



Rev. Walter V. Smith

August 14, 1952 - January 1, 2024

Rev. Walter Vernon Smith, age 71, passed away peacefully in the early morning hours on Monday, January 1, 2024. Walter was born in Rome, GA on August 14, 1952. He is preceded in death by his adoptive parents, Roy and Ollie Smith Thornton.

Walter graduated Western High in 1972 and after spending 25 years in manufacturing, Walter graduated from SW Theological School in 2000 with a bachelor's degree in Christian Education. In 2001 Walter went full time in ministry and utilized that to introduce countless teens and adults to the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. Some of his most memorable teachings were the Crayon Sermon, I Made Me Mad, I Can Love You Because, and the Lion King. He had a unique and wonderful sense of humor, a love for God, family, and people (in that order) that was infectious to all those that were around him. God called him home sooner than expected due to Alzheimer's disease. He remained kind and compassionate to the very end, and he will be missed dearly by those who knew and loved him.

The funeral service celebrating Walter's life is Saturday, January 6, 2024, at 11:00 AM in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson Street, in Newnan with Frank Guest, Pastor Bobby Carpenter and Pastor Tim Cash officiating. Burial will follow the service at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, in Newnan. The family will receive friends on Saturday from 9:00 AM until

service time at the funeral home.

Walter is survived by his beloved wife of 51 years, Deborah Warren Smith, children, Jason Smith (Jessica), Adam Smith (Mallory) and Brian Smith. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Ellie Smith, Eason Smith, Marian Smith, Major Smith, McCoy Smith and his siblings, Margaret Leenie Bone (Jerry), Phyllis Ann Adams and Ray Nelle Talley.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made in Rev. Walter's name to the Alzheimer's Foundation, either online at www.alzfdn.org/donate/ or by mail at 322 Eighth Avenue, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10001.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

656 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 6. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Funeral Service

JAN 6. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Webcast in memory of Rev. Walter V. Smith*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - January 06, 2024 at 10:18 AM

CT

“ *Good times with Bro.Walt and family at Mills Chapel and the basement .Walt was a smart man and funny he knew how to get the younger kids attention and learn from it.I think everyone loved to hear him sing the silent lamb.Deb and family so sorry to hear of his passing to young but God had other plans.Praying for you and your sweet family. Cindy Thompson*

Cindy Thompson - January 07, 2024 at 10:09 PM

SS

“ *My thoughts & prayers go out to Deborah & her family in the loss of Walter; I remember them from way back at the old Mills Chapel Church; just listened to the service & all the wonderful things that were said about him and although I haven't got see him or Deborah in years when I did see them it was usually out in public & didn't really get to talk with him; but I knew he was a man who loved God & served Him well. May God comfort you & your family and give you strength & Peace in the days ahead as only He can. God Bless.*

Syble Holdbrooks Storey - January 06, 2024 at 10:34 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. Walter V. Smith.*



January 05, 2024 at 03:23 PM



“ *Will Perry planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Walter V. Smith.*

Will Perry - January 05, 2024 at 03:23 PM



“ *Many comical memories with Walter. Happy that Mr. Roy and Ms Ollie were kind natured and tolerated us. We didn't have air conditioned cars. Walter and I would ride around laughing with windows up making people think we had air conditioning. I said, Walter I'm hot!! I need to let this window down. He said, don't let it down now! Here comes somebody!! Fun times.*

Tony Owens - January 05, 2024 at 12:10 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Walter V. Smith.*



January 05, 2024 at 09:31 AM

LD

“ Longstreet Vascular Department planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Walter V. Smith.

Longstreet Vascular Department - January 05, 2024 at 09:31 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rev. Walter V. Smith.



January 05, 2024 at 08:15 AM

CH

“ Cathy Houston lit a candle in memory of Rev. Walter V. Smith



Cathy Houston - January 04, 2024 at 07:18 PM

CH

“ Another one of the Burger Chef crowd gone way too soon, rest in peace my friend.

Cathy Houston - January 04, 2024 at 07:17 PM

LB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Walt's passing. He was such a big part of my years at Mills Chapel. My thoughts and prayers are with the family!!

Liz Blume - January 04, 2024 at 05:24 PM

MP

“ Debra, Randy and I are so sorry to hear about Walt’s passing. We are so thankful that our children had him for a leader at Mills Chapel. He touched their lives tremendously, as he did everyone that knew him. We are praying for you and your family.
Tandy and Myrna Pope

Myrna Pope - January 04, 2024 at 02:57 PM

DS

Thank you so much. We loved our youth and their parents.

Deborah Smith - January 04, 2024 at 06:55 PM

RB

“ Praying for your family.



Rev. BettyJean Bowers - January 04, 2024 at 09:19 AM

KA

“ Kim Adams lit a candle in memory of Rev. Walter V. Smith



Kim Adams - January 04, 2024 at 07:49 AM

WT

“ Wilson And Jane Treadwell lit a candle in memory of Rev. Walter V. Smith



Wilson and Jane Treadwell - January 03, 2024 at 07:55 PM

KT

“ Walter Smith, in Heaven, with His Jesus. Hallelujah! Bro. Walt was a friend to many. My family sure loved Bro. Walt. My goodness, I still remember when the twins were born and Walt and Deborah getting the twins and Jason in the church. Deborah usually had the diaper bag and all 3 🍼. Walt, my Daddy, Uncle Moose, Dogfood, Preacher Watson, and so many others from our Old Mills Chapel days together in Heaven. Glory! Bro. Walt I can hear you singing The Silent Lamb now as you are walking on those streets of gold! Bro. Walt was a trip! My thoughts and prayers to Deb and the boys and the rest of the family. Bro. Walt. A Legend.

In His Love,
Kristi Cash Thompson

Kristi Cash Thompson - January 03, 2024 at 06:29 PM

SB

Well said Christie, he was a Legend.

Scott Barnett - January 03, 2024 at 07:53 PM

MW

Beautiful. Thank you for this.

Misti Blu Worley - January 04, 2024 at 03:07 PM

KH

“ I can hear him now singing
The silent lamb.
He was an awesome person with his witty humor.
Prayers for the family
Kay Hogan

kay hogan - January 03, 2024 at 06:07 PM

MM

“ The top of my list, Didn't ever change all through the years , A true life lived for Christ, will be missed by everyone that knew Walt, My heart is with you on his passing 🙏🙏 . Mike.

Mike massengale - January 03, 2024 at 05:38 PM

JL

“ Debbie I'm so sorry to hear of Walter's home going. I always enjoyed hearing him & his sense of humor ! He will be missed ! 💔

June Long - January 03, 2024 at 05:28 PM

JM

“ A wonderful man that will be missed by so many!

Jerry Moore - January 03, 2024 at 04:51 PM

FI

“ Pastor Walt had a way about him with that sense of humor that's unforgettable. Using that humor put the Bible on ways that anyone, even the simplest minded could grasp. Every time a see a show nailed somewhere I'll think of you! See you again one day.

Faye Iverson - January 03, 2024 at 02:55 PM

JM

“ Oh Deborah and family, I am so very sorry to learn of Walter's passing. Gosh, Western HS was a long time ago! I am sending prayers for peace and comfort to you all. Jennie Pursley Moore

Jennie P Moore - January 03, 2024 at 12:51 PM