



## Lester "Ground Hog" Smith

May 16, 1937 - December 12, 2009

Lester Lee "Ground Hog" Smith, age 72 of Claypool Hill, VA died Saturday, December 12, 2009 at his home. Born May 16, 1937 at Jewel Ridge, VA he was a son of the late Ed and Edgar Short Smith. He was a graduate of Richlands High School and was a forty-three year member of the Richlands Little League Baseball program. Mr. Smith was a disabled coal miner, having worked for many years at Island Creek. He enjoyed fishing at Cripple Creek. He was the Holiness Faith. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Eva Smith. Survivors include one daughter, Kristi Jessee and husband, John of Trinity, NC; two sons, Randal Lee Smith and wife, Cathy of Honaker, VA, and Lester Keith Smith of the home; two sisters, Frances Jackson and husband, Jimmy of Lebanon, VA, and Ada Horn of Meadowview, VA; three brothers, Curtis Smith and wife, Margie of Richlands, VA, Johnny Smith and wife, Jean of Cedar Bluff, VA, and Don Smith and wife, Betty of Wardell, VA; seven grandchildren, Shon Smith and wife, Cameron, Jasmin Smith, Corey Smith, Justin Jessee, Scotty Smith and fiancée, Jordyn, Heather Smith, and Haley Smith; one great-grandchild, Brenden Smith; special friends, Bob Huff, Dave Mills, Mary Ann Strong, and Linda Stump. Funeral services for Mr. Lester Lee "Ground Hog" Smith will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. Monday, December 14, 2009 at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Home Chapel in Richlands, VA with the Reverend Darryl Keene officiating. Burial will follow at Greenhills Memory Gardens in Claypool Hill, VA. Pallbearers will be Scotty Smith, Shon Smith, Justin Jessee, Corey Smith, Jonathan Dean

Smith and Ryan Smith. Honorary pallbearers will be Bob Huff and Dave Mills. The family will receive friends at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, VA from 6 – 9 p.m. Sunday, December 13, 2009. In addition to flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Richlands Little League Baseball program.

# Tribute Wall



“ Lester "Ground Hog" Smith

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ Lester "Ground Hog" Smith

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ He will be missed..he was always friendly and had something funny to say..Donald and Shirley Dye

Fred R. Smith III ( Freddie J ) - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss of Lester. He was a cousin I always loved. Haven't seen him much in years. I actually drove by where I thought he lived last week but didn't see anyone. He was probably in the hospital then but I didn't know. Hi to His and Eva's children I haven't seen any of you for ages. God bless you  
Lois

Lois Smith - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ You will be missed. Our Love and Prayers are with the family

Jimmy & Carlene Keene Jr - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ We are praying for the whole family at this difficult time. Groundhog was such a friendly person and loved everyone. Thank God he is in a better place where love prevails.  
We will keep you in our prayers.

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**Creed and Andrea Bryant** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Lester will be greatly missed at our reunions. God Bless his family.

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**Mary Lou Puckett Moore** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Groundhog will be missed!

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**Jason Lawson and Family** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ Thoughts and prayers are with family. Groun Hog will be missed by many. Espcecially missed at the Richlands Little League Press Box. He really loved spending time with the kids and announcing the games.

Love,  
Tony, Glenda and Austin Carter

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**Glenda Carter** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ We had many good times with Lester and will miss him terribly. He was just beaming the last time I saw him, and was so full of life. So sorry to hear of his passing. The memories of him will remain in my heart. He was such a fine person. May God be with you all and sustain you.

Love

Peggy

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**Peggy Bailey Rusek** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DQ

“ Mister Smith was a really good person and his family are all an important part of the community. He always had a smile and spoke kindly of all. He purchased the property which I used to own on middle creek a while back and will be greatly missed by all! I knew his DAD long ago and not a better family exists any where on earth !

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**david w, quesenberry** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ We are so sorry for the loss of "Ground Hog". He will be missed by all that knew him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

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**Luke & Betty Dye Family** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Ground hog was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed! please know you all are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**brenda goforth** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *All my best to your family, we go way back.*

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**Roger Dunford** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Sorry to hear about Ground Hog Passing. May God be with Family Friends.*

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**Darlene Harman De Costa** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *May God be with your family and friends,in loss of your leaving. I remember Eva,A wonderful person also.*

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**Darlene Harman De Costa** - December 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM