



Charles John Smith

March 17, 1937 - October 16, 2024

Charles J. Smith age 87 of Walhalla passed away on Wednesday morning, October 16, 2024. Charles was born on March 17, 1937 in Portland, MI, the son of John L. and Mary W. (Williams) Smith and graduated from Muskegon Catholic Central High School. On June 8, 1957 he wed Janice VanRiper at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Muskegon and they celebrated 45 years together before Janice preceded him in death in 2002. Charles was also preceded in death by his sons Jon and Stephen; his parents John and Mary Smith; and his siblings Alice Rooney, Joan Hodetts, Carrol Hock, and John Smith.

Charles worked at Muskegon Sealed Power Foundry, before returning to his career with the railroad where he worked for Chessie Systems first in the car department, then working his way up to Manager of Engineering for a large portion of Michigan and later as Roadmaster for mid-to-northwestern Michigan where he retired in 1996. In his retirement, Charles enjoyed watching NASCAR, visiting the casino with friends, coin collecting, and his favorite role of "Mr. Fixit" for his family and neighbors. Charles was always willing to help out whenever someone called his name.

Charles will be greatly missed by his children Craig Smith of Midlothian, VA, Paula (Richard) Endres of Rockford, AnnMarie (Walter) Wobig of Chiefland, FL, Charles G. Smith of East Haven, CT; his daughter-in-law Rosemary Smith

of Sand Lake; 13 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren; his siblings Marlene Corey of Ludington, Gary (Donna) Smith of Howard City, Marilyn (Daniel) Shinaver of Portland, Beverly (Michael) Hicks of Columbia, TN, MaryEllen (Douglas) VanderStelt and Deb (Charles) DeGraaf all of White Cloud; his dear friend and neighbor Martha Ely; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and great friends.

A Gathering of Family and Friends will take place from 5:00 – 7:00 pm on Friday, October 18 at Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services in Scottville with graveside services to be held at 11:00 am on Saturday morning at Sunrise Memorial Gardens in Muskegon. Those who wish to remember Charles with a memorial donation are asked to please consider the American Cancer Society, or the Corewell Health Ludington Cardiac Rehab Unit.

Cemetery Details

Sunrise Memory Gardens

2188 Remembrance Drive
Muskegon, MI 49442

Previous Events

Gathering of Friends & Family

OCT 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services - Stephens Funeral Home
305 E. State St.
Scottville, MI 49454
(231) 757-3333
wyman-stephens@sbcglobal.net
<https://www.wymanfuneralservice.com>

Tribute Wall

AB

“ Even though he was 40+ years older, Chuck was a great friend, and a very good listener. I was privileged enough to convince him to cone camping with us a few times in his widower years, and he was a great addition to our camp family. He had a strong sense of right and wrong, and would speak out for others. I always enjoyed stories of his grandchildren, old railroad tales, and the occasional chat about cars. I know it was difficult for him in recent years as his body slowed down and didn't allow for him to do all the things he'd like to, and find comfort in knowing that he no longer suffers from those restraints anymore. Rest in peace my friend, I will remember you often.

Anna Bateson - October 18, 2024 at 09:26 AM

DF

“ i used to enjoy saturday morning breakfast at Big Boy talking to Charles. Nascar and motorcycles was a good subject and also trains . Denny Fast

denny fast - October 17, 2024 at 07:02 PM

JR

“ Joe & Margaret Rioux planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles John Smith.

Joe & Margaret Rioux - October 17, 2024 at 05:09 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles John Smith.*



October 17, 2024 at 05:09 PM



“ *"Chuck" made every time at cardiac rehab a joy. Just never knew what was going to happen behind those sparkling eyes. He made me smile. He truly will be missed, his dry sense of humor. Rest in peace my friend. You are missed. Rogene and Rich Lathouwers*

Rogene Lathouwers - October 17, 2024 at 08:25 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Charles John Smith.*



October 16, 2024 at 09:36 PM