



Robert James Smith Jr

January 14, 1940 - June 5, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Robert J. Smith Jr., affectionately known as Bob, on June 5, 2026, at the age of 86. Born on January 14, 1940, in Sand Springs, Oklahoma, Bob was the beloved son of the late Robert J. Smith Sr. and Vera Jean Cline Smith.

A devoted family man, Bob's life was a testament to love and commitment. On February 11, 1967, in Montgomery, Alabama, he married his cherished wife, Margaret C. Smith. For 59 wonderful years, they shared a life and built a family, raising two daughters, Cathy Henley (Jud) and Mary Ashley Adams (Patrick), who were the light of their lives. Bob was also a proud and dedicated grandfather to his five grandchildren: Jacob Adams, Ethan Adams, McKenzie Adams, Madison Henley Cofield (Alex), and William Henley (Katie), each of whom he adored.

Bob's teenage years were in Andalusia, Alabama, where he graduated from Andalusia High School in 1958. Driven by a deep sense of duty, and inspired by his dad's service during World War II, Bob joined the United States Navy, serving from 1958 to 1962 with the Airborne Early Warning Squadron, the Hurricane Hunters. Achieving the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class. His time in the Navy was a source of immense pride and personal development.

Following his military service, Bob embarked on a successful 32-year career

with Allstate Insurance. His professional life was marked by dedication and integrity, qualities he carried into his other part time endeavors as a high school football official and SEC women's basketball official. Friday nights under the stadium lights were some of his happiest, as he developed a comradery with his officiating crew, along with coaches. He enjoyed watching young athletes develop and mature over the course of their high school years.

Bob was a man of intellect and curiosity, a voracious reader whose passion for knowledge was evident in the vast collection of books that filled his home and stacks by his bedside table. Bob always seemed to have a book in his hands. He enjoyed history, American literature, and commentaries from great thinkers both past and present. Reading transported him to other times and places. His self-developed scholarly intellect was evident by his commanding grasp of the English language, and the ability to articulate his thoughts with clarity and insight. His passion for reading, learning, and knowledge inspired his family to adopt similar pursuits.

And as for his family, this was above all Bob's greatest joy. His love for Margaret, Cathy and Mary Ashley was undeniable, but he experienced a new dimension of love when he became a grandfather and was given a new name, Pacoo. Pacoo adored his grandchildren and cherished every moment with them. With great anticipation and faithfulness, he eagerly attended church and high school musicals, dance recitals, ball games, track meets, swim meets, beauty pageants, graduations, and weddings. His love and investment in the lives of his grandchildren was profound and impactful. His legacy of love and wisdom will continue to guide them.

Bob is survived by his beloved wife, Margaret; his brother Larry P. Smith; his daughters and their spouses; and his treasured grandchildren. His warmth, humor, and kindness will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at TLC Nursing Home for the compassionate care they provided to Bob and his family during this challenging time. Their genuine kindness and support will always be remembered and appreciated.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home in Trussville, Alabama. The family will receive visitors at 10:00 a.m., followed by a service at 11:00 am. After the service, Bob will be laid to rest at 1:00 p.m. at Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, Alabama.

Cemetery Details

Alabama National Cemetery

3133 Highway 119
Montevallo, AL 35115

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home
5360 Deerfoot Parkway
Mailing Address PO Box 118
Trussville, AL 35173
(205) 655-3444
<https://www.deerfootmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN 10. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home
5360 Deerfoot Parkway
Mailing Address PO Box 118
Trussville, AL 35173
(205) 655-3444
<https://www.deerfootmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

MY

“ *Mark & Julia York purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert James Smith Jr.*



Mark & Julia York - 1 minute ago

MY

“ *Mark & Julia York planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert James Smith Jr.*

Mark & Julia York - 1 minute ago