



Richard F. Smith

October 1, 1929 - February 24, 2017

SMITH, Richard F. "Smitty" – February 24, 2017; beloved husband of Anne Smith; dearest father of Linda (Frank) Slawek, Karen, Wendy, Sandy Damasiewicz, Diane (Don) Steiman, Maureen and Darcie; cherished grandfather of 13 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren; brother of Beverly Phillips; also survived by his devoted friend aka "adopted daughter" Marianne Hipkiss and his casino pal T.J. Quinn. The family will be present to receive relatives and friends on Friday from 6-8PM and Saturday from 1-3 & 6-8PM at the DANIEL R. SMOLAREK FUNERAL HOME 2510 Union Rd., Cheektowaga (2 blocks south of William Street) where a funeral service will be held Sunday at 10AM. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Smitty's name to WNY Baseball Hall of Fame, in care of Bob Miske, 538 Capen Blvd. Buffalo, NY 14226. Smitty owned and ran the largest WNY photography business, Sloan Photo Studio, for 50 years. He formed the Sloan Variety Club Telethon in 1966 and hosted it for 24 years. Smitty also formed and managed the Sloan Bruins, who won the National Championship in 1970 and was inducted into the WNY Baseball Hall of Fame in 1999. In 1986 he was voted man of the year. Leave condolences and share memories at SmolarekCares.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 3. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Daniel R. Smolarek Funeral Home - Cheektowaga
2510 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
(716) 668-3122
<https://smolarekfh.com/>

Visitation

MAR 4. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Daniel R. Smolarek Funeral Home - Cheektowaga
2510 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
(716) 668-3122
<https://smolarekfh.com/>

Visitation

MAR 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Daniel R. Smolarek Funeral Home - Cheektowaga
2510 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
(716) 668-3122
<https://smolarekfh.com/>

Prayer Service

MAR 5. 10:00 AM (ET)

Daniel R. Smolarek Funeral Home - Cheektowaga
2510 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
(716) 668-3122
<https://smolarekfh.com/>

Tribute Wall

DD

“ I am so sorry to hear of "Smittys" passing. He was such a great man that was loved by all. I will always remember his quick wit and funny things he would say. he was very opinionated and told it like it was, didn't care if you disagreed or not. 1 of the many things I loved about him!! I will miss his smiling face at JJ"s!! R.I.P. dear "Smitty", love, Darlene DiPasquale



Darlene DiPasquale - March 03, 2017 at 04:11 PM

JS

“ I worked for Smitty for over 20 years. He was a great friend and a good man. I will always remember talking baseball, politics, and then more baseball and politics. I would always challenge him with questions and he was quick to reply in his own way with an answer that always made sense. He had a big heart and loved his work and people. If you were good to him, he was good to you. His rough edges made him a unique man, never shy about expressing his opinion. Those of you that knew him will remember that he ALWAYS had an opinion. I'm sure he's up there putting together a great Yankee team to play ball this summer and you can bet he will win. Say hello to Mickey, Yogi, Scooter, Thurman, Roger, Joe D, The Babe, Lou and, of course, George. Tell him Smitty is here and there is a new Boss in Heaven. I will miss you Smitty.
-Joe Saccomanno

Joe Saccomanno - March 01, 2017 at 09:43 AM