



## Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.

July 2, 1946 - January 10, 2011

Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr., age 64, of New Hartford, passed away on Monday, January 10, 2011 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with the love and support of his family by his side.

Born in Utica on July 2, 1946, Roger is the son of Robert H. and the late Jane (Dziok) Smith. Raised and educated in Utica, he was a graduate of Mohawk Valley Community College attaining a degree in Electrical Technology. A proud veteran, he honorably served his country in the United States Marine Corps. On January 24, 1970 he married the former Mary Lou Bailey with whom he shared 41 years; the happiness of their relationship was based on sincere love and enjoyment of one another.

At one time, Roger held a position with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) as a foreman. More recently, he worked as a consumer representative and planner for the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation up until his retirement. Roger was a very caring, giving, and unselfish man. He always had a kind word for everyone, and he never complained throughout the duration of his illness. As a husband, he was a best friend to his wife, and the couple were inseparable. As a father, he was a best friend to his children with whom he shared a closeness and a tight bond, always participating in activities together. He enjoyed car cruisin' with his son, Roger, Jr., and was a proud owner of a mustang, frequently attending auto shows. He was proud of his home and enjoyed gardening with his green thumb. Roger was an avid hockey fan, attending any game he could. He

reestablished and coached the Greater Utica Youth Hockey League. He was a member of the Tappet Twirlers Auto Club, and member and past treasurer of the Gas Lighters. He was a parishioner of St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church. Roger is survived by his wife, Mary Lou; his sons, Roger E. Smith, Jr. at home, and David W. Smith and fiancée Theresa Lang of Clifton Park, NY; and his father, Robert H. Smith of GA. Survivors also include his sisters and brothers-in-law, Laura "Maybell" and Terry Sparks, and Linda and Leon Rhinehart, all of GA; his brother, Robert Smith of GA; his special niece and godchild, Lisa Marie Sowich; nieces, nephews, cousins, sister-in-law, Barbara Lynn Sowich, whom he loved as a sister; his father-in-law, Clarence Bailey, whom he loved as a father; and his friends, Richard Gigliotti, Jan Zabek, Donna and Eddie Warchol, Tom Morasco, John Temple, Joe Morasco, and all his car cruisin' buddies. He was predeceased by his mother-in-law, Marie A. Bailey; his brother-in-law, Michael D. Sowich; and his faithful canine companion, Tara, whom he lovingly adored. The family extends sincere appreciation to Sister Sharon of Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center and Rev. Anthony P. LaFache, for their kindness, compassion, and spiritual guidance; thanks also to Dr. Charles Eldredge, Dr. Mark Blaker, and the nurses and staff of the ICU especially Vera, Brad, and Kim, for their constant care, vigilance, and professional guidance. Visitation will be held Thursday (today) from 5:00-8:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Roger's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Friday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home and at 10:00 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Anthony P. LaFache with Military Honors. Entombment will take place in Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum at the convenience of the family.

# Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.



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**Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.** - January 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Mariann Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.



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**Mariann Brown** - January 09, 2012 at 08:51 PM



“ Judy Camp Speer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.



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**Judy Camp Speer** - January 09, 2012 at 08:07 PM

DS

“ *David Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**David Smith** - June 14, 2011 at 01:02 AM



“ *Sarah Emmerick lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**Sarah Emmerick** - June 05, 2011 at 03:54 PM

DS

“ *David Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**David Smith** - February 01, 2011 at 11:48 PM

HM

“ *Helen Mix lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**Helen Mix** - January 25, 2011 at 07:32 AM

HM

“ I remember when we went to Vermont for the church services to baptize Sarah & Greg and spent the weekend there. MaryLou & Roger became Greg's God parent's and Jim & I became Sarah's God Parent's. We all had a great time. MaryLou & Roger were one of the true, loving, soul mate couples and still remain together forever in her heart. God Bless you MaryLou & family and remember Roger is never gone he is always in you hearts.

Helen Mix - January 25, 2011 at 07:31 AM

DH

“ Mary Lou I am thinking of you at this very difficult time. You are a beautiful person inside and out . Your husband was truly blessed to have you in his life. I am always just a phone call away. XOXO



Darlene Holleran - January 22, 2011 at 07:53 AM

JW

“ I would always see him at the car cruises and enjoyed talking with him. He always had a smile on his face and something funny to say. He will be greatly missed. Mean Jean

JEAN WILLIAMS - January 18, 2011 at 08:12 PM

LS

“ MaryLou, Roger, and David  
I am thinking of you everyday and loving you always. He was so very special. I will miss him a lot he would always send me emails that made me laugh. I loved him bunches, miss you guys wish I could be with you. Laura

Laura Sparks - January 17, 2011 at 08:23 AM

LS

“ *Laura Sparks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**Laura Sparks** - January 17, 2011 at 08:19 AM

TH

“ *Tracy I Was On Troy House Hold lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**tracy i was on troy house hold** - January 16, 2011 at 03:36 PM

JL

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Jim Mindy Lang** - January 14, 2011 at 08:08 AM

JL

“ *While we live in Arizona and have only met Roger and the Smith family a few times, it didn't take long to see what a caring, loving, and fun person Roger was. Our daughter, Theresa, is engaged to David, and has found a wonderful East Coast family to be a part of. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you as you deal with this great loss.*

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**Jim Mindy Lang** - January 14, 2011 at 08:05 AM

SB

“ I feel this part of Carrie Underwood's song is for Roger.  
Old man, hospital bed,  
The room is filled with people he loves.  
And he whispers don't cry for me,  
I'll see you all someday.  
He looks up and says, "I can see God's face."

"This is my temporary Home  
It's not where I belong.  
Windows and rooms that I'm passin' through.  
This was just a stop, on the way to where I'm going.  
I'm not afraid because I know... this was  
My temporary home."

*This is our temporary home.*

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**Sarah Buswell** - January 12, 2011 at 10:42 PM

SB

“ Dear Marylou and family  
We love you every much and we are here if you need anything. My  
god father was the best god father anyone could ask for. I LOVE  
YOU ROGER.

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**Sarah Buswell** - January 12, 2011 at 09:07 PM

SB

“ Sarah Buswell lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
Roger E. Smith, Sr.



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**Sarah Buswell** - January 12, 2011 at 08:50 PM

JD

“ Dear MaryLou & Family: We are so sorry to hear of Roger's passing, we will truly miss seeing him at all the car cruises. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family at this difficult time. Jim & Anne Doti

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**Jim & Anne Doti** - January 12, 2011 at 07:14 PM

JB

“ John Briggs: Many great memories of the many many fun camping years - You MaryLou and family - May you now rest in eternal peace Rodger - Mary Lou Please call for any reason I will be there for you !!  
John

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**John Briggs** - January 12, 2011 at 07:12 PM

GB

“ Mary Lou and Family,  
My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Call if you need anything.  
Lorie Wergin

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**Gail Buswell** - January 12, 2011 at 06:11 PM

GB

“ Gail Buswell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.



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**Gail Buswell** - January 12, 2011 at 06:03 PM

CK

“ *Chris Krzyzanowski lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**chris krzyzanowski** - January 12, 2011 at 06:01 PM

GB

“ *Mary Lou and Family,  
You are my family as much as my own is and in some instances, even more so. I always knew I could call you guys and you both would be there for me. I think of all we been through and all the ups and downs. Roger was the one man that I could trust. He was the best. My heart is broken and sick about his passing, I hope you are consoled by your loving memories of your time together and in the knowledge that there is one more angel in heaven watching over us. All my love. Gail Buswell*

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**Gail Buswell** - January 12, 2011 at 06:01 PM

TM

“ *Our sincere sympathy's. Roger and his family were good friends with us thru our camping years with our children. Roger was also a business contact for us with Niagara Mohawk Power. A great guy and always had a smile for us. Rest in eternal peace Roger.*

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**Tom Morosco** - January 12, 2011 at 04:18 PM

BC

“ Roger was one of the kindest people I have ever met. His smile was uplifting and his personality was warm and gentle. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and especially Roger Jr., who I've been able to get to know at the car cruise-ins. Roger Jr. is a great reflection of Roger, very warm, gentle and always ready with a handshake and a smile.

Bob Cain - January 12, 2011 at 12:30 PM

YR

“ Mary Lou and Family,  
I am very sorry to hear of Roger's passing. My heart goes out to you. Please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. May God bring you comfort during this time.  
Love,  
Yvonne



Yvonne Richardson - January 12, 2011 at 10:41 AM

RA

“ My heart goes out to Roger's Family. He was a true prince and gentleman, we will all miss him dearly!

Dick Aversa

Richard Aversa - January 12, 2011 at 10:24 AM

CD

“ JUST seeing rodger sr and rodger jr together at a hockey game or a car show how rodger loved and spent so much time with rodger jr .he was such a gentelman he will be home with our lord may he be blest.



CHARLES DORIS - January 12, 2011 at 07:19 AM

DB

“ Mary Lou, Roger Jr and David,  
I was so saddened to have learned of Roger's passing. He was a very giving and special person who always had a positive view of view. He will be missed.

Doris Bolanowski - January 12, 2011 at 06:48 AM



“ Lorena Chapman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.



Lorena Chapman - January 12, 2011 at 06:20 AM

MZ

“ It saddens me to hear of Rogers passing, he and his smile will be dearly missed at all the local car shows....

Mike Zarnock - January 11, 2011 at 10:15 PM

PD

“ Pat Dockery lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.



Pat Dockery - January 11, 2011 at 08:50 PM

CS

“ *Mary Lou, Roger and David , Chuck and I are so saddened by Roger's passing. We have such wonderful memories of your visits to Rochester and ours to Utica when Barb and Rick lived there. Heartfelt sympathy to all of you and prayers are being sent your way. The girls send their love to you too! Love, Chuck, Nancy, Stacey and Becca*

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**Chuck Nancy Signorino** - January 11, 2011 at 06:48 PM

R)

“ *Robert Smith ( Bobby ) lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**Robert Smith ( Bobby )** - January 11, 2011 at 06:37 PM



“ *Mary Lou, Roger, and David,  
I am so sorry for our loss. I will remember all the fantastic times we had together- camping, snow mobiling, New Years Eve's, Park Avenue Festivals- so many great memories. These will remain with me forever! Barbara waits for you in heaven.  
Love,  
Rick and Steve*



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**Rick Gigliotti** - January 11, 2011 at 02:28 PM

MB

“ *Mary Lou & family,  
We are so sorry to hear of Roger's passing. Our hearts, thoughts  
and prayers are with you during this time of sadness.*

*Love,  
Mariann & Vinny*

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**Mariann Brown** - January 11, 2011 at 01:35 PM

MB

“ *Mariann Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**Mariann Brown** - January 11, 2011 at 01:27 PM

DS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**David Smith** - January 11, 2011 at 11:09 AM

DF

“ *Dave Jan Frank lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**Dave Jan Frank** - January 11, 2011 at 10:31 AM

PK

“ *Patricia Leo Knisely lit a candle in memory of Mr. Roger E. Smith, Sr.*



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**patricia leo knisely** - January 11, 2011 at 08:43 AM