



Mr. Sidney Ronald Smith Sr.

November 5, 1941 - June 10, 2021

Citronelle, AL – Sidney R. Smith, 79, of Citronelle, Alabama, passed away peacefully, on Thursday, June 10, 2021. Sidney was known as “Sid” by friends and loved ones. Born in Bushnell, FL, on November 5, 1941, Sid survived his parents Sidney and Fannie Smith. Sid graduated from Bushnell High School in 1959 and then served his country faithfully as an Army paratrooper from 1959-1962. Honorably discharged from the army, Sid spent sixteen years as a dedicated Florida Power and Light linesman. He married his lovely wife, Linda, on June 22, 1973, and they settled in Bushell where they raised their six children. Sid and Linda pooled their financial resources to begin construction of a sawmill business. They became well known in Sumter County as the owners/operators of the successful Smith’s Sawmill that spanned nineteen years. Sid was a true “jack of all trades.” He also acquired his construction license and built several residences and apartment complexes in Sumter County. He was an active member of Wahoo Baptist Church serving in the choir and as a Sunday school teacher. He joined several church members on mission trips to Jamaica, Haiti, and the Holy Land to share, spread, and teach God’s Word. Sid was instrumental in the construction of the Wahoo Baptist Church Sunday School building and the parsonage by donating land, time, labor, and materials. In 1992, Sid and Linda sold the sawmill business and relocated to Citronelle, AL, with their teenage son, Sid, Jr. While in Citronelle, Sid became a master mechanic for Champion International Sawmill and continued his interest in construction by building and

managing thirty-six apartments. Sid's avocation was purchasing/selling properties in Alabama, ultimately landing on a 780 acre parcel on which Sid and Linda built their home and barn. Sid's barn stored his growing collection of machinery, tools, vehicles, heavy equipment, and countless other "valuable" items. Local and out of state visitors hunted on Sid's property. One patron, the band Rascall Flatts, became friends and invited Sid and Linda to join them backstage at their concerts. Over a span of 30 years, Sid would make a yearly trek to Idaho to hunt with his friends Billy, Joe, and Donnie Merritt, Tom and Luke Swain, Steve and Josh Davis, Dr. Serra, Sonny and Scrammy Hunt, Lane Purcell, Little Sid and many other friends. Another treasured antic would be to take his children in the front end loader for rides and eventually dump them (safely) at the ends. A favorite game was when he would capture all of the kids by pinning them under a leg or an arm while the rest would try and "rescue" their siblings. The kids always lost! Sid is survived by his wife of 48 years, Linda; his sister, Sue Cain; six children, Tamela Dinnell, Melissa Foster, Billy Bond, Sandra (Rick) Roehrick, Mike Bond, and Sid (Natalie) Smith, Jr.; twelve grandchildren, Tina, Hugh, Kiely, Will, Kylie, Bre, Allie, Erik, Emilee, William, Davis, and Lee (Rachel/Lee's mom); and many nieces and nephews. Many thanks to the love that the Wahoo Haven Apartment tenants have shown to Sid throughout the years. Special thanks to Ronnie Hunt, Gwen Godwin, Shane Stringer, Danna & Mark Tapia, Wendell & Dawn Connell, Gale Carter, Gail Lovett, Jackie, and many other family and friends in both Alabama and Florida for continued kindness, caring, and support. Much appreciation is expressed to the friends and families of Wahoo Baptist Church for arranging and organizing Sid's Celebration of Life. Services will be held June 26th at Wahoo Baptist Church, Sumter County, at 2:00 PM.

Tribute Wall

KB

“ One of my favorite memories is all of us cousins riding in the back of his truck all around Fannie Smith’s property

Kim Braselton - June 18, 2021 at 10:20 AM

MR

“ My favorite memory of Sid were the summers we spent snorkel diving for mullet at Aripeka,FL and the wonderful smoked mullet we had for supper on Sundays.

The least favorite was Sid taking this city boy on a tour of his pasture in an old stripdown car with no top or fenders. He drove and I sat in the right seat. Pretty soon I realized he was aiming for the freshest cow plops with the right front tire which coated anything on that side of the vehicle light brown. He was a lovable guy and I treasure the times we spent together. Minus the pasture tour.

Merrill Ridgway
Charleston, SC

Merrill Ridgway - June 17, 2021 at 05:51 PM

NC

“ I remember so much about Mr. Sid. One that I like was when I would go outside I would go to the fence and watch them all work at the sawmill and Mr. Sid would always be out there helping the employees and talking with them. Also remember his sweet momma that we loved so dearly and her cookies. We had a cookout at big Sid and Mrs. Linda’s house one time and I can’t remember what I did but I did something and got a spanking haha God truly gained a wonderful man and he will forever be loved and missed. RIP Big Sid with love to Mrs. Linda and the family from Nina Clinard (Castilleja)

Nina Clinard - June 17, 2021 at 09:34 AM