



Mr. Jerry Eugene Smith

September 29, 1946 - February 18, 2026

PO2 Jerry Eugene Smith, a proud United States Navy veteran and longtime resident

of Chickasaw, Alabama, passed away peacefully at home on February 18, 2026, at the age of 79.

Born on September 29, 1946, in Abingdon, Illinois, to Willard Smith and Juanita Smith,

Jerry, at just 17 years old, enlisted in the U.S. Navy. His service brought him to Mobile,

Alabama, where he met the love of his life, Sandra "Pat" Smith. Their meeting began a

lifelong partnership built on devotion and a steadfast love, until her death on September 18, 2025.

Following his time in the Navy, Jerry continued his commitment to service by enlisting in

the Alabama National Guard. At the same time, he built a long and dedicated career

with International Paper, from which he retired in 2000. Jerry was known for his strong

work ethic, quiet strength, and unwavering dedication to both his country and his family.

Above all, Jerry was a devoted husband, a proud father, and a loving grandfather. He found his greatest joy in time spent with those he loved most. He is survived by his children, Jeffrey Smith and Ashley (Shane) Phillips; his grandchild, Alex (Amanda) Phillips; his sisters, Barbara Carter and Linda Crawford; his sister-in-law, April (the late Donald) Williams; as well as several nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends who will cherish his memory. In accordance with his wishes, a private celebration of life will be held at a later date. Friends and family are encouraged to honor Jerry's memory by remembering the warmth, laughter, and love he so generously shared with all who knew him.