



## Steven Rice Smith

October 28, 1946 - May 2, 2024

Steven R. Smith, 77, passed away on May 2, 2024, in Lansing Michigan.

Steven Smith was born on October 28, 1946 in Detroit, MI, to Robert Smith and Elizabeth Smith.

Steven graduated from Mackenzie High School in 1964 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1969. He started his career as a teacher and went on to work for the State of Michigan for 27 years. After retiring from the State of Michigan, Steven worked as a Professor of Information Technology for Lansing Community College for 15 years.

Steven married Barbara Smith on May 10, 1969 in Detroit. The couple were married for 55 years and had 3 children. Steven is survived by his wife Barbara, and daughters Melissa (Robert) Clark of Boulder, Colorado, Jennifer McCaffrey (James Roberts), of Grand Ledge. Five grandchildren Coty (Emily Lance) Southworth, Megan (Mitch McInnis) Southworth, Olivia McCaffrey, Isabella Clark and Dakota Clark. He is also survived by his brothers, Laird (Karin) Smith of El Paso TX, Doug (Sherry) Smith of Saline, MI, Randall (Gorgette) Smith of Colorado Springs CO, sister in laws Elaine Lamb of West Bloomfield MI, Judy Peddie of Howell MI, and Susan Chenette of Boise, Idaho, as well as many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

Steven was best known for his generosity, intellect, and love of music, golf and sports. He was so generous that one cold winter day, he took off his coat and gave it to an un-housed person outside of his office. He was deeply committed to his family and friends. He was also a loyal MSU fan.

Steven is preceded in death daughter, Aimee Smith; parents, Robert and Elizabeth Smith; mother and father-in-law, Rosemary and Harold Peddie; brothers-in-law, Michael Peddie, Jack Gordon, and Warren Lamb, and sister-in-law, Marilyn Gordon.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, May 9, 2024, 11:00 am at St. Michael Catholic Church, 345 Edwards Street, Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837 by Father James Eisele. You may watch the funeral mass for Steven at 11:00 am Thursday on the St. Michael Church YouTube channel at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4KWfI053hY>. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery, Grand Ledge.

Visitation will be held Wednesday May 8th 5:00-8:00 pm at Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, and Thursday May 9th from 10-11:00 am at St. Michael Parish.

In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial donation to Eaton County Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 242, Charlotte, Michigan 48813 (<https://form-renderer-app.donorperfect.io/give/tri-county-office-on-aging/mow>) or St. Michael Parish (<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/Giving/stm345273/CHURCH>). Share your memories and condolences online at [www.holihanatkin.com](http://www.holihanatkin.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

299 Halbert Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAY 8. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
406 N. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
(517) 627-2531  
[jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com](mailto:jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com)  
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

## Public Viewing

MAY 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Michael Catholic Church  
345 Edwards Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

## Funeral Mass

MAY 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Michael Catholic Church  
345 Edwards Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

# Tribute Wall

BM

“ I met Steve when I was in elementary school as it was a tradition for the 5th grade class to face school faculty and family in a game of kickball on the last day of school. We all knew when Mr. Smith was up...I still to this day have never witnessed someone kick a schoolyard ball further! He was always known to me as Aimee's Dad as my sister was very close friends with her and she become like another big sister to me while growing up. She always was smiling and had such a kind heart. I know that was very much a reflection in part of her father. Sadly both have been taken from us way too soon! We know they are again reunited and we will see them again one day. Thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family Barb....even though you will always be Principal Smith to me.

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**Brian Madalinski** - May 10, 2024 at 03:10 PM

EL

“ I'm sorry to hear of Steve's passing and it saddens me that yet another state retiree has passed from this earth. Steve and I worked together in the late 1980's at the Department of Social Services in the Payroll and Energy Area on the 11th floor of the Commerce Center. Steve sat across the hall from me. He was a great guy; funny, talkative, polite and worked hard at his job. There was another guy that sat across the hall from me too and he also sat right next to Steve. His name was Steve Miller. Well Steve's daughter's remarks at the memorial service about him being "big" brought back a fun reminder of our working days. I watched the memorial service online this afternoon. It was, a great tribute to a great guy, especially his daughter's remarks. Yes Steve Smith was a big guy and Steve Miller, well he was about Steve Smith's size in diameter but about a foot shorter. Steve Miller always called himself "Big Steve" in a show of authority and he called Steve Smith "Tall Steve" in reference to his height. I remember many comments about that during our working years; especially the constant corrections by Steve Miller about "who was who", either "big" or "tall". Later after Steve retired while I was still working, I was at Lansing Community College updating my skillset and I'd run into him and we'd talk for a few minutes about work or memories from the past; always good conversations.

No doubt Steve's passing leaves a hole in your family. I pray for your family, that God will lift and guide you in the coming days and weeks. May Steve's memory live on in your hearts and may each of you continue his traditions of being kind and helpful to others.

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Eric Larson - May 09, 2024 at 06:56 PM



“ *this photo wasn't taken by me, but it captures uncle steve the way i remember him best: mischievous grin, sparkling eyes, msu shirt, arm around his beautiful bride, my aunt barb. i can almost hear him saying "how's it going, kiddo?" while handing me a soda.*

*he took genuine interest in everyone he cared about, (a very, very long list by the way) and was always up for chatting about anything.*

*when brandon and i went to msu, aunt barb & uncle steve were of course thrilled for us, and it meant the world to me that they'd frequently come to my orchestra concerts-- my friends in the orchestra all knew them too.*

*and this was typical of uncle steve-- he'd remember not only the names of my friends, but their interests too. he made everyone feel important & cared about.*

*it's hard to accept that we can't talk to him, hug him, or hear his (terrible) jokes that always brightened the room. he is so loved, and will be so missed by so many people.*

*it's a comfort to know that through uncle steve's faith, he's reunited with aimee and with many other loved ones now. i don't claim to know how heaven works, but i do know for sure that uncle steve more than earned his ticket (first class, extra legroom).*

*for us left behind mourning him, uncle steve's still here too, in his impact on his family, his friends, and his community. he touched so many lives and that positive effect will continue through generations. the epitome of a good man. i'm honored to have known him & been his niece, and grateful for the many memories that will keep him close always.*



**Corinna Smith** - May 07, 2024 at 09:42 PM

MC

“ Steve was my neighbor for a short time. However, in that time we developed a friendship that entailed discussions on politics, family and aging. I can remember Steve telling me during one of our conversations, that even though he was getting older, I still had him beat. I will miss seeing Steve walking his dog or getting his mail. But mostly, our brief but special conversations. Barb and family, hold real tight to the wonderful memories of Steve, I know I will.

**Meredith Cooper** - May 07, 2024 at 08:31 AM

JR

“ Thoughts and prayers as you navigate this difficult time. May the love you shared and the memories you have guide you. God bless you ...

**Joy Ryan** - May 06, 2024 at 11:34 PM



“ 75 files added to the album Life Tributes



**Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home** - May 06, 2024 at 05:53 PM

CM

“ Chuck and Nancy Meddaugh planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Steven Rice Smith.

Chuck and Nancy Meddaugh - May 06, 2024 at 01:32 PM

CM

“ Chuck and Nancy Meddaugh purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Steven Rice Smith.



Chuck and Nancy Meddaugh - May 06, 2024 at 01:32 PM

LF

“ Laird, Doug, Randall & families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Steven Rice Smith.

Laird, Doug, Randall & families - May 05, 2024 at 10:33 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Steven Rice Smith.



May 05, 2024 at 10:33 PM

LL

“ A good man. Rest in peace  
John and Linda Lepeak, Williamston, MI

Linda lepeak - May 05, 2024 at 09:12 AM

MS

“ Barb and family, I am so sorry for your loss. I will remember Steve as a very kind hearted man, his smile was contagious. His love for his family, his music, for all those who crossed his path and life in general will be what I remember about him. May the memories you hold dear in your heart be a comfort in the days to come

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**Mona Southworth** - May 05, 2024 at 08:30 AM

JS

Steve and I were on a committee together for awhile and he was one of the sweetest, kindest people I've known. Rest in peace Steve. Condolences to Barb and all the family.  
Jan Sykes

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**Janice Sykes** - May 06, 2024 at 11:07 PM

CC


“ Steve Smith - a common name - an uncommon man. He was a friend of mine.

Chris

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**Constance Chappell** - May 04, 2024 at 08:15 PM

SC

“ Steve was my brother from another Mother. His passing is heartbreaking and he will be so greatly missed. From his goofy Dad jokes to his constant show of care and concern for all folks. The sense of comfort I always felt knowing he was on my side. Our shared love of politics. His willingness to let me tag along with him and Barb on many different trips. Just knowing he was there was a joy! He so loved his family and that love shone through! I hope wherever you are now they have great music and that you have Aimee by your side! Love you, bro!!

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**Susan Chenette** - May 04, 2024 at 04:04 PM

ML

“ *Such a wonderful friend. Shared our love for our grandsons, love of baseball n dinner with he n Barb. A dear man. Roger is waiting for you Steve.*

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**Mary Leifheit** - May 04, 2024 at 02:07 PM

PS

“ *Barb and Family  
My heart goes out to you and your family and excitement for Steve to see the face of the Lord already. Friends, like my Rick and Lee Ayers, I am sure were in line behind the Lord to welcome him home. The rest of us are here for you, love to all.*

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**Patti Schafer** - May 04, 2024 at 11:05 AM

SR

“ *Barb and family, we are so very sorry to hear of Steve's passing. What a shock for so many of us. Steve was so well liked by so many and will be missed by everyone who had the opportunity to know him! He was a very giving person who was always concerned about this fellow man/woman and many times on his lunch break you would find him downtown feeding a homeless person. He was a great husband, father and grandfather who will be forever missed by them all. May the angels welcome you to paradise Steve, rest in peace. Sharon and Dan Rennaker.*



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**Sharon Rennaker** - May 03, 2024 at 09:44 PM