



Theodore "Pidge" Smith

February 1, 1945 - May 25, 2022

Theodore "Pidge" Smith

Age 77, of Coal City, IL passed away Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at RML Specialty Hospital in Hinsdale, IL. Born February 1, 1945 in Joliet, IL to the late Theodore Roosevelt and Marguerite (nee Albrecht) Smith. Graduate of the Coal City High School with the class of 1963 and attended U of I and Parson's College. He served in the Army National Reserves. Pidge first formerly owned and operated Smith Lanes and then went on to own Smith Hardware Store for over thirty years, both in Coal City. He was a member of every type of organization, club, or board. He was truly a community minded person, proudly serving on the boards of Morris Hospital, Standard Bank, Coal City Emergency Department, and the Coal City Unit#1 Board of Education. He was also a member of the Braidwood Masonic Lodge #704 A.F. & A.M., former parishioner of the First Presbyterian Church in Coal City and current member of the First Christian Church in Morris, IL. Pidge, also known as "Mr. Friendly" was a kind, gentle, and generous soul with a larger than life personality. He had a gift of making everyone feel like they were the most important person in the room, just being in his presence made you feel significant. Pidge had a love for golf, old cars, people, and the Lord. If you were lucky enough to receive one of his hugs, you knew they were the biggest and best. We lost a true gentleman, who was dedicated to his family and community and the impact he had on others is his legacy. Survived by the love of his life, high school sweetheart and wife of fifty-one years, Cathy (nee

Cromer) Smith of Coal City, whom he married November 28, 1970 at the First Presbyterian Church in Coal City; two daughters, Ebie (Tom) Johnson of Morris and Emily (Brian) Tira of Mahomet; five grandchildren, Grace and Tessa Johnson, Lilly, Ellis, and Claire Tira; sister, Marguerite (the late David) Pierard of Coal City; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Holly and Denny Mallaney of CO; numerous nieces, nephews, and their families; and friends too many to be counted. Preceding him in death were his parents, Ted and Marguerite; and brother, Hugh Smith. Visitation for Pidge will be at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Wednesday, June 1, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. until the time of funeral services at 5:00 p.m. Immediately following the funeral service, the family would like to invite everyone to the old Smith Hardware Store: 301 S. Broadway, Coal City to celebrate Pidge's life. Interment will be private in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery, Braceville, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the family to disperse to many local organizations would be appreciated.

You are invited to live stream Pidge's funeral service via YouTube: https://youtu.be/Vh_A2xhKKLg

Cemetery Details

Braceville-Gardner Cemetery

7295 W. Braceville Road
Braceville, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 1. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
(815) 458-2336
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

Service

JUN 1. 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
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Tribute Wall

JK

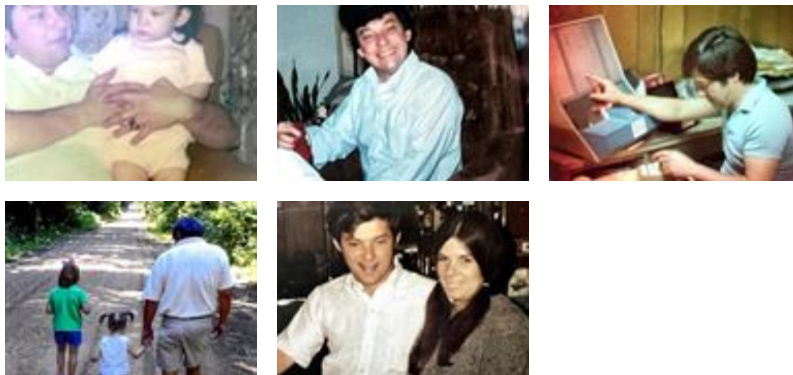
“ Will miss you Uncle Pidge - love J. Kelley & fam



Jonathan Kelley - June 01, 2022 at 05:30 PM



“ 14 files added to the album Life Tributes



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - June 01, 2022 at 10:14 AM

TF

“ We are so sorry for your loss. All of you will be in our thoughts and prayers.



The Schimandle Family - May 31, 2022 at 08:20 PM

WM

“ *Pidge was such a good guy, He will be missed by everyone who knew him, He always knew how to make you smile, Prayers are being sent for Mrs Pidge , Ebie, and Emily and their families.*

Wendy and Jim Mikula - May 31, 2022 at 05:05 PM

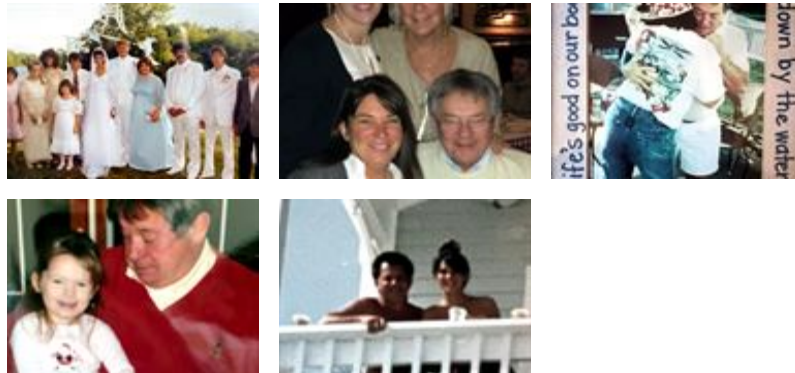
GH

“ *The guy was always "up". He had a joke or a story to tell and couldn't wait to get it out. I loved that about him. He golfed as inconsistently as I did and so we felt comfortable on the links together. It just was a pleasure to know Pidge. The VID has us isolating but Cathy, just know we're upholding you and your family often. Glenn & Joanne*

glenn harms - May 31, 2022 at 02:22 PM



“ *107 files added to the album LifeTributes*



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - May 31, 2022 at 11:36 AM

KE

“ *Cathy & family, you are all in our thoughts and prayers at this very sad time. We always enjoy being around Pidge and he had such a gift to crack a joke and bring lots of smiles. Praying for peace and comfort for all of you.*

Katie & Max Easton

Katie Easton - May 31, 2022 at 12:11 AM

ML

“ *Marlene L.Miller lit a candle in memory of Theodore "Pidge" Smith*



Marlene L.Miller - May 30, 2022 at 11:42 AM

 Beth Gozdeck

“ *Oh Pidge!
Even during my darkest days, you were a.ways there to provide me with sunshine...*

So many wonderful memories ...

We will miss you dear Pidge!

Beth and Goz

Beth Gozdeck - May 30, 2022 at 09:52 AM



“ *Pidge always greeted me so warmly at Smith Hardware. I will never forget his warm smile and mild harassment! Big hugs and prayers out to Cathy and the rest of the family!*

Christopher Browning - May 28, 2022 at 08:37 PM

LA

“ Thanks for all the great times in Naples. I’ve never laughed so much in my life. Going to miss you.
Lulu

Linda Adair - May 28, 2022 at 10:14 AM



“ I was so sorry to read of Ted's passing. I got to know him when he served on the Board of Directors of the Grundy Co. Chamber of Commerce and appreciated his guidance and suggestions, but most of all his sense of humor. We shared many jokes and stories even after I relocated to VA. The Village of Coal City has lost a great Ambassador. My sincere condolences to his family.
Kathy Perdue

Kathy Perdue - May 28, 2022 at 09:57 AM

GL

“ I am sorry for your loss. When I moved to the area in 1994 Pidge was very welcoming , helpful, and kind. I enjoyed talking and visiting with him as my business established itself in town. I have missed visiting with him lately and always think of his kindness when I go by the "hardware store" property. Gloria Longest

Gloria Longest - May 27, 2022 at 06:47 PM

KA

“ Sorry for your lose. I see this as an ANGEL for you all. This is how I got thru my dads passing. So many memories from the hardware store! I wish I knew how many pots of coffee I made for your dad\hub.lol Piece would say..Karen morning papers are here..coffee ready for the guys? I do believe there are folks who didn't know about Pidges secret ham/ turkey deliveries! I have so missed our encounters at Berkots. Bless you all. Cherish the memories.



Karen - May 27, 2022 at 06:06 PM

RF

“ This is a huge loss for me and my condolences to the family. Pidge was the first friend I ever had. He was 6 and I was 5. He and I along with his brother Choppy did many things together when we were children. We were also neighbors on Division Street. Although we didn't see as much of each other as time went on I have 3 very distinct memories. The first is that we used to camp out in my back yard by putting a blanket over the clothesline and that was our tent. We did this many times. We even talked about it about a year ago which was the last time I saw him. His Dad and my Dad were best friends and had a tradition that each year during Christmas time they would have a drink at the Hardware Store. Pidge and I continued that tradition after our fathers passed away. That was the second memory. The third just came to me as I write this. Pidge's Dad took us to see the Harlem Globetrotters in Chicago Stadium and we were in great seats. This was the Golden Age of the Globetrotters with Wilt Chamberlain and Meadowlark Lemon. It was unforgettable. I have been praying for Pidge for a long time. How do you say goodbye to a friend you've known for over 70 years? There is no good way. I know he suffered many medical problems during the past couple of years and now, my friend, you can Rest in Peace. A special tear for "Margie Ann", my one time neighbor and remaining member of a family that was my second family growing up. Pidge was always the same whenever and wherever I saw him and those memories we shared never left.

Robert Frye - May 27, 2022 at 05:18 PM

ED

Thank you so much for this beautiful tribute and thoughtful memories of my Dad. I just finally saw this so many months later, and shared it with my Mom tonight. We smiled through tears and thank you for sharing. Blessings to you.

Ebie Johnson (Pidge's daughter) - March 15, 2023 at 08:56 PM

DF

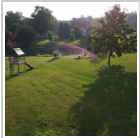
“ We have many fond memories of Pidge from church and bible studies. He was a great inspiration for many, always happy and so full of life. Our condolences to Cathy and his family! Steve and Diane Finch

Diane Finch - May 27, 2022 at 03:31 PM

JB

“ I I am so sorry for your loss, and my deepest sympathy, to all of Ted's family.
June Berta

June Berta - May 27, 2022 at 12:15 PM



“ My Father, John Toler was very fond of him! My Father would drive into the hardware store to pickup his newspaper and always came back with a cute story.
Thank you. Our family is sending prayers to your family.

Patty Calderone - May 27, 2022 at 10:35 AM

DF

“ Cathy and family, you have my sympathy. Sorry to hear of Ted's passing.
Diane Friddle

Diane Friddle - May 27, 2022 at 02:18 AM

DM

“ Very sorry for your loss!
Don McKinney

Don McKinney - May 26, 2022 at 10:49 PM

CS

“ *Our deepest sympathy to all of Pidge's family!*

Frank & Claudette Schmitt

Claudette Schmitt - May 26, 2022 at 08:39 PM

TD

“ *Sending all our sympathy to you Cathy and to your family. SUCH AN AMAZING man Pidge was!!*

Terri Dearth - May 26, 2022 at 08:18 PM

AT

“ *Hugs for all of you. Family is family forever. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Angela Tuthill*

Angela Tuthill - May 26, 2022 at 07:18 PM

TS

“ *Kris & I extend our deepest sympathy to Pidge's family.*

Tim & Kris Sayers - May 26, 2022 at 05:57 PM

JM

“ *Cathy and family, so very sorry. We have fond memories of Pidge at the bowling alley and the hardware store.*



Judy and Tony Morgese - May 26, 2022 at 03:23 PM

JM

Lyn and I share so many memories of "pidge" as he helped us with our needs as new homeowners in the area and we became more than just customers, but friends. He always had a smile on his face and a ready hand to help us. He will be missed but never forgotten. We think of you, Cathy, and the rest of his family as you keep him in your hearts. Joe and Lynette Moschetti

Joseph and Lynette Moschetti - May 27, 2022 at 12:49 PM