



John E Smith

May 28, 1918 - December 10, 2016

John E. Smith, 98, of Bluffton passed away at 9:02 p.m. Saturday, December 10, 2016 at River Terrace in Bluffton.

He was born on May 28, 1918 in Frankfort, Indiana to John E. & Marie S. (Barton) Smith. John graduated from Bluffton High School in 1936, and worked for many years at McDowell Lumber Company in Bluffton. He also worked for 21 years as a group leader for Franklin Electric, retiring in 1981. He attended Mulberry Street Wesleyan Church, and currently a member of Epworth United Methodist Church and was a member of the Wells County Historical Society.

On September 2, 1940 in Covington, KY, John and Mary (Matson) were married. They were married for 68 years before she preceded him in death on September 9, 2008.

John is survived by a sister Beverly Niblick of Bluffton and four nieces, Gloria (Thomas) Mayne of Bluffton, Janet (Roy) Schoeff of Poneto, Doris Smith of Keystone and Cindy (William) Priester of Bluffton and a nephew Michael (Susan) Gerwig of Liberty Center.

He is preceded in death by his parents, wife Mary and a sister Nora Bishop. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday (December 14, 2016) at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Tony Garton will officiate. Calling hours will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. on Wednesday, prior to the service. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Bluffton. Memorials: Epworth United Methodist Church or Family Life Care of Berne.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

3101 East Division Road
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-2832
<http://www.themonumentcenter.com/about/cemeteries/>

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 14. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Service

DEC 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John E Smith*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - December 14, 2016 at 07:35 AM



“ *John E Smith*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *What a nice service by Tony for a wonderful guy. God bless you, John. So many good memories of you! Valerie, Doris Ann and Stan Wilson*

Valerie Wilson Jackson - December 17, 2016 at 12:40 PM



“ *John and his wife Mary, were our neighbors when we were growing up. Couldn't ask for a nicer guy. Quiet, reserved, yet a good sense of humor. Was a good man. Jerry Oswald*

Jerry Oswald - December 14, 2016 at 05:41 PM

MI

John and I were Echre partners when he lived in Independent Living. When he moved to health care, he and I talked by hands and motions. was a GENTLEMAN. Mary Lou Isch

Mary Lou Isch - December 15, 2016 at 12:19 PM

MO

“ *Just learned of John's passing. He and Mary were loved and respected by everyone. Will always remember his quiet, friendly demeanor. The world will miss him. Max and Cathy Oswalt*

Max Oswalt - December 14, 2016 at 12:36 PM

MO

“ *I am learning of John's passing thirty minutes before the service. Such a friendly, quiet man. He and Mary were loved and respected by everyone. The world will miss him. Max and Cathy Oswalt*

Max Oswalt - December 14, 2016 at 09:56 AM

MO

“ *Max Oswalt lit a candle in memory of John E Smith*



Max Oswalt - December 14, 2016 at 09:42 AM

SB

“ *Sharon (Holley) Bennett lit a candle in memory of John E Smith*



Sharon (Holley) Bennett - December 13, 2016 at 04:20 PM

SB

“ I'm so sorry to hear of John's passing. I grew up next door to John and Mary, they were the only neighbors I knew until I was 18 and out on my own.

I remember him for his love of God, his gentle nature, and always having a kind word and a friendly wave hello whenever he was coming or going.

We always looked forward to his wonderful homemade candy at the holidays.

He will be missed..

Sharon (Holley) Bennett - December 13, 2016 at 04:18 PM

MM

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Michele Marcum - December 13, 2016 at 04:02 PM

LS

“ *Larry & Janice Smith lit a candle in memory of John E Smith*



larry & janice smith - December 12, 2016 at 04:03 PM



“ Ken And Jeannie Flowers lit a candle in memory of John E Smith



Ken and Jeannie Flowers - December 12, 2016 at 02:18 PM



“ 22 files added to the album Life Tributes



Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home - December 12, 2016 at 01:16 PM