



Ray Barton Smith

February 14, 1928 - April 16, 2018

Ray Barton Smith, 90, of Indianapolis, passed away April 16, 2018. He was born February 14, 1928 to Ruby "Rex" and Mildred Smith. Ray was a 1946 graduate of Warren Central High School. He married Mary Alice Oertel, and co-founded Smith Electrical Contractors in 1952. An entrepreneur at heart, Ray was also a land developer and in 1978 he opened the Paramount Music Palace, the home of the "Mighty Wurlitzer". He was a longtime member of St. John's United Church of Christ, and a member of the Scottish Rite, the Murat Shrine and Cumberland Masonic Lodge #726 F.& A.M. Ray was a 20 volunteer for the Bay Oaks Community Center, receiving the honor of Volunteer of the month, April 1, 2000; he also coached several Little League Baseball teams for over 10 years, sponsored by Smith Electrical Contractors.

Visitation will be Friday, April 20, 2018 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel, 9606 E. Washington St.

Ray is survived by his children, Brad (Mary) Smith and Lise Lenahan; brother, Ralph (Carol) Smith; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Ray's wife, Mary Smith, preceded him in death January 28, 2012; and his daughter, Cheryl (Dennis) Sheets, April, 7, 2005. Memorial contributions may be made to the YMCA.

Cemetery Details

St. John United Church of Christ Cemetery

235 N. German Church Rd.
Cumberland, IN 46229

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Shirley Brothers Mortuaries & Crematory - April 24, 2018 at 07:36 AM

RB

“ *Brad, It saddens us to see that Ray passed away. We were just talking about him a couple of weeks ago remembering the time when Mark refurbished that green Volkswagen beetle for him. You would've thought it was a brand new one after it was finished, Ray was all smiles!! That was many years ago and yet every time we drove past him at the company, especially when he was out mowing grass, he always had a wave & a big grin! He is the type of person one will always remember. May all your fond memories of your dad help ease the pain for you and your family during this difficult time. He will be missed by so many!*

*Mark & Rosalyn Baker
(former neighbors on Beechwood)*

Rosalyn Baker - April 20, 2018 at 02:25 PM



“ *Garden of Serenity Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ray Barton Smith.*



April 19, 2018 at 05:16 PM

TF

“ *The Swagelok Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Ray Barton Smith.*



The Swagelok Family - April 19, 2018 at 08:34 AM

DO

“ Ray first came to our home in Cumberland in 1941 or 1942. He came to court the love of his life, our older sister Mary Alice. Our family loved him immediately and who could not. Ray loved ice cream and would go to Cumberland Drug store and bring back ice cream for all of us. There are so many memories. When I was 12 Ray gave me a summer job working for Smith Electric. I was paid \$12/week and lunch. Every day I would hitch hike to and from my job. Ray's dad Rex would go to the grocery store and bring back lunch. Milk, loaf of bread, lunch meat(garlic baloney/cheese) Mayo, pickles, and Hostess cup cakes or Twinkies. Our eating utensils were our electrician tools. We would sit on building materials and eat. I LOVED IT. I was making money, learning electrical wiring and got to be with the guy that was my childhood hero. We worked out of a 1938 Ford panel truck with a 4 cylinder tractor motor and not much of a muffler. I sat on an upside down 5 gallon bucket over a floor that was rusting through and you could see the road below you. We played basketball on the court at the end our barn. Single basket, dirt surface. Ray would do about anything to stop you from scoring. Tripping, holding your belt if you started around him or shoving you into the end of the barn and denying it the whole time. It was such great fun. I could go on with story after story but my eyes are clouding up and there is a huge lump in my throat.

God Bless you Ray! We are so grateful to have known you.

Dave Oertel, Dayton, Ohio

Dave Oertel - April 18, 2018 at 12:54 PM