



## John R. Smith

November 13, 1939 - December 12, 2012

Funeral services for John R. Smith, 73, of Spring Garden will be Friday, December 14, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at Thompson Funeral Home with the Rev. James Cohorn, Rev. Philip Cooper and Rev. Bobby Kirk officiating. Burial will follow at Lebanon Campground United Methodist Church Cemetery in Spring Garden.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home Thursday from 6-8 p.m. John passed away at his home in Spring Garden on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Linda Smith of Spring Garden; one son, Lynn Smith of Spring Garden; one grandson, Caleb Smith of Spring Garden; former daughter-in-law, Stacey Smith of Spring Garden; and one sister and her family from Harpersville and Birmingham. Pallbearers will be John Toland, Ken Logan, James Mayben, Bobby Porter, B.T.Law and Mike Commings. Honorary pallbearers will be James "Mutt" Steward, Benny Smith, R. G. Sublett and Richard Carlyle. Mr. Smith was a resident of Spring Garden and Piedmont his entire life. He devoted his life to public education with 30 years of service in Alabama as a teacher, coach and school administrator and 10 years in Georgia as an assistant administrator. He was preceded in death by his parents, R. D. and Carra Linda Smith. The family request no flowers and suggest memorial contributions in memory of John R. Smith to the Big Oak Boys or Girls Ranch, P.O.Box 507, Springville, AL 35146 or to the Spring Garden Fire Department, 4635 County Road 8, Piedmont, AL 36272.



# Tribute Wall

TE

“ Was an outstanding leader of our school i am heart broken to hear he has passed away.

Tommy epps - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

KW

“ On behalf of Marian and Brad Snead, our family sends heartfelt sympathy to the Smith family. Our prayers are with you during your time of sorrow and in the days ahead.

Kathy Snead Waldrop - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

TB

“ I returned to Piedmont HS to do my student teaching in math. Mrs. Meers was my supervising teacher. Her children became sick with the flu. After she was out for a week and was going to be out another week, Mr. Smith came to the room and said beginning Monday, I was the teacher so I should prepare over the weekend. Well, I began teaching that Monday and 25 years later, I'm still teaching. He was a great leader. Praying for Ms. Linda and Lynn.

Tanya

Tanya Ray Branes - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

MH

“ Johnny & I "grew up" together in the sense that when we were elementary age his family visited us every Sat. afternoon (our mothers were sisters). We played hide & seek throughout the neighborhood, did cartwheels in the front yard, played football & softball in a vacant lot, kick-the-can, and in the summer swam in Nances Creek --- all those things kids freely did without adult supervision in the 50s. In the summer my brother, Stokely, & I would spend a week in Spring Garden with Johnny & Joann. I got to know Linda when we all carpooled to Jacksonville State University, and she & Johnny were dating. When they decided to get married, they asked me to play the piano for their wedding at Liberty Baptist Church in Spring Garden--I still have and wear the silver bracelet you gave me at the time After we both retired and before his stroke Johnny & I emailed practically every day for several years because we were of the same political persuasion and loved battling issues around! I've really missed him these past four years. We last saw him on Sept. 23, 2012 when we visited their home. Linda has cared for him at home over the years; she told me at that time that they'd been sweethearts since she was 15 yrs old and she'd really never dated anyone else. Thank you, Linda, for your faithfulness; I don't know that I could do it. My tears are for both of you tonight.

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**Malissa & Larry Haslam** - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

SH

“ I will always treasure the memories we had at Goodyear Elementary! He will always be remembered for dressing up like Johnny Appleseed for the Kindergarten classes. He is famous for his rendition of "Pine Tree". He is loved and missed very much!

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**Sherri** - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

RH

“ Coach Smith was my basketball coach and teacher at Hardin Jr. High, and also one of my teacher. I will always remember him for what and how he taught and coaches us in the 6 or 7 grade. He left an impression on my that I have carried to this day. (give it your all, with what you have to give). Our family bought a set of enclyopedia from his while at Hardin (still haven't read them). We will remember you and your family in our prayers.  
Ronnie Highfield

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**Ronnie Highfield** - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

SM

“ Linda and family  
We are saddened to learn of Johnny's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
  
Sandra & Stokely

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**STOKELY MORGAN** - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

LL

“ John was an excellent administrator and was wonderful with the students. I always enjoyed seeing him when we worked together at Goodyear. He was a sweetheart:) Larke Lanier

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**Larke Lanier** - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM

AS

“ I worked with Mr. Smith at Goodyear Elementary School. He was a wonderful AP for the teachers and the students. I feel fortunate to have been able to work under him. I will keep his family in my prayers. I know he will be missed.  
Angie Smith

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**Angie Smith** - June 20, 2018 at 04:50 PM