



William Ambrose Smith

July 24, 1937 - July 31, 2025

William Ambrose "Bill" Smith, 88, of Evington died Thursday, July 31, 2025 at his home. He was the husband of Juanita Gray for thirty-seven years.

He was born July 24, 1937 in Campbell County, a son of the late Thomas Ambrose Smith and Nena Wood Smith. He was a member of Wesleybury United Methodist Church, where he has served as the pastor for twelve years. Bill was an active member of the Altavista Chamber of Commerce where he served as the President briefly, as well as The Gideons International, Rotary Club and Altavista on Track. Bill was also a veteran of the United States Marine Corp.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by five children, Michael of Florida, Laura, Linda, David and Elisha all of Indiana; one stepson, Gary Gray of Roanoke; two brothers, Winfrey H. Smith of Mississippi and Wayne G. Smith of Michigan; and a number of grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Warren E. Smith and one fur-baby, Ambrose, his beloved border collie.

A memorial service will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 9, 2025 at Wesleybury United Methodist Church by the Rev. Rick Duncan.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

The family suggests that those wishing to make memorials consider Wesleybury United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 402, Gladys, VA 24554.

Finch & Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Altavista is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 9. 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM (ET)

Wesleybury United Methodist Church
3071 Theta Mill Rd (Road 698)
Gladys, VA 24554

Memorial Service

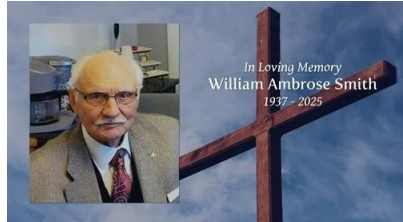
AUG 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wesleybury United Methodist Church
3071 Theta Mill Rd (Road 698)
Gladys, VA 24554

Tribute Wall



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of William Ambrose Smith*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - August 08, 2025 at 06:22 PM

MF

“ *Mountain View District Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of William Ambrose Smith.*



Mountain View District Family - August 07, 2025 at 04:04 PM

MF

“ *Mountain View District Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Ambrose Smith.*

Mountain View District Family - August 07, 2025 at 04:04 PM

DH

“ Prayers for Juanita and family. I think back to the many stories that mom (Charlotte/cousin to William) shared with me about their childhood. Mom (daughter of Doris & John Wildman) had 3 sisters (Carolyn, Phyllis, and Yvonne). Nena & Chubby Smith had 4 boys (William, Warren, Winfrey, and Wayne). I believe the 4 girls and 4 boys were often in competition with one another to see who could outdo each other. Girls vs. Boys. There were many funny stories and depending on who was sharing the story the ending was always different.

Donna Hensley - August 05, 2025 at 04:54 PM

JW

“ Dear Juanita and Family,
We were so sorry to learn of Bill's passing. He was a giant of a man, dedicated to his church and the community. I enjoyed working with him on the AOT board and was happy to visit with you both at the Gospel Sing in June. May God grant you peace during this time of sorrow.

Joan Woodson - August 05, 2025 at 09:28 AM

TG

“ Elisha, I'm so sorry for the loss of your father. You, Liliana and Andrew are a living testament to him. Praying that you will all find comfort in your memories. God bless you.



Tanya Gonzalez - August 02, 2025 at 10:28 PM

RS

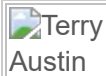
“ Sending my sincere condolences to William’s children; Michael, Laura, Linda, David Smith and Elisha Hernandez. Lonnie Hoyt of Michigan. Also to all of his grandchildren.

Rebeccs Smith - August 02, 2025 at 06:28 PM

PE

“ Bill was a special person with many talents. He was dedicated to God and wanted to make all of his projects excel for the betterment of others. We appreciate his friendship and working with him on various projects to benefit Altavista over the years. He truly loved this town. Prayers to the family. John & Patty Eller

Patty Eller - August 02, 2025 at 05:30 PM



Terry Austin

Bill was a great friend to so many. He touch some many people in Altavista from his insurance business for some many years. Terry Austin

Terry Austin - August 03, 2025 at 11:36 AM

GH

Prayers for family of Bill who was such a great man I enjoyed being involved with Kairos Prison Ministry with him and know he did lot for the Altavista Community and know he will be greatly missed.

Glenn Douglas Hancock - August 04, 2025 at 04:03 PM

DR

Juanita and family, sincere sympathy to each of you on the loss of one so dear to many people. I first met each of you at Lynch Station Baptist Church a number of years back. May God's blessings be abundant thru this difficult time. Darlene & Billy Robertson

Darlene & Billy Robertson - August 06, 2025 at 03:05 PM

CP

Mr. Smith was a true friend,I enjoyed his friendship as well as his wisdom dealing with those who had different point of view.he was a real statesman of our area.we miss him deeply. Our area won't be as good without his present. Charlie and Joan Patrick

Charlie and Joan Patrick - August 08, 2025 at 10:09 AM