



James Andrew "Smitty" Smith

February 16, 1942 - November 30, 2025

James Andrew "Smitty" Smith, of Vallejo, CA, passed away due to an unexpected illness on November 30, 2025, at age 83. James was born February 16, 1942 in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from Ellsworth High School in 1960.

He was a Veteran, FTG2 (Fire Control Technician, Second Class) E-5 Petty Officer Second Class who served in the U.S. Navy on the Aircraft Carrier USS Ranger (CVA-61).

James A Smith retired in 1996 from Mare Island Naval Shipyard as an Electronics Technician with 35 years of Civil Service. He enjoyed travelling both during his work and retirement years. He loved to travel to Hawaii, San Diego and Pennsylvania to visit friends and family. He loved reading, telling jokes, and telling stories. He spent his free time working in his garden and helping various friends with home improvement projects. James was always willing and able to help his friends and family.

James is Survived by his sisters Shirley Main (Ronald) and Carol (Jean) Smith both of Eighty Four, PA (Ontario); nephews Ronald Main (Mary) and James (Jay) Main (Becky); nieces Bonnie Wilcox (Donnie) and Lorie Martos (David); and several great-nephews and great-nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Freda Smith.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2026 at 12:00 PM at Twin Chapels Mortuary, 1100 Tennessee St., Vallejo, CA. The service will include the rendering of Military Funeral Honors by the United States Navy, featuring the playing of Taps, and the folding and presentation of the American flag.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **14**. 12:00 PM (PT)

Twin Chapels Mortuary
1100 Tennessee Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
(707) 552-6696
twinchapels@aol.com

Tribute Wall

BK

“ Barb & Joe Kunysz planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Andrew "Smitty" Smith.

Barb & Joe Kunysz - February 08 at 12:11 PM

BK

“ Barb & Joe Kunysz purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of James Andrew "Smitty" Smith.

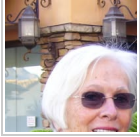


Barb & Joe Kunysz - February 08 at 12:11 PM

ML

“ Smitty was a customer of mine for many years. I loves his jokes and his friendly personality. I'll miss him and his fist full of candy. Rest in peace my friend. Until we meet again 🌹

Maxine Lopez - February 04 at 09:26 PM



“ I've known Smitty since around 1978 when we worked together at Mare Island until it closed in the 90s. He was the most enjoyable person I ever worked with. We traveled for work to Hawaii and Seattle and these were memorable times. And made any number of trips to San Francisco on the ferry from Vallejo, shopping and visiting the quaint restaurants that he knew well. As many of you know, he was the handiest person ever. He tiled the downstairs of my house in San Diego, and made me this beautiful stained glass lamp. For these and many other reasons, I'll always miss him.



Jeanne Abriel - February 03 at 05:11 PM

BL

“ I've known Smitty since he came to the same school as me. He became friends with my entire family and would visit every time he went to Pennsylvania. When he discovered I was in California he became a regular visitor and got to know my husband and children. When he couldn't travel as much I could count on his weekly phone calls. He is so missed by all of us.

barbara lado - January 30 at 06:22 PM

JK

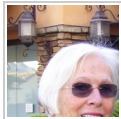
“ *Smitten and I go back to 1960 at the Naval Training Center in San Diego. After Boot Camp we both went to Fire Control Technican A School for 9 months. During that time we would hitch hike or take the bus to my parents house in Westchester, CA for the weekends. Even went to Ensenada, Mexico for a week. After A school Smitty had orders to go to a carrier in San Francisco and being as I lived on the West Coast, my orders sent me to Charleston South Carolina on a destroyer. We kept in touch since then. I visited his parents and girlfreind, Bonnie, in Pensylvania. They had an Outhouse in the back yard back in 1962. Smitty came out here in Maryland a few years ago and we went to some of the Smithoniums Musioms. We talked and sent B D and Chistmas cards every year. I was shocked when Drake called to let me know what happend. Really gonna miss my budy.*

Joe Kunysz - January 29 at 04:26 PM



Did you guys get busted for hitch hiking during those road trips?

Drake Nohara - January 29 at 11:09 PM



Smitty mentioned you to me quite a few times. But he never mentioned a trip to Mexico. It sounds very intriguing.

Jeanne Abriel - February 02 at 11:02 AM

PK

“ *SMITTY WAS A WONDERFUL FRIEND - WE MISS HIM EVERY DAY! WITH LOVE PHYLLIS & LITTLE DJ*

PHYLLIS KEERY - January 28 at 03:22 PM