



## Gregory Hamilton Smith

March 13, 1949 - January 3, 2024

Gregory H. Smith, age 74, of Delmar, DE, passed away on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, in his home with his wife, Joy, and son, Michael, by his side. Born in Salisbury, MD on March 13, 1949, he was the son of the late William H. and Betty Jo Smith.

He was a 1967 graduate of Wicomico Senior High School. After high school he worked at Duponts in Seaford, DE and served as a volunteer at Pittsville Volunteer Fire Department.

Greg was always good with his hands and could fix anything working as an electrician, plumber and builder in Ocean City, MD. For many years, he worked at Railroad Ironcrafts with his good friend, Page Pully. After volunteering at Pittsville for nine years, he became a professional career fire fighter with the Salisbury Fire Department in 1979 at the "old age" of 30, and became an EMT in 1981. Greg enjoyed his service to the fire department where he was promoted through the years from Lieutenant to Captain and represented the rank and file for 20 of his 25 years as a Liaison from the Fire Department to the Mayor and Council. He took pride in his role in organizing many training seminars for the department. Firefighters came from all over the East Coast for this training which became a catalyst in creating life-long friendships. He was honored to be a member of the Salisbury Fire Department's Twenty-Year Club. He was also inducted into the Fireman's Historical Foundation of Delmarva's Hall of Fame in 2003. His most cherished honors were his life saving service award bars which he received over the

years for saving lives in the line of duty. After retiring from the fire department in 2004, Greg worked at Holloway Funeral Home for 15 years where his compassion and kindness was a blessing to many.

Greg's service to the community was not just in the workplace. He became the President of the Firemen's Historical Foundation of Delmarva, Inc in 1986. He would work tirelessly with many volunteers hosting what would become the foundation's annual Fireman's Muster. This was a cherished event for many attracting even fire fighters from France and Costa Rica. He also led the foundation's annual Hall of Fame ceremonies for over 20 years which honored the men and women of the fire service on the Delmarva Peninsula. Greg also served on the Delmar, DE Town Council for twelve years where he enjoyed serving his community. Greg and his wife, Joy, became members of St. Stephen's Church in 2011. They created the Community Love Light Tree which honors the life of a loved one.

Greg's hobbies were many. He enjoyed his time riding his Harley with the Red Knights. He was an avid photographer; publishing many photos and stories in fire related magazines. In 2001, he acquired two fire engines: 1969 B Model Mack and the famous Salisbury FD Engine 210. He had a blast taking children on rides on the fire trucks and participated in many parades. He was a model train enthusiast and woodworker.

Surviving is his loving wife of 38 years, Joy Hubeny Smith, whom he married November 1, 1986; a son, Michael S. Smith (Melissa) of Westover, MD; a step-son, John R. Swartz, Jr, (Christine) of Lafayette, CO; a granddaughter, Desirae Dize (Jason); and three grandsons, Alan-Michael Smith, Max Swartz and Zakk Swartz; one great-granddaughter, Brynley Dize; and brother. Timothy (Vivian) Smith of Salisbury, MD; 2 sisters, Lisa Parker (Jeff) of Hampstead, MD and Teresa Beauchamp of Parsonsburg, MD; and many cousins, nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Greg was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, William "Bill" Beauchamp.

A Celebration of Greg's Life will be held at 1:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's

Methodist Church, 101 E. State Street, Delmar, DE on Saturday, January 13, 2024, where a visitation will be from 12 pm to 1 pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his name to St. Stephen's Methodist Church, 101 E. State Street, Delmar, DE 19940.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.shortfh.com](http://www.shortfh.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 13. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Stephen's Methodist Church  
101 E. State Street  
Delmar, DE

## Celebration of Life

JAN 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Stephen's Methodist Church  
101 E. State Street  
Delmar, DE

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ Joy and family,  
Heartfelt condolences go out to you in  
the loss of Greg. He certainly leaves behind so many wonderful  
memories. The fire department years we all enjoyed together will  
never be forgotten. So very thankful we all shared such a beautiful  
history. Precious memories. Hugs❤️  
Bob n Linda McCrorey

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Linda McCrorey - January 13, 2024 at 07:35 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Gregory Hamilton Smith.



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January 11, 2024 at 04:38 PM

PT

“ I have known Greg since high school though I graduated in 69 with  
Joy..Greg was the same whenever I saw and talked to him..he had  
same personality..I knew he was in Fire Department cause so his  
my daughters husband and my grandkids on Chincoteague .one  
thing I learned The Fire Department is one Large Family. Greg was  
a great rep from any fire Department...His smile was always there  
and it will be missed..

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patti tiff - January 11, 2024 at 04:26 PM

RT

“ *BLACK NEW YEAR FOR THE FRENCH FIREFIGHTERS..... It's with a big sadness that we have received in France the bad news of Greg disappearance..... Thanks Greg my good friend for your friendship...It was a great Honor for us to know you, to be with you and Joy during our different visits..... RIP Greg... You will miss us...*



*Deepest condolences to Joy, all the families, FF brothers and friends... Despite the distance we are with you..!!*

*Richard TENDERO 🥲*

*(On behalf of all my FF brothers from Essonne County FD - FRANCE and members of the 1995 French team...)*



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**Richard TENDERO** - January 11, 2024 at 11:39 AM



“ *118 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Short Funeral Home** - January 11, 2024 at 11:20 AM

DD

“ Greg was a wonderful man and he will be missed by everyone! I always seen Greg smiling and he was very kind to everyone. We kept in contact over the years in person and on fb. My thoughts and Prayers go out to Joy and all the family and I'm so sorry for your loss! I remember all the fun times when we were doing things with the Salisbury FD especially when it was muester time at the Salisbury city park. RIP Greg you'll be remembered everyday. Thank you for just being you. Debbie Elliott DiCosmo



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**Debbie Elliott DiCosmo** - January 11, 2024 at 07:02 AM

VL

“ Vicki Long sent a virtual gift in memory of Gregory Smith



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**Vicki Long** - January 09, 2024 at 10:04 AM

SC

“ I went to school with Greg. He was always so nice and kind. The last time I saw him was about 2 years ago at Lab Corp. on Naylor Mill rd. Rest in Peace my friend. Sending prayers to your family.

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**Sharon Pusey Conway** - January 08, 2024 at 07:28 PM

SC

“ Sharon Conway lit a candle in memory of Gregory Smith



Sharon Pusey Conway - January 08, 2024 at 07:24 PM

GR

“ Gwen Rodney lit a candle in memory of Gregory Smith



Gwen & Rodney - January 08, 2024 at 08:46 AM

GH

“ Gary Shirley Harrison lit a candle in memory of Gregory Smith



Gary & Shirley Harrison - January 06, 2024 at 08:22 PM

BB

“ B Brittingham sent a virtual gift in memory of Gregory Smith



B Brittingham - January 06, 2024 at 12:56 PM

JS

“ Jeanette Sheffield sent a virtual gift in memory of Gregory Smith



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**Jeanette Sheffield** - January 06, 2024 at 12:51 PM

TH

“ GREG HELPED ME OUT ABOUT 30 YEARS AGO AND I GOT TO KNOW HIM THRU THIS AND WE REMAINED FRIENDS, HE WAS KIND , WITTY AND JUST A GREAT MAN AND WOULD HELP ANYONE. OUR PATHS CHANGED AS WE GOT OLDER BUT WHEN I WOULD SEE HIM OUT I ALWAYS GOT A HUG AND THAT GREAT SMILE AND THEN WE FOUND EACHOTHER ON FB AND THIS IS HOW I LEARNED HE PASSED..SAD BEYOND WORDS. MANY PRAYERS TO HIS FAMILY AND ALL HIS FRIENDS. GREG WAS A HERO

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**TRACY HEATH** - January 06, 2024 at 11:39 AM

DB

“ Joy so sorry to hear of Greg's passing. He also treated Craig & I fairly when we did the towing for SFD back in the day.  
*Dawn Bower*

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**Dawn Bower** - January 05, 2024 at 12:47 PM

BA

“ Our most sincere condolences to Joy and family in the passing of Greg. Always enjoyed working with Greg whenever the situation arose while we both worked for SFD.  
*Bryan & Twila Adkins*

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**Bryan Adkins** - January 05, 2024 at 09:53 AM