



## William Gerald “Jerry” Smith

August 15, 1942 - January 30, 2024

Mr. William Gerald “Jerry” Smith age 81, passed away on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at Wake Medical Center in Raleigh, NC.

Jerry was born on August 15, 1942 in Wilson County, NC to the late Ivey Graham & Katie Jones Smith. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sheri Smith Eubanks; a grandson, Zachary Keith Eubanks; & a brother, Bob Smith.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Linda Andrews Smith; children, Jerri Lynn S. McLamb & husband, Travis of Coats, William Gerald “Bill” Smith, Jr. & wife, Jennifer of Raleigh; grandchildren, Leanne Eubanks Cooper & husband, Mitch, Brett Thomas McLamb & wife, Sydney, Parker William Smith, Hillary Batchelor Smith, Blair Francis Smith; great-grandchildren, Bobbi Leigh & J.D. Cooper; brother, Jimmy Smith & wife, Connie of Farmville; several nieces & nephews.

Jerry graduated from Campbell College in 1964 & began his career as a coach & an educator that same year at Dunn High School. After three years in Dunn, Smith became the Head Basketball Coach at Bertie High School in Windsor. He had a very successful 10 year run at Bertie & won the NC High School 3A Championship in 1970. In 1977, Jerry was hired as the Head Basketball Coach at Chowan College. He guided Chowan to three straight 20 win seasons before returning to his alma mater as the Assistant Basketball Coach in 1980. Over the next five years Jerry also served Campbell as the Assistant Athletic Director, Head Men’s Golf Coach, & was the Head Basketball Coach for two years.

In the fall of 1985, Jerry returned to his career in high school administration as the Assistant Principal at South Johnston High School. Over the next 23 years Smith touched the lives of thousands of North Carolina teenagers, serving as the Principal of Louisburg High School (1990-1993), Greene Central High School (1993-1996) & finishing his career at Clayton High School (1996-2008). Jerry received numerous honors throughout his career including multiple Principal of the Year awards. When he retired in 2008, Jerry received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award from Governor Mike Easley. This is the highest honor awarded from the Governor & is reserved for people who have made significant contributions to the state & their communities through their exemplary service & exceptional accomplishments.

Jerry introduced the following code in all the high schools where he was principal. The code is well known & still used today.

- BE – Be where you are supposed to be, when you are supposed to be,
- DO – Do what you are supposed to do the way you are supposed to do it,
- SAY – Say what you are supposed to say when you are supposed to say it,
- RESPECT – Have respect for yourself and other people, their rights and property.

The family appreciates your thoughts & prayers.

Donations may be made to: Memorial Baptist Church, P.O. Box 485, Buies Creek, NC 27506.

*Arrangements by Rose & Graham Funeral Home in Benson, NC.*



**MEMORIAL  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

*A Service of Worship  
Celebrating the Grace of God  
and Remembering the Life of*

**William Gerald “Jerry” Smith**

February 10, 2024  
One O’clock in the Afternoon

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

William Gerald “Jerry” Smith

August 15, 1942 – January 30, 2024

February 10, 2024  
One O'clock in the Afternoon

Memorial Baptist Church  
Buies Creek, North Carolina

PRELUDE Dr. Morrow

† ENTRANCE OF THE FAMILY

CALL TO WORSHIP

John 11: 25-26 – I am the resurrection and the Life.

Job 19: 25-27 – I know that my Redeemer lives.

Romans 14: 7-8 – Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

WELCOME and INVOCATION

SONG FOR MEDITATION *Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus* Helen H. Lemmel  
Recording by Alan Jackson

FROM THE PSALTER

Psalms 23 – The Lord is my shepherd.

Hymnal, No. 1 (*in unison*)

Psalms 90 – Teach us to number our days.

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE Bill Smith, son, and others

SONG FOR REFLECTION Joseph Scriven and Charles C. Converse  
*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*  
Recording by Alan Jackson

MESSAGE OF HOPE AND PROMISE

Isaiah 40: 28-31 – Wings as eagles, run and not be weary, walk and not faint.

Matthew 25: 21 – Well done, good and faithful servant.

Romans 8: 31-39 – What shall separate us from the love of Christ?

SONG OF FAITH Elisha A. Hoffman and Anthony J. Showalter  
*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*  
Recording by Alan Jackson

BENEDICTION and DISMISSAL

† RECESSIONAL Dr. Morrow

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

## LEADING IN WORSHIP

The Rev. A. Edward Beddingfield, Jr., *Pastor*  
William Gerald Smith, Jr., *Jerry's son*  
Dr. Phillip Morrow, Minister of Music, *Pianist*  
Wayne Smith, *Sound Technician*

## PALLBEARERS

Jim Crannell Bob Easley Gary Fowler  
Mark West Ray Womble, Jr. Joe Wynns

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## A Prayer For Coach Jerry Smith

Joe Jenkins

Now, our loved one's life is over  
and his time on earth is done.  
Please take him, Lord, we ask you  
to your home beyond the sun.

Where the days are never-ending,  
and the streets are paved with gold.  
Pray take him to your bosom, Lord,  
and there please tightly hold.

And help us live, Lord, in such a way  
that when our days are done,  
we will meet our loved one, once again,  
in your world beyond the sun.