



## Larry Richard Smith

March 31, 1943 - May 26, 2026

Larry Richard Smith  
Liberty, South Carolina

Larry Richard Smith, beloved husband, father, grandfather, teacher, and friend, passed away peacefully on May 26, 2026, at the age of 83. Born on March 31, 1943, in the picturesque town of Asheville, North Carolina, Larry was a beacon of wisdom and kindness, touching countless lives with his warmth and generosity.

The son of Charlie McKinley Smith and Margaret Elizabeth Smith, Larry grew up in a home filled with love and strong values. He was predeceased by his parents and his dear sister, Charlene Towe, whose memories he cherished deeply.

Larry's journey was marked by a profound dedication to education and service. After earning a Bachelor of Arts in History from Appalachian State University, he further pursued his passion with a Master's degree in History from Furman University. His commitment to knowledge and teaching led him to a fulfilling career as a History teacher at Gettys Middle School in Easley, South Carolina, where he inspired generations of students with his enthusiasm for history and learning.

In addition to his commitment to education, Larry proudly served his country in the U.S. Army, retiring with the esteemed rank of Master Sergeant. His service earned him the National Defense Service Medal, President's Hundred TAB, and Expert Marksmanship Badge for Rifle and Pistol, honors that reflected his dedication, skill, and leadership.

On June 6, 1986, Larry married the love of his life, Elaine McCarty, in Stringer, Mississippi. Together, they shared 39 wonderful years filled with love, laughter, and cherished memories. Their partnership was a testament to their unwavering love and commitment, raising three remarkable children—Melanie Wiser (Jon) of Hattiesburg, MS, Barrett Smith (Molly) of Poolesville, MD, and Michelle O'Dea (Larry) of Easley, SC—who carry forward their father's legacy of love and integrity.

Larry was a proud grandfather to nine beautiful grandchildren: Rebekah Anne, Ethan, and Sophia Wiser; Evan, Asher, and Brayden Smith; and Patrick, Abbie, and Carter O'Dea. His eyes would light up with joy whenever he spoke of them, and he treasured every moment spent with his beloved grandchildren.

Beyond his professional and familial commitments, Larry was an avid outdoorsman. He found solace and joy amidst the beauty of nature, whether navigating mountain trails, spending quiet seasons in a deer stand, or perfecting his aim at the shooting range. His passion for the outdoors extended to his work as the owner of Foothills Firearms, where he taught Concealed Carry classes, emphasizing the importance of conservation, firearm safety, and the joy of a quiet morning hike.

A devoted member of the Liberty First Baptist Church in Liberty, SC, Larry found great joy in teaching Sunday School, where he shared his love for reading and his sharp intellect with his community.

Larry's life will be celebrated at a service on June 2, 2026, at 1:00 PM at the Dolly Copper Veterans Cemetery, located at 140 Inway Drive, Anderson, SC 29621. His family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and staff at Prisma Greenville Hospital System for their loving and compassionate care during his final days.

Larry Richard Smith leaves behind a legacy of love, service, and dedication. His memory will forever live on in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know him. As we say goodbye, we honor a life well-lived, a man deeply loved, and a spirit that will forever guide us.

Mountain View Funeral Home is honored to serve the Smith family.

# Cemetery Details

## M. J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery

140 Inway Drive  
Anderson, SC 29621

# Upcoming Events

## Burial

JUN 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery  
140 Inway Dr  
Anderson, SC 29621  
(864) 332-8022