



MSG Bruce A. Smith (Retired)

June 27, 1945 - May 23, 2017

MSG Bruce A. Smith (Retired), 71, of Indianapolis passed away May 23, 2017 after a 12 year battle with multiple myeloma. He was born June 27, 1945 in Minneapolis, MN to the late Hugo and Delores Crossin Smith. Bruce graduated from Thomas Carr High School, class of 1962, and married Christine K. Miller, April 23, 1966. Bruce proudly served his country in the U.S. Army National Guard at Stout Field, Indianapolis as a fulltime technician for 32 years, retiring as a Master Sgt. in 1995. He was a member of the Gunfighters and the American Legion. In 1974, he had the honor of being with the only Reserve unit in the United States to be trained by the 3rd U.S. Infantry, "The Old Guard," in Arlington Cemetery, Fort Myer, VA., and to become the first Military Department of Indiana Ceremonial Unit, where he served as the NCOIC of the casket team for 22 years.

Visitation will be Friday, June 2, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel, 9606 E. Washington St., with funeral services Saturday at 11:00 a.m., followed by full military rites at Crown Hill Cemetery.

Bruce is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Christine K. Smith; daughters, Kristen L. Dock (Tom) and Susan J. Warner (Nathan); son, Michael D. Smith; seven grandchildren, Katelyn S. Carmack (Dustin), Brandon M. Smith, Joshua B. Herald, Austin M. Smith, Keegan T. Dock, Robert L. Dock, and Chace Warner; three great-grandchildren, Aubrey, Cora and Arya; sister, Nancy

Michaels (Auggie); brothers, Paul Smith (Paula) and William Smith; sister, Sherry Carter (Lou). His sister, Peggy Estes, preceded him in death.

Cemetery Details

Crown Hill Cemetery

700 W. 38th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208
(317) 925-3800

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 2. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel
9606 E. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46229
(317) 897-9606
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel
9606 E. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46229
(317) 897-9606
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

Tribute Wall

SC

“ Sherree Chappelow lit a candle in memory of
MSG Bruce A. Smith (Retired)



Sherree Chappelow - June 03, 2017 at 07:04 AM

BC

“ In 1996, the Ceremonial Unit was in dire straights with large equipment losses and other issues. The Adjutant General had two choices. The first was new leadership and the complete rebuilding of the CU regarding accountability. The second was to disband the entire CU. The CU soldiers continued to perform at a vey high level. Bruce was asked to leave retirement and oversee the rebuilding of the CUs administration. At part time pay he gave more than a full time effort. MSG Bruce Smith was successful and the CU has become once again the "pride" of the Military Department of Indiana. Bruce should be remembered for standing up to right the wrongs in the face of great pressures to overlook the past indiscretions which would have ended the CU. MSG Bruce Smith should be regarded as a Distnguished Member of our CU. Those who make us so proud today in the CU should know his name and his role in what continues to be the only state to be recognized by the Third Infantry Divisions "Old Guard" in Washington, D.C. God bless you Bruce.

Bob Clifford - May 30, 2017 at 10:05 PM