



## Dr. Bill J Smith

December 25, 1940 - February 9, 2021

Dr. Bill J. Smith, a professor and educator, died Feb. 9, 2021, in Dallas, Texas, surrounded by family. He was 80. He was born in Stamford, Texas, to James and Grace Wilcox, and resided in Dallas most of his life. Dr. Smith graduated from Abilene High School, attended McMurry University graduating with a Bachelor of Science, Hardin-Simmons University with a Master of Education, Abilene Christian University with Special Education Supervision endorsement, and Nova Southwestern University with a Doctorate in Education. He was a member of Who's Who in Education, Phi Delta Kappa, and Rotary International. A lifelong educator and seeker of knowledge and fitness, he worked as an administrator for Richardson ISD, adjunct professor for Richland College, and associate professor for Northwood University. Following his career in education, he pursued a vocation in health and wellness as Coordinator of the Baylor Tom Landry Health & Wellness Center's Internship Program. He also managed the employee staff enrichment program for the Landry Center, as well as special events coordinator. His passion for strength and conditioning was shared with his love of writing. He co-authored two books relating to developmental writing and developmental math, as well as numerous magazine articles. He was a generous man, relishing friendships and work. His greatest love was teaching. Bill was a longtime member and volunteer at the Episcopal Church. He is preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe E. Smith, and his father, Mr. James Wilcox. Also, his longtime best friend, Byron Gammage. He is survived by family and friends, Stefani and Richard Kopenec of North Richland Hills, Meredith and Jody Turnbow of Highland Village, Karen and Robert Hanie of Hideaway, and their children and grandchildren. Inurnment will be conducted at Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene, Texas at a later date.