



James R. Smith

November 17, 1948 - May 25, 2019

Newmarket - James R. Smith, 70, of Newmarket, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday May 25, 2019 at his home. Jim was born in Cambridge, MA on November 17, 1948, a son of the late James E. and Ruth E. (Newell) Smith.

He grew up in Arlington, MA and it was there that he met his life-long friends whom he spent as much time as possible with until the day he left this earth. He played ice hockey and football throughout high school, and graduated from Arlington High in 1966. After high school, Jim attended Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut and then Lehigh University in Pennsylvania where he studied business and excelled in both football and hockey. He later attended the Wentworth School of Technology in Boston and it was there that he learned about home construction.

Jim married Lynne L. (Uecker) Smith in 1970 and together raised their daughters, Erica and Rebecca. In 1979 they moved to Hampton where Jim began a 25 year career of building homes in the seacoast area. In 1997 Jim began his second career as a NH Bail Commissioner working alongside law enforcement primarily in Rockingham County. He was very proud to provide this service to the community and of the many friendships built throughout both of his careers.

He loved to play golf and was a member of Cape Neddick Golf Club in Cape Neddick, ME. Jim and his teams won several tournaments over the years and he never missed the annual "Golf Weekend" with his closest friends. Jim was very fond of animals and thoroughly enjoyed spending time with his dear friend Doreen at her family farm where he liked to help out with the horses, ponies and dogs.

Most of all, Jim loved his children and his grandchildren. He was always there for them, any time, day or night, for absolutely anything at all. He will be missed immensely. Left to cherish his memory are his loving daughters, Rebecca E. Smith of Lebanon and Erica L. (Smith) Shaw and her husband, Glenn Shaw of Stratham, NH, his grandchildren, Celia, Aidan, and Owen Shaw, of Stratham NH and his sister, Elizabeth (Smith) Taylor and her

husband, Bruce Taylor, of West Dennis MA. He also leaves his nieces, Kristen Vito and Caroline Minich, his nephew, Andrew Taylor, the mother of his girls, Lynne (Uecker) Smith of Hampton, several cousins, many lifelong friends who were like his brothers and his cat named Trouble.

Visitation will be from 11am to 1pm and from 5 to 7pm on Friday, May 31, 2019 in the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home – Crematory, 811 Lafayette Rd., Hampton. Services will be held at 11am on Saturday in the funeral home and burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the New Hampshire SPCA (<https://nhspca.org/donate-today>) PO Box 196, Stratham, NH 03885, .

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 31. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Visitation

MAY 31. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Service

JUN 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Lynne Smith is following this tribute.* ”

Lynne Smith - July 16, 2019 at 05:53 PM

BW

“ *Men of long sands*

*Seventy-six was the year
A long time ago
For ten men came
For their first hello*

*They started a game
That would not end
They'll play this game
Right through times end*

*Some had failed
And some had dropped
Those eight who stayed
Remained on top*

*They sweat!
They freeze!
They shiver!
More than a man can stand
They're not men of a chain gang
They're the bocchi players
Of long sands*

*They only live on memories
Dreaming of the past
Hoping while they're here
The next year goes by fast*

*Three days is all they ask
Three days to call their own
Three days to play the game
Or just to be alone*

*For when they reach their destiny
They'll hear St. Peter y'all
"Come in all ye men from long sands you're not going to hell"*

Barry Wright - June 03, 2019 at 06:45 PM

ES

Beautiful, thank you. Xo

Erica Shaw - June 05, 2019 at 08:17 AM

BF

“ My condolences to all Jimmy’s family. I knew him in high school and after being AHS Class of 65. He was a wonderful guy to be around. He was quick with a smile and a funny story. Always remember him from Bertagna’s Skating Parties. It was great to see him. He was such a pleasure to be around. Even when I hit him in the shin with the puck. Please accept my deepest sympathies. Bob Fisher

bob fisher - June 01, 2019 at 06:16 PM

ES

Thank you, Bob.

Erica Shaw - June 01, 2019 at 07:20 PM

JG

“ Jim was our neighbor on Huntington in Hampton.... always a friendly hello... and always available to help....one night I called him quite late to help me lift my late husband who was sick and had fallen.... and Jim was there in a minute... things you never forget... kindness.
Rest In Peace Jim..... joyce Grandmaison

joyce grandmaison - June 01, 2019 at 08:49 AM

ES

Thank you so much, Joyce.
-Erica Shaw

Erica Shaw - June 01, 2019 at 07:20 PM



“ 121 files added to the album LifeTributes



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - May 31, 2019 at 07:21 AM



“ Hampton truly lost a great man. My family was part of the 1979 migration up north too. My mother has wonderful thoughts and memories about James from her time at Bank Meridian. Our deepest sympathy's are with the Smith and Shaw families.

David W. DeFranzo

David DeFranzo - May 30, 2019 at 10:09 PM

ES

Thank you, Dave. ❤️

Erica Shaw - May 31, 2019 at 07:36 AM

AT

“ Uncle Jim,

I never imagined that you would go like this. Always thought that I would get to see you and laugh with you one more time. But then it strikes me that you wouldn't want any kind of drawn-out ending or teary goodbyes. So this was how you had to go.

I remember when Nana (your mom) was in the hospital and you came to visit. There was a talkative, rather crazy lady in the other bed in the room and we had asked the nurses if she could be moved so that we could have some peace and quiet with Nana. And you said "I don't know, we might wish we had some entertainment in here!" So I know you wouldn't have wanted a somber farewell.

Thanks for your constant smile and love for laughs. As a kid, I remember your strong fingers would tickle a little too hard and you'd say, smiling, "What's the matter?" When I look at this photo I can still feel your super strong hand on my shoulder. I'm so glad you came to our wedding.

Though I'm crying now, when I think of you I'll be reminded to smile - like I did when I was little and you'd always ask "Have any good cigars lately?"

*I'll remember to not take life too seriously - "That's an accident!"
And to not be too concerned with what others think - "You won't see it from the beach."*

I think we all know that while you were super strong on the outside you had a soft heart. And even the super strong can't last forever.

Thanks for all the smiles. You will be missed.

Andrew



Andrew Taylor - May 30, 2019 at 11:56 AM

RS

Thank you for sharing the photo Andrew

Rebecca Smith - May 30, 2019 at 11:10 PM

ES

Thank you, xoxo

Erica Shaw - May 31, 2019 at 07:37 AM

BF

“ *Bill, Betty, and Family. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James R. Smith.*



Bill, Betty, and Family. - May 30, 2019 at 10:58 AM

LW

“ *The entire staff of the Newmarket Post Office is stunned by the loss of Jim. He was a daily customer, with a nickname for each of us, and always a smile. He looked out for all of us and made sure we all were safe. That is who he was. He so obviously loved his family - he spoke of you all every day! Jim is truly missed by so many.....God Bless you all.*

LW

Liz Warner - May 30, 2019 at 10:40 AM

RS

Thank you Liz. I came in with him once and it was nice to see all the friends he had made there

Rebecca Smith - May 30, 2019 at 11:07 PM

TN

“ *Goodbye my friend. I will miss you more than I can express in words. Having a friendship for as long as we have is special. You will always be a part of me and my life. Rest in peace Danny Boy.*



Tom Nigro - May 30, 2019 at 10:22 AM

ES

Love this. Xo

Erica Shaw - May 30, 2019 at 10:30 AM

RS

Thanks for the photo uncle Tommy

Rebecca Smith - May 30, 2019 at 10:33 AM



“ *Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket was purchased for the family of James R. Smith.*



May 30, 2019 at 10:09 AM

PR

“ *Jim (Smitty) and I played golf together on Friday. What a shocker to get a call that Smitty had passed in his sleep . I can only think that to pass in your sleep is everyone’s thought, but there will still be tears for those who are left behind. You will always be that smiling face and quick wit that will be missed in one of our 4somes. Play on my friend and keep going for that hole in one. Whoop*

Paul Romilly - May 29, 2019 at 08:15 PM

RS

Thank you Paul. He looked forward to every Friday golf session with you all

Rebecca Smith - May 30, 2019 at 09:36 AM

GH

“ *I pray for you and your family during this hard time. I unfortunately didn’t get to spend a lot of time with Jim but the times I did these are the things I remember: He was Very kind hearted, very generous, funny with his quick wit and his ability to make others laugh, Very humble, and he made everyone there involved in whatever was going on. One story that I remember is how he loved to wear his “Curly for President” T-shirt to court sometimes. Or if someone had asked him if he got something done he would say he was too busy curling his hair. He definitely was a GREAT man, taken WAY too soon! He will live on in my memories. God Bless you Jim Rest In Peace with Our Lord and Savior Amen. Glen Hurlburt*

Glen Hurlburt - May 29, 2019 at 11:45 AM

ES

Thank you, Glen. This gave us all a good laugh last night.

Erica Shaw - May 30, 2019 at 06:54 AM

GL

“ *Papa and Aidan at grandparent lunch day*



Glenn - May 29, 2019 at 11:19 AM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of James R. Smith.*



May 29, 2019 at 11:05 AM

DK

“ *Jim, thank you for being such a great role model to my daughter and her kids. Thank you for sitting with me when Mary was sick and then the daily calls after her surgery. Whoever was in your presence felt like they were special to you even if they did not know you that well. It was nice to see you so Happy with Doreen and we will miss you at the family dinners. It is very sad to see such a kind man gone too soon.*

RIP we shall honor your memory by spreading love and kindness like you always did.

My sympathies are with your family I will keep them in my thoughts and prayers.

Dale Klemarczyk



Dale Klemarczyk - May 29, 2019 at 11:03 AM

RS

Thank you so much Dale for the story, thoughts, and photo.

Rebecca Smith - May 30, 2019 at 09:39 AM

BD

“ I am saddened by this news of Jimmy. We were friends from high school and then later in life I would see him occasionally at my brother's. He was one of the great ones...always caring for the other person. He always made me feel special whenever our paths would cross. You will be missed Jimmy. RIP
Bonnie Dutton

bonnie dutton - May 29, 2019 at 08:00 AM

RS

Thank you Bonnie

Rebecca Smith - May 30, 2019 at 09:40 AM

BC

“ Thank you for everything! Time to rest in Gods arms!

Bette and Lindsey Cunningham - May 29, 2019 at 05:42 AM

ES

Thank you so much!

Erica Shaw - June 01, 2019 at 07:21 PM

MK

“ I can hear him now “and how's my princess Sadie today?” He loved her like his own <3 We'll miss you forever.



Mary Klemarczyk - May 28, 2019 at 10:01 PM

RS

Thank you for the photo Mary. He enjoyed his time with her!

Rebecca Smith - May 28, 2019 at 10:34 PM

ES

I love it. Thank you, Mary ❤️

Erica Shaw - May 29, 2019 at 06:39 AM

MK

He called himself babysitter of the month the day he watched my kids and then Owen. Always so proud of himself and loved being with all the kids ❤️

Mary Klemarczyk - May 29, 2019 at 07:16 AM

DO

“ Jim, you will be greatly missed by many! You were my goto bail commissioner, except for Friday day shift in the summer of course when you enjoyed your golf outings. I'll miss calling you and hearing you say, “Donny, what do we got bud” when answering my call. I think I speak for all law enforcement when I say we will miss “the handsome young bail commissioner.” Rest peacefully my friend.

Donny - May 28, 2019 at 09:55 PM

RS

Thank you Donny. He loved working with you all

Rebecca Smith - May 28, 2019 at 10:37 PM

WC

For many years, Jim, we worked together during the midnights in Hampton. We kept you sleepless many nights! You were a trusted advisor to many of the new guys, and a willing physical presence with “problem” people in the old booking room. Godspeed, my Friend. Rest In Peace.
Bill Cronin

William Cronin - May 29, 2019 at 05:46 AM

ES

Thanks so much, Bill. ❤️

Erica Shaw - May 29, 2019 at 06:41 AM

ES

“ Papa and his granddaughter at Grandparent's luncheon.



Erica Shaw - May 28, 2019 at 08:37 PM

GL

“ Dad napping with Butch



Glenn - May 28, 2019 at 07:49 PM

LK

“ We Kelly Kids loved our big cousin Jimmy so much. He was always so positive, generous, and a mischief maker in ways we loved. I liked that he made choices to live his life in ways that felt authentic to him -- vs. following a traditional path. That he gave my brother Jimmy a much-needed ob during college. That he showed up on Cape Cod with a team of framers to help my brother build my parents' dream house. That he adored his daughters and grandchildren and Betsy (though he teased her relentlessly as a kid.) Jimmy's life influenced us in such positive ways, and perhaps that is a sign of a life well lived. xoxo

Lois Kelly - May 28, 2019 at 12:58 PM

ES

Thanks Lois, he loved you all very much. Xo

Erica Shaw - May 28, 2019 at 05:32 PM

RS

Thank you Lois

Rebecca Smith - May 29, 2019 at 07:27 AM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of James R. Smith.



May 28, 2019 at 09:16 AM

TM

“ I am truly sorry for your loss, Jim was an amazing person and I loved when he would stop by the pd to chat with me, his laugh was beautiful and his jokes made me smile. He was the most kindhearted and generous person I have ever met. He will be missed.

Tara McKinlay - May 28, 2019 at 09:06 AM

ES

Thank you, Tara.

Erica Shaw - May 28, 2019 at 05:31 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



BRUCE TAYLOR - May 27, 2019 at 03:07 PM

ES

Jim and his sister, Betsy. ❤️

Erica Shaw - May 27, 2019 at 08:54 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



BRUCE TAYLOR - May 27, 2019 at 01:25 PM

ES

Love the pinky ring!

Erica Shaw - June 01, 2019 at 07:22 PM