



Ronald Manwell Smith

JUL 26, 1943 - FEB 5, 2019



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Ronald Smith entered the arms of Jesus Christ on Tuesday, February 5, 2019. His family and friends find comfort in knowing he knows no more pain or suffering, and he held his head high and stood tall to meet his Lord and Savior. Ronald was a true Dallasite. He was born at Baylor Hospital to Elise Smith, also a Dallasite. He was proud to call Woodrow Wilson High School his Alma mater and has remained close to some of his fellow Wildcats since his graduation in 1963. After high school, Ronald pursued a degree at University of Texas at Arlington. Demonstrating perseverance and determination Ronald used buses to travel to and from school. He said sometimes it took two hours to get there, so he would study on the bus. Ronald was proud of his degree in history from UTA, earned in 1972. He also took some courses at SMU to work toward a graduate degree in history. He was passionate about history, and even more passionate about teaching it to students. Ronald taught in DISD for many years, bringing his patience and love of history to the classroom. Ronald was proud to have been nominated by his students for Who's Who Among Teachers and DISD Teacher of the Year. His years at Hotchkiss Elementary and Dealey Montessori Academy in DISD meant the world to him and he touched many students' lives before retiring in June 2004. Ronald was raised by three women, his Grandmother, his Mother, Elise and his Aunt Bess. Strong bonds and love for Jesus and music held their family together through thick and thin. Ronald was surrounded by music. Bess and Elise sang and played organ and piano and Ronald spent many hours at the Melody Shop where Bess worked. Ronald had a well-worn collection of albums, 45s and tapes which brought him years of enjoyment. So strong was this little family that they remained together as they aged and Ronald cared for each of these women who had nurtured him, until one by one, each preceded him in death. Ronald was active many years at First UMC where he loved his Sunday School class and volunteered in several ministries through the years. As Ronald began to need



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them, members and ministers lovingly comforted Ronald, prayed for him, and visited him. Ronald had been the hands and feet of Jesus to many others many times, and now his many brothers and sisters in Christ have stood in the gap and been that for him. Little is left of Ronald's physical family. He is survived by his cousin Kaye Richardson and her family and his faithful caregiver, Queen Owens. His family of friends, caregivers, former students, and fellow Christians is much larger; his mark on this world may have been greater than he ever knew. Funeral Services will be held 02/12/2019 at 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Dallas, 1928 Ross Ave., Dallas, TX 75201. Visitation will be 02/11/2019 from 6-8 p.m. at Restland Funeral Home.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ronald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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