 20, 2021 at 10:07 AM

JW

“ *Judith Wales lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Judith Wales - January 20, 2021 at 08:24 AM

CB

“ *Carmela Brown lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Carmela Brown - January 20, 2021 at 08:21 AM

JA

“ *Very saddened to hear of Don's passing. Our condolences to Mike and his entire family.*



James Arthur and Dana Atkinson

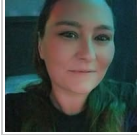
James Arthur Atkinson - January 20, 2021 at 07:07 AM

CS

“ *Charlotte Staggs sent a virtual gift in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Charlotte Staggs - January 19, 2021 at 11:03 PM



“ Sure going to miss you Don.....Prayers for Sherry and the rest of the family ❤️



Mary Malugin - January 19, 2021 at 10:16 PM

HF

“ Rest in peace, Don.



Harvey Frye - January 19, 2021 at 10:03 PM

LG

“ Lonnie And Marilyn Gilliam lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson



Lonnie and Marilyn Gilliam - January 19, 2021 at 10:01 PM

SR

“ We moved from Centerville 30 years ago, but every time I saw Don deliver flowers to the funeral home, he always made a point to talk for a few minutes. If he was too busy, he would flash that big smile and wave, as if to say, I'll catch you later. Don was a nice man, and will be missed in Centerville. Prayers for Don's family ❤️



Sharon Bates Rochelle - January 19, 2021 at 09:40 PM

MS

“ *Melissa Shelton lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Melissa Shelton - January 19, 2021 at 09:28 PM

GO

“ *Glenda Orman lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Glenda Orman - January 19, 2021 at 09:15 PM

JE

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy for Sherry, Kristy, Kyle, Mike & Jenny. Don truly did love all of his family, and was so proud of his children and grandchildren . He was so kind and loving to his Mother, and grieved when she was so very ill. I will always remember his kindness, and his strong faith which he loved to share, along with his love for his church family. We are so thankful to have known him.*

May God bless and keep you, and give you peace.

Chug and Johnnie Ruth Elrod

Johnnie Ruth Elrod - January 19, 2021 at 09:04 PM

VJ

“ *Knew Don for many years. He had a dry sense of humor, that left you thinking. Great business man and an asset to the community. Good friend! I will miss him as so many will. Vicky Hill James*

vicky Hill James - January 19, 2021 at 09:01 PM

CM

“ *Cheeva McClearn lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Cheeva McClearn - January 19, 2021 at 08:35 PM

CK

“ *All of our love!*
Janice and Chris King

Chris and Janice King - January 19, 2021 at 08:09 PM

JM

“ *Joyce Mayberry lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Joyce Mayberry - January 19, 2021 at 07:34 PM

TC

“ *Teresa Carroll lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Teresa Carroll - January 19, 2021 at 07:23 PM

JM

“ *Sherry my deepest sympathy to you and all the family. You're in my thoughts and prayers*



Joyce Aldridge McDaniel - January 19, 2021 at 07:01 PM



“ *Kathy Mcgahey lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Kathy Mcgahey - January 19, 2021 at 06:45 PM

RM

“ *Roy And Sharon McCoy lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson*



Roy and Sharon McCoy - January 19, 2021 at 06:41 PM



“ *Prayers for the family*



Donna Qualls - January 19, 2021 at 06:17 PM

AH

“ Thinking of all of you



Alice Hernandez - January 19, 2021 at 06:00 PM

LK

“ Larry And Carolyn King lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson



Larry and Carolyn King - January 19, 2021 at 05:52 PM

RJ

“ Rita Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson



Rita Jenkins - January 19, 2021 at 05:44 PM

RB

“ Randall-Sandra Barber lit a candle in memory of Don Lee Smithson



Randall-Sandra Barber - January 19, 2021 at 05:05 PM