



Raymond "Gary" Smith

November 6, 1945 - June 14, 2022

Raymond "Gary" Smith, age 76, of Avery, IA, went to meet the Lord on June 14, 2022, at the Chariton Nursing and Rehabilitation facility in Chariton, IA.

Gary was born on November 6, 1945, in Ottumwa, IA, to Raymond Benton and Ruby Pearl (Adair) Smith DeMoss. He grew up attending school in Eddyville and graduated from the Eddyville High School. Following school, Gary enlisted and served his country in the United States Army during Vietnam.

Upon returning from the service, Gary went to work for the United States Postal Service in Ottumwa. He then worked for Chamberlains in Albia for many years before going to work as a CMA at Oakwood Nursing and Rehab in Albia until his retirement.

Gary enjoyed being outdoors, gardening, camping, fishing, mushroom hunting, and bird watching. He raised chickens and roosters. In his younger years, he enjoyed riding motorcycles. He would often go along with his friend, Bill, in his semi. Gary had a great sense of humor, loved to make others laugh, and never knew a stranger. He was very generous and thoughtful, always willing to help anyone in need. His door was always open and he was a very loyal friend to many people. Gary's family and friends were everything to him and he cherished the time spent with them.

Gary is survived by 2 sisters, Lola Kirby of Eddyville and Connie Chichester of Avery; a brother, Terry Lee Smith of Eddyville; and a very special friend/brother, William "Bill" (Monna) Schachtner Chariton; special children, Steven Schachtner and Nicole (Nick) Reynolds; special grandkids, Gracelynn and Mayleigh Reynolds. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and good friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Raymond Smith and Ruby Smith DeMoss; his stepfather, Lyman DeMoss; a sister, Carla Smith; 2 brothers, Benny and Denny Smith; a brother-in-law, Terry Kirby; and a sister-in-law, Linda Smith.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Gary's family present from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. to greet family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Pastor Richard Grimes officiating. Burial with military honors provided by the American Legion of Albia, Melrose and Lovilia at Pleasant Corners Cemetery in Eddyville, IA.

A memorial has been established to the Disabled Veterans of America.

Condolences and memories to the family may be left online at www.tharpfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Corners Cemetery

Rural Albia, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 20. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN 21. 10:30 AM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ Raymond "Gary" Smith

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ Raymond "Gary" Smith

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Raymond "Gary" Smith.



June 19, 2022 at 01:02 AM



“ Gary was such a wonderful person, one of my favorites! Some of my best childhood memories are of going to Aunt Ruby's house on Sunday's and seeing all of his different varieties of chickens, and looking for their eggs. I will miss him calling me or my parents to catch us up on all the family news. Gary you will be missed so much. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Cousin Jeanetta Avery, Uncle Gene, Aunt Inge Mathews, and family.

Jeanette - June 18, 2022 at 01:54 PM

LL

“ *Lori Lahvic lit a candle in memory of Raymond "Gary" Smith*



Lori Lahvic - June 17, 2022 at 06:16 PM

LL

“ *Gary was one of the nicest people I knew. He was always an ear to talk to, never judged and was always willing to lend a hand. You will always have a place in my heart dear friend. Love you*

Lori Lahvic - June 17, 2022 at 06:14 PM

SS

“ *Sharon, Jim, Dan, Brian & Lisa Schachtner purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Raymond "Gary" Smith.*



Sharon, Jim, Dan, Brian & Lisa Schachtner - June 16, 2022 at 07:03 PM

EG

“ *Such a kind man. Camped with him and his brother, Terry, at the state fair one year. Always welcoming, friendly and happy. Loved him. He will be deeply missed.*

Ernie Gruwell - June 16, 2022 at 12:03 PM

WS

“ Gary was a wonderful, caring man. Worked with Gary at Oakwood and considered him my friend. RIP friend!



Wanda Myers Stephanie - June 15, 2022 at 07:12 PM

DE

“ Gary was a great guy .I worked with him at Oakwood, We sure had alot of fun.

Debbie - June 14, 2022 at 10:28 PM

DE

I will never forget the night we tried to trick you putting KY on door knobs,you thought i put it on door handles,but instead i did the back hatch. I laughed so hard listening to you cussing the whole time you was crawling in,Then you touched the steering wheel.Oh my

Debbie - June 14, 2022 at 10:33 PM

DE

“ Debbie lit a candle in memory of Raymond "Gary" Smith



Debbie - June 14, 2022 at 10:26 PM