



Russell C. Smith

March 22, 1935 - January 4, 2024

Russell C. Smith, 88, peacefully departed to join the Lord on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at Lakeview Terrace in Altoona, Florida.

Russ was born in Philadelphia, where he graduated from Lincoln High School and married Elaine Seder in 1956. He proudly served in the US Army from 1958-1960 with active duty in Korea, and 1960-1964 (reserves). In 1965, the couple moved to Holland, PA, where they spent the next 26 years. Although Russ & Elaine desired to start a family of their own, fate intervened and they instead adopted their son, James Ash, after becoming involved with an institute for foster children. In 1991 after Russ retired from Bell Telephone, they moved to Fairfield Glade, Tennessee. Even in retirement, Russ stayed busy, helping to build a Baptist church in the community and serving as an usher for the well-known Cumberland County Playhouse.

In 2002, the warmth of the south called and Florida became their final home. After Elaine's death in 2015, Russ became very involved with Lakeview Terrace, serving as the President of the Residents Association on two occasions, and providing support to his lifelong passion—the church—focusing on the First Baptist Church of Altoona. A whirlwind romance with his Lakeview Terrace Bridge partner, Ellie White, led to their wedding in the spring of 2019.

Russ is survived by his wife, Eleanor "Ellie" White; his son, James Ash (Gina) of Fort Mill, SC; his sister, Dolores "Dee" Liebert of Sellersville, PA; brother, Frank Smith of Cape May, NJ; grandchildren Christina Johnson (Lance) of

Mount Wolf, PA and Andrew Ash of Lancaster, PA; several great-grandchildren; and was predeceased by his first wife, Elaine, and brothers Roger and Donald. Memorial services will be held at a future date. Donations may be made in Russell's name to the First Baptist Church of Altoona, at PO Box 97, Altoona, FL 32702.

Tribute Wall

JA

“ 3 files added to the album Memories



Jim Ash - January 11, 2024 at 05:15 PM

PS

Hi Jim, so sorry for your loss. Hope you and your family are doing well. Our prayers are with you and your family. He will be missed.

Paul Seder - January 12, 2024 at 08:01 PM

JA

Thank you so much. It's hard to even imagine that he is gone.

Jim Ash - January 14, 2024 at 05:38 PM

DS

Jim, I am sorry for your loss. Your father was a great man. I have fond memories of playing games with your mom and dad when I visited them with Mimi and Pappy. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Dawn Seeger - January 15, 2024 at 12:26 PM

JA

Thanks. It's a different world for me now without him in it.

Jim Ash - January 15, 2024 at 02:51 PM

AS

“ 2 files added to the album Memories



Ash - January 09, 2024 at 07:11 PM