



Rafala "Ralph" Smith

October 24, 1939 - July 6, 2025

July 6, 2025 of West Seneca, NY.

Beloved husband of 66 years to Carol (nee Tesmer); loving father of Ralph (Lisa), Jeffrey (Debbie), Lisa (Tom) Bykowski, Tricia (Donald) Fortmann, and Scott (Jodi); cherished grandfather of twelve grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; devoted brother of Jerome (Rosemarie), Ronald (Kathy), Marion (late Donald) Saunders, and Patricia Brylski; predeceased by siblings, Mildred, Joyce, Raymond, Edward, Donald, Eleanor, Freida, Robert, David, and Janice; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Ralph retired after 37 years as a truck driver with Darling International. He enjoyed playing softball, polka dancing, and being a jokester. Ralph was known as always putting a smile on your face. The family will be present to receive relatives and friends on Wednesday July 9th from 2-7PM at the DANIEL R. SMOLAREK FUNERAL HOME, 2510 Union Rd., Cheektowaga (two blocks south of William St.). A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday at 9:30AM in Fourteen Holy Helpers Church, 1350 Indian Church Rd., West Seneca (corner of Union Rd). Please assemble at church. Interment in St John the Baptist Cemetery, Alden. Flowers gratefully declined. Donations may be made in Ralph's name to the Roswell Park Alliance Foundation. Please leave condolences online at www.SmolarekCares.com

Cemetery Details

St. John's Cemetery

2021 Sandridge Rd
Alden, NY 14004

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 9. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (est)

Daniel R. Smolarek Funeral Home - Cheektowaga
2510 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 10. 9:30 AM (est)

Fourteen Holy Helpers Church
1350 Indian Church Rd.
West Seneca, NY 14224
<http://fourteenholymhelpers.org/>

Please Assemble at Church

Tribute Wall

ML

“ Deepest sympathies for the entire family. I have many fond memories of your dad always making everyone laugh. He will be missed by all. Much love.
Matt, Lori and Marecla.

matt and lori - July 09, 2025 at 11:44 AM

TF

“ The Kay & Eschenbaum Families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rafala "Ralph" Smith.



The Kay & Eschenbaum Families - July 08, 2025 at 05:50 PM

TF

“ The Kay & Eschenbaum Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rafala "Ralph" Smith.

The Kay & Eschenbaum Families - July 08, 2025 at 05:50 PM

JC

“ John & Christine Canonico purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Rafala "Ralph" Smith.



John & Christine Canonico - July 08, 2025 at 11:24 AM

SD

“ Deepest sympathies to Aunt Carol and family in the loss of Uncle Ralph. He was truly a unique person with his humorous personality always putting a smile on my face whenever I saw him. He will be missed. Know that you are all in my thoughts during this difficult time. ❤️ Sherri Doherty

Sherri Doherty - July 08, 2025 at 10:40 AM

DN

“ RIP Uncle Ralph ☐ I have so many memories to cherish.



Debra Broncato niece - July 08, 2025 at 09:47 AM

BS

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to my Aunt Carol and cousins Ralph, Jeff, Lisa, Tricia, and Scott. Uncle Ralph will be missed but never forgotten. Every time I saw him he always put a smile on my face with his corny jokes lol.

Barbara Sopko - July 07, 2025 at 08:00 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rafala "Ralph" Smith.



July 07, 2025 at 04:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rafala "Ralph" Smith.

July 07, 2025 at 04:49 PM