



Clifford James Smith

MAR 13, 1948 - JUL 5, 2020



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Clifford James Smith passed away July 5th, 2020 at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in Plano, Texas with his wife and sons by his side. We are so proud of him for fighting a long and courageous battle with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and Merkel Cell Carcinoma.

Cliff was born on March 13, 1948 to Arty and Doris (James) Smith in Boston, MA. Cliff grew up in Highland Park, Texas. He spent many childhood summers on his grandparents' farm in Arkansas with his sister and cousins. He graduated from Highland Park High School in Highland Park, Texas in 1966. Cliff attended the University of Texas Arlington.

In 1975, Cliff married Shirlene Tidwell. From this union a son, Jason, was born. In addition to raising his son in his younger years, Cliff enjoyed working on all things mechanical, being a daredevil with over 600 sky-diving experiences, and putting his pilot's license to good use with travel. Cliff and Arty, his father, were both pilots and shared a love of flying together. Cliff acquired his pilot's license at 16 years old and purchased his first airplane at the age of 18.

On February 8th, 1991, Cliff was united in marriage to Joy Martinsen Smith and gained two stepsons, Barry and Clark. Cliff and Joy also welcomed a son, William, to their family.

Cliff spent his professional career working in aviation repair where he owned his own aviation repair shop, and 30 years at Dallas Avionics repairing airplane radios. He was well respected within his industry and worked up until his passing. Cliff was known for his exceptional technical skill and he was often the first person that family and friends reached out to when they needed a problem-solver. He was always more than happy to help.

Adventurous and open to new experiences, Cliff lived life to the fullest. Some of his most memorable experiences include: flying through Alaska as a young pilot, sailing with family around the Caribbean Islands, and water skiing behind airplanes. Cliff and Joy traveled to many destinations in the United States and aboard cruises around the Caribbean and Alaska. He loved



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trying new foods and appreciated the cultural experiences and nature scenes that traveling provided. Cliff enjoyed camping and riding dirt bikes. He shared his passion to ride motorcycles with Joy and all of his sons and grandchildren, which still actively ride to this day. Taking his Harley for an early morning cruise was one of Cliff's greatest pleasures over the last 20 years.

Even though he liked to travel, Cliff's favorite place to be was his home. He bought his home in the fall of 1973 and lived there until his death. He and Joy raised their four boys in this home and Cliff took great pride in preserving many original qualities of the home while also taking on home improvement projects throughout the years. The back deck and the beautiful backyard that it overlooks is where he prepared many delicious, perfectly seasoned meals on his grills and smokers for family and friends to gather and enjoy. Cliff was always ready to share food and methods he was using to prepare each meal. Cliff's garage beckoned many friends to share in story-telling while tinkering around on a variety of machines, sipping on cold beers, and listening to great music. Cliff's collection of knowledge and tools allowed him to offer guidance or repairs on practically anything you could bring him.

Cliff will be remembered for his witty sense of humor, the pep and energy that he brought to gatherings, his southern hospitality for guests, his sage advice regarding multiple topics, and his enthusiasm for photography that captured many special moments. All those that knew him are better people because of his influence in their lives.

He is survived by his wife Joy of 29 years, of Richardson, Texas; his sons Barry (Robin) Smith of Lincoln, Nebraska; Jason (Chandra) Smith of Lancaster, California; Clark (Meagan) Smith of Plano, Texas; and Will (Ashley) Smith of Garland, Texas. Five grandchildren Noah (Noelle) Smith and Claire Smith all of Lincoln, Nebraska; Alyce Smith, Andrew Ray, and Matthew Smith of Plano, Texas. His sister Barbara (John) Hudgens of Austin, Texas and sister Liz Carrico of Yacolt, Washington. Brothers-in-law Roy (Ann) Martinsen of Meadow Grove, Nebraska, Bill (Kathy) Martinsen of Primrose, Nebraska and Andy (Teresa) Martinsen of St. Paul, Nebraska. He is also survived by many cousins, nephews, nieces, extended family, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Arty and Doris Smith, his in-laws Roy and Henrietta Martinsen and his niece Wendy King.

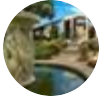
A private family celebration of life will be held on July 20, 2020 in Memorial Chapel at Restland in Dallas, TX.



Tribute Wall

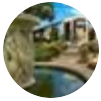
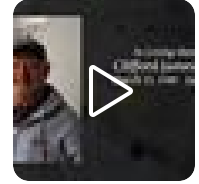
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Restland Funeral Home And Cemetery shared a **Video**.

July 20 at 7:58 AM



Restland Funeral Home And Cemetery shared a **Webcast Video**.

July 20 at 8:38 AM



Deborah Smith posted:

So many warm memories of Cliff! We would always look forward to him flying in and landing right next to our house in the country. East Bernard, Texas! Thanks for the friendship. U will not be forgotten!Debbie and Rudy

September 7 at 4:24 AM



Anonymous sent a Large Basket Garden to the Smith family.

July 20 at 7:47 AM



Anonymous sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Smith family.

July 20 at 7:44 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Smith family.

July 20 at 4:53 AM





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Smith family.

July 19 at 5:31 AM



Anonymous sent a With Our Deepest Sympathy Gift Basket to the Smith family.

July 18 at 12:22 PM



Anonymous sent a Large Basket Garden to the Smith family.

July 17 at 1:40 PM



Anonymous sent a Sweet Solace Spray to the Smith family.

July 17 at 9:19 AM



Love, Your Brother Andy And Teresa And Families sent a Serene Reflections Bouquet to the Smith family.

July 16 at 10:37 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Smith family.

July 15 at 5:43 PM





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Smith family.

July 15 at 5:01 PM



From Okhee Knight And Mona Wolf sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Smith family.

July 15 at 2:04 PM



Willie Hutson shared an album called **Memories Album**.

July 15 at 12:06 PM



Willie Hutson posted:

Sorry to hear of my old friend Cliff passing. He was a welcoming voice when I first moved to the Dallas area in 1974. We were both pilots and single at the time so we logged a bunch of hours in his Cessna 180. I remember we once flew out to this big steakhouse just east of Abilene. They had an 800 ft grass runway that we had to do a low pass over first to chase the cows off of. No problem for Cliff as he was an excellent pilot! I was lucky to know him and will miss him. I pray for His peace that passes all understanding for his family and friends that are grieving. Willie Hutson

July 15 at 11:46 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Smith family.

July 15 at 9:00 AM





Tribute Wall

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Aero Dynamix Family sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Smith family.

July 15 at 6:15 AM



Anonymous sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Smith family.

July 14 at 8:53 AM



Ann Martinsen posted:

Cliff was a good man! I remember when Roy walked you down the aisle when you and Cliff got married Joy. We have special memories of our Alaskan cruise with you! We had a great time! I remember the morning Will and Cliff zip lined out of the clouds, and they loved it. We also enjoyed our time with you both when we took our trip to Galveston and the time we spent at your house, we have a lot of special memories and recipes from him. Love Ann and Roy

July 13 at 4:11 PM



Angie Burr Barnes posted:

I'm so sorry to hear this. Cliff was always welcoming and kind to me. He was funny and knowledgeable about so many things. Praying for Joy and all the boys. ❤️

July 13 at 10:54 AM



Jay Sundrum posted:

Cliff, Was a good man. He has helped me and Metro Aviation with his knowledge and skills. He was always there for us. We will miss him. Sincerely, Jay Sundrum Metro Aviation

July 13 at 9:19 AM



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William Johnson posted:

My condolences to the family. My company and I had the privilege to work with Cliff over the years and he was always there to get things figured out and fixed right. He will be missed. William Johnson Avionics Engineer Metro Aviation, Inc.

July 13 at 8:58 AM



Kathy Gase posted:

It was an honor to know Cliff. I loved the way he cared for his family and friends. When I first met him, I admired him as a good neighbor and excellent father. He had a way of making everyone feel welcome and comfortable. Over the years, I also saw and admired the way he loved, respected, and cared for his parents. He was a terrific son and a good example for us all. My favorite memories are of him dating and marrying Joy. That's one of the best, real-life romance stories with the happily-ever-after and kids and grand kids and all. May God give you strength and comfort.

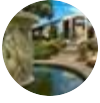
July 13 at 6:23 AM



Media

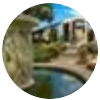
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Willie Hutson shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

July 15 at 12:06 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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