



Roy Frank Smith

March 7, 2015

Mr. Roy F Smith of Harmontown passed away peacefully on Saturday March 7th in the aftermath of a serious stroke. Mr. Smith, 90, was born on the Smith family farm near the Harmontown community. As a youngster, he lived the life of the typical farm boy, working on the farm, tending to the cattle and other livestock and hunting and fishing in depression-era Mississippi. Mr. Smith was a lifelong member of Free Springs Methodist Church. His late Uncle H.T. "Tom" Smith was a former Mayor of Oxford. He was a gifted, hardworking student and at 18 he left the family farm to attend Mississippi State. After a distinguished academic career, which included being a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, he received his degree in Accounting, became a Certified Public Accountant and joined the United States Navy.

Mr. Smith became a career Naval Officer, achieving the rank of Captain and serving in destinations all over the United States, and the world, which included a tour in Viet Nam in 1964-65. He was recognized by the United States Secretary of Defense for "Outstanding Performance of Duty" in Viet Nam and was also awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for Meritorious Achievement for his service in Viet Nam by the Commander in Chief of the U. S. Pacific Fleet. After his retirement from the Navy, he stayed active in his patriotic support of those who continued to serve as a Gold Circle Member of the VFW's National Veteran's Service programs.

After retiring from the Navy, Mr. Smith moved to Germantown, Tenn. where he served as Business Manager for the Memphis Academy of Art, where he was

recognized for his dedication to the visual arts. During that time, Mr. Smith met Ruby Chance. They were soon married and Miss Ruby brought him many years of joy throughout the rest of his life. In his later years he returned to the Smith Family Farm in Harmontown where he built a beautiful brick home and he and Ruby lived until his death. Even though he had successful careers as a Naval Officer and civilian CPA, living in cities across the USA, Mr. Smith never lost his love of the rural Mississippi life. After returning home he would continue to grow outstanding crops of tomatoes, okra and corn on his family homestead and he could still “skin a buck” and “run a trot line”. Most importantly, Roy Smith’s life was distinguished by his genuine caring spirit. He was a man who cared about his friends, neighbors and family. As the oldest of three children, he was a caring, protective, loving brother to his younger siblings, Elizabeth and Herndon. Roy Smith was a common man of uncommon abilities; an outstanding student, a dedicated, decorated Naval Officer, a skilled woodsman and fisherman, an 8th degree Mason, a passionate, loyal Mississippian, and a man who always put family, friends and neighbors first. Pre-deceased by Father, Frank Smith, Mother, Ada Broome Smith, brother, Herndon Smith, sister, Elizabeth Smith Williams and first wife, Allie. Survivors; wife Ruby, niece Lisa Williams Sellers and husband Steve Sellers and their children Mason, Katherine, Jackson and Reed and nephew Roger Franklin Williams. Coleman Funeral Home, Oxford in charge of services.

Visitation will be held Sunday, March 15, 2015, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. at Free Springs United Methodist Church, 76 CR 511, Como, MS 38619 with funeral service following at 3:00 p.m. at the church. Rev. Joey Bates will officiate. Interment will be in Harmontown Cemetery, 24, CR 509, Como, MS 38619.

Cemetery Details

Harmontown Cemetery

24 CR 509
Como, MS 38619

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 15. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Free Springs United Methodist Church
76 CR 511
Como, MS 38619

Service

MAR 15. 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

Free Springs United Methodist Church
76 CR 511
Como, MS 38619

Tribute Wall



“ *We are sorry for you loss...Mary Ann*

mary Ann - March 09, 2015 at 01:25 PM