



David Cleveland Smith

October 3, 1932 - June 27, 2020

David Cleveland “Cleve” Smith passed away peacefully at Jefferson Park in Dandridge on June 27, 2020. He was born on October 3, 1932 in Knoxville, TN. Cleve was a 1951 graduate of Jefferson City High School and attended TMI and Carson-Newman University. He joined the United States Air Force during the Korean War, serving as a Senior Supply Clerk and Radar Plotting Specialist with the 119th ACW in Knoxville, TN that was later attached to the 564th AD-Gp at Otis Air Force Base in Falmouth, Massachusetts. Cleve retired from Carson-Newman University in 1994 as a Grounds Supervisor with the Maintenance Department.

Cleve enjoyed and was greatly successful in field research, speaking and writing about pre-historic archaeology and the Civil War in this area. He authored three books on many previously unrecorded sites and events that took place during the Civil War in Jefferson and surrounding counties. He was inducted into the Jefferson County Historical Society Hall of Fame.

Cleve was a member of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City. He was preceded in death by his mother, Bernice Bible Smith Shipley, father, Orie Lincoln “OL” Smith, son David M. Smith, and loving wife of 48 years, Betty Lou Russell Smith. He is survived by his sister, Nita Sue Baum (Charlie), daughter, Patti Brown (Mike), son, Brian Smith (Elaine), grandchildren, Chris Brown (Meredith), Stephanie Brown Ownby (Conley), Jennifer Smith, Kelly Smith Stalsworth (Justin), Tyler Smith (Mackenzie), great-grandchildren, Mia Celleste Grant, Ian Tate, Margaret Jane Brown, Emma, Liam and Ewan

Ownby, great-great grandchildren, Celeana, Maisia and Caspian and several nieces and nephews.

A military graveside service will be held at 1:30 Thursday, July 2, at Jefferson Memorial Gardens officiated by Dr. Greg Lindsey. Arrangements by Fielden Funeral Home in New Market, TN.

Cemetery Details

Jefferson Memorial Gardens

812 E. Broadway Blvd
Jefferson City, TN 37760

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUL 2. 1:30 PM (ET)

Jefferson Memorial Gardens
812 E. Broadway Blvd
Jefferson City, TN 37760

Tribute Wall

HH

“ A great loss to the history of Jefferson County. I'm glad that his knowledge is preserved in his books. I still remember how I read with amazement about the events that took place during the Winter of 1863-64. A final thank you for putting the events of that time into your book "Lilly in the Valley."

Rest well: David Cleveland Smith

Hugh Hartsell--July 5, 4:34

Hugh Hartsell - July 05, 2020 at 04:36 AM

BM

“ I am truly saddened. Cleve was such a joy to spend time with, especially when I had the opportunity to soak up history from his vast welof knowledge.

Godspeed, sir. Enjoy Mizz Betty and David. Your circle will reunite again one day.

Billie McNamara - July 03, 2020 at 11:43 AM

AT

“ Anthony Trent lit a candle in memory of David Cleveland Smith



anthony trent - July 03, 2020 at 08:35 AM



“ Cleve was always very helpful and nice to me. I got several of his books and gave some as gifts. I got so excited when I learned he was across the hall from me when I was at Jefferson Park for one month. I had to go back to the home but was on the other end of the building. As soon as I was able I went back to see him. So sorry and sad to hear of his passing. Jefferson County has lost a great historian.

Peggy Sellars Woods

Peggy Woods - July 02, 2020 at 03:21 PM

ME

Great Man and I think of him often since I live in the house his Grandparents and Mother lived in♥♥ RIP Cleve

Marie Ellison - July 02, 2020 at 10:17 PM

AT

Thanks for Cleves military service and for being a friend

anthony trent - July 03, 2020 at 08:36 AM

TH

Having just discovered Cleves obituary we were deeply saddened. After I meeting him in 2000 at Jefferson City searching for info on the fighting at Mossy Creek I was elated to get his book Campaign to Nowhere. My great grandfather was in the 9th Pa Cavalry. Coming from Lancaster county, Pa my wife and I greatly enjoyed our visits to Cleve and Elma. We had become good friends. What a true gentleman and interesting man. What a pleasure for me to tap into his vast knowledge of the War Between the States. I cherish my memories with him. Rest in peace my friend ! Tom & Sue Hackman, Lititz Pa.

Tom Hackman - December 12, 2021 at 07:53 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David Cleveland Smith.*



June 29, 2020 at 09:44 PM