



## Steven R. Smith

May 5, 1950 - August 23, 2019

Steven R. Smith, age 69, of Millville, died on Friday morning, August 23, 2019, surrounded by his family at his home of 44 years in Eysers Grove, and under the care of Geisinger Home Hospice.

Steve was born on Friday, May 5, 1950 in Danville, Pennsylvania, a son of the late Maynard "Mick" E. and Phyllis P. (Parker) Smith. Throughout his younger years, he attended Millville area schools, and graduated from Millville High School in 1968. Steve expanded his education by attending Bloomsburg University, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in mathematics in 1972.

On August 16, 1975, Steve married his loving wife, Phyllis (Muth) Smith. For over 36 years, Steve taught math at Danville High School until his retirement in 2008. For many years, he served as the chair of the Math Department. As a teacher, Steve shared his passion and love for learning with his students, and his impact extended beyond his time with them in the classroom.

Steve was devoted in his faith and love for Jesus Christ. He shared that love with his family, his church and his friends. As a member of the Mill Green United Methodist Church in Millville, he and his wife served as Communion Stewards for many years. Steve also chaired the Finance Committee, served as a Trustee and taught Sunday School for over 40 years. He was active in his local community, by serving as secretary of the Millville Lions Club and also on the operations committee at Camp Victory. He was an instrumental part of re building and re opening the Millville pool in 1995, also known as the Little Fishing Creek Area Swimming Pool.

Survivors include his beloved wife of 44 years, Phyllis, of Millville; a daughter, Taryn Verstraeten and husband, Matthew of Benton; a son, Brent Smith and wife, Mindy, of Dillsburg; and a daughter, Brynn Clark and husband, Ben, of Millville; four grandsons: Parker Clark, Isaiah Verstraeten, Kiptyn Smith, and Micah Clark and three granddaughters: Kendi Smith, Hope Clark, and Aleta Verstraeten, and also by his brother, Doug Smith and wife, Susan, of Eysers Grove.

A time of Visitation for family and friends will be held on Friday evening, August 30, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Mill Green United Methodist Church, 75 S. State Street in Millville.

Funeral Services will begin on Saturday morning, August 31, at 10:00 am at the Mill Green United Methodist Church, Millville with his pastor, Rev. Robert W. Strozyk, officiating.

Graveside committal services will immediately follow in the Millville Cemetery.

The Allen Funeral Home, Inc., 107 W. Main at Railroad Streets in Millville is honored to be serving the Smith family. Memorial contributions in Steven's name are suggested to the Mill Green United Methodist Church, 75 S. State Street Millville, PA 17846 or Geisinger Home Hospice 410 Glenn Ave, Suite 200, Bloomsburg, PA 17815.

Cemetery

Events

Millville Cemetery Main Street Millville, PA, 17846	AUG 30	Public Visitation	05:00PM - 07:00PM
		Mill-Green United Methodist Church 75 S. State Street P.O. Box 470, Millville, PA, US, 17846	
	AUG 31	Funeral Ceremony	10:00AM
		Mill-Green United Methodist Church 75 S. State Street P.O. Box 470, Millville, PA, US, 17846	

# Comments

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“ Dear Phyllis and Family, I am deeply saddened to learn of Steve's passing. We were classmates at Millville High School, and I enjoyed catching up with him at our 50th class reunion last year. My husband and I are in Spain and, for that reason, were unable to attend his visitation. Steve was a fine man and a loving husband and father. I hope that the love and the wonderful memories you share will comfort you in the coming days.

Sincerely, Alice Poust

**Alice Poust** - September 03, 2019 at 02:15 AM

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“ So sorry for your loss. Linda Parker Bafile. I just saw him in Feb. at my bother Chris's viewing. Please accept my apologies for not attending the service. My bother Carl is in the hospital and I spent Friday at the hospital. Prayers for the family.

**Linda Bafile** - August 31, 2019 at 07:42 AM

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“ Mr. Smith was not my teacher when I was in Jr. High, but I do recall that while my Mother was in LPN Nursing School, he did tutor her in our home as she was struggling with some of her math studies. A very kind soul indeed. My sympathies to his families.

Laura Buck - Martz

**Laura Martz** - August 30, 2019 at 03:55 PM

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“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Steven R. Smith.



August 29, 2019 at 02:25 PM

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“ Much love, Phil and Suzanne Goerger purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Steven R. Smith.



**Much love, Phil and Suzanne Goerger** - August 29, 2019 at 12:30 PM

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“ Dear Smith Family,  
Our sincere condolences to all of you. Taryn--I'm so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. Prayers for peace and comfort during this difficult time. Sincerely, Brenda & Dan Pitonyak and family

**Brenda Pitonyak** - August 28, 2019 at 10:23 AM

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“ My condolences to the Smith family. Mr. Smith was an extraordinary and gifted teacher. I have many special memories of him, my dad and junior high teaching staff.

**danielle f** - August 27, 2019 at 07:43 PM

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“ I remember Mr. Steven Smith well from my last year in high school. He was a pleasant teacher to be around and he could remember teaching my siblings as far back as 10 years before me when I first got to know him. Mr. Smith did an excellent job preparing anyone interested in STEM education. He knew how to elicit a sense of interest and awe with mathematics in addition to getting students to learn how to do it right. I think the obituary captures his influence well with “his impact extended beyond his time with them in the classroom”. I'm lucky to have had him as a teacher in my early life. - J McDonald, Class of 2003.

**Joseph McDonald** - August 27, 2019 at 05:02 PM

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“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Steven R. Smith.



August 27, 2019 at 04:34 PM

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“ I was so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Smith. He will be greatly missed. I had the privilege of learning from Mr. Smith for three years of math instruction, algebra I and II and calculus. As I continued my math education in college, it was quite noticeable that my algebra and calculus instruction had been of the highest quality. To this day, I often reflect on how much of those subjects I remember compared to other areas of math. Even more importantly than the specifics of these subjects though, I remember the joy that Mr. Smith shared for math. I can still remember him describing calculus as “beautiful” and thinking that I had not heard it characterized that way before, but that he was right! I read math books for fun as an adult, and I think the joy I see in math goes back to Mr. Smith. Last but not least, as others have commented, his gentle spirit served as such a wonderful model for his many students. His legacy of a love of math and gentle guiding spirit reaches far and wide. May he Rest In Peace and May his family find peace and comfort during this sad time.

**Sarah Evans** - August 27, 2019 at 02:01 PM

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“ Steve is my buddy from Greenwood Elementary and Millville High School, baseball, soccer, and basketball. I will miss you more than I know. You were a huge part of my childhood. Phillips I am praying for you and your family.

**George Shoemaker** - August 26, 2019 at 07:04 PM

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“ George and Judy Shoemaker purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Steven R. Smith.



George and Judy Shoemaker - August 26, 2019 at 06:57 PM

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“ 25 files added to the album LifeTributes



Allen Funeral Home, Inc. - August 26, 2019 at 10:44 AM

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“ I was so sorry to hear of Steve's passing. I will always remember him as a very caring person and as a great mentor and coach. Steve, was the assistant to the Danville varsity basketball team my senior year, 1975/76 under Head Coach Maier. He was always at practice to work to make us better both as a team and individually. His most important role, however was that of a scout. He would always go to see the next team we were going to play and obtain the scouting report on that team. Coach Maier began calling him "Tonto", and name that I always thought about when I would see Steve. He will be missed, my families prayers are with you. Scot Long

Scot Long - August 26, 2019 at 09:43 AM

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“ Sending sincere condolences to you and your family, Phyllis. I remember when Steve worked that one year at camp. My thoughts are with you.

Sincerely,  
Barbare Blakeslee

Barbara Blakeslee - August 26, 2019 at 09:24 AM

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“ Phyllis, Bob and I send you and your family our heartfelt condolences. I pray that your wonderful memories and support of family will give you comfort during the days ahead. He has made a difference in so many lives as evident in the tributes.  
Love, Bob & Barbara Sorg

**Barbara Sorg** - August 26, 2019 at 08:20 AM

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“ Mr. Smith was an exemplary calculus teacher and was unconditionally patient with those students who would have frustrated a lesser educator. I am doubtful that any of his pupils who went on to head their own classrooms failed to model (at least in part) their learning environments after his. Those of us who came through DHS during his service were well-prepared for whatever came next, and I will forever be grateful for his role in my formative education. Class of '98

**jake stroh** - August 25, 2019 at 06:59 PM

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“ I have very fond memories of Mr. Smith as our jr hi girls basketball coach at Millville when Taryn and I were in 8th grade. He was caring, patient and not easily angered despite having a team of pubescent girls. He was a good man who will be greatly missed.

**Amber Reese Savidge** - August 25, 2019 at 05:04 PM

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“ Mr. Smith is one of the reasons I am a math teacher today! I'll never forget his calculus class. It clearly made a lasting impression on me and so many others fortunate enough to learn from him!

**Carrie Mensch Recla** - August 25, 2019 at 04:52 PM

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“ Mr. Smith set the bar by which I compared all teachers throughout my academic career. His devotion to education and his students was beyond reproach. He inspired curiosity, kindness, and empathy among anyone lucky enough to be in his presence.

Deepest condolences,  
John Claus

John Claus - August 25, 2019 at 02:42 PM

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“ I didn't care for many teacher's but Mr Smith had my respect .put me in my place when I needed it and praised me when I earned it.mr Smith was a real teacher he would do what ever it took to help you understand and made math fun to this day I love math and tell my kids it is the most important class they will take.mr Smith will be truly missed not only as a teacher but a great man that gave a shit very sorry for his loss to his kids and wife that he would always talk about in class

Josh Wolfgang - August 25, 2019 at 01:39 PM

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“ Mr. Smith was one of the kindest, most extraordinary teachers. He brought AP Calculus to life. I still remember his example of WalMart figuring out how many snow shovels to sell using calculus. I loved his classes and his warmth. He was one of my favorite teachers.

With sympathy,  
Hope Carlson Chen

Hope Carlson Chen - August 25, 2019 at 01:27 PM

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“ The Hilner family (Paul, Salome, Rick and Rod) purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Steven R. Smith.



The Hilner family (Paul, Salome, Rick and Rod) - August 25, 2019 at 01:02 PM

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“ I had Mr. Smith for math and homeroom in 7th grade. It was the first year that the F. W. Diehl school was open. I had him again in 9th grade for Algebra 1. He was a great teacher. He helped me through a difficult time during my 7th grade year and I will never forget that. My deepest condolences to his family. Sincerely, Cindy St. Clair Deitrick

**Cindy (St. Clair) Deitrick** - August 25, 2019 at 10:47 AM

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“ Mr. Smith was a very wonderful man and awesome math teacher. He was not only kind but a very patient soul. God bless him and his family and rest easy knowing you will see him again someday.

**Fran Babich** - August 25, 2019 at 09:17 AM

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“ I still have great memories of my Algebra classes with Mr. Smith in Jr. High. Was a grate teacher and a man.

Dan Bassett

**DANIEL C BASSETT** - August 25, 2019 at 08:10 AM



“ Sorry 'Great and man'

**DANIEL C BASSETT** - August 25, 2019 at 06:05 PM

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“ Sending our condolences to all of you. Steve was such a kind and gentle man. I remember his sweet smile.

Judy Namey and family

**Judy Namey** - August 25, 2019 at 07:31 AM

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“ Sending out heartfelt prayers to family & friends. Mr. Smith was a wonderful teacher. From a grateful student. Class of “82”



**Christina Hauck** - August 25, 2019 at 07:16 AM

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“ Our sympathy to the Smith family. Thinking of all of you.  
Kim (Roadarmel) Robbins

**Kim Robbins** - August 24, 2019 at 10:49 PM

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“ Such an awesome math teacher. JR High in Danville with him was great.

**Nikki** - August 24, 2019 at 09:59 PM

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“ Becky Geiswite lit a candle in memory of Steven R. Smith



**Becky Geiswite** - August 24, 2019 at 09:37 PM

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“ one of my fav math teachers twice in high school wonderful man will be missed by all who has a pleasure to have and meet him my condolences with the family through this time prayers with u all

**Becky Geiswite** - August 24, 2019 at 09:36 PM



“ To the Smith family I am sorry to hear of your loss. You are all in my prayers. May you feel the comforting arms of the Lord holding you in this new season.

**Kasey A (Blue) Killmeyer** - August 24, 2019 at 09:11 PM

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“ I send my deepest sympathy to the Smith family. Mr Smith was such an inspiration in my life and the reason I became a HS math teacher myself. He was such an amazing teacher and taught me so much more than math. Class of '98

**Katie (Ryan) Whittemore** - August 24, 2019 at 09:02 PM

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“ I would like to send my sincere sympathy to the Smith family. Steve and I were friends since we played basketball against each other in the sixties. He was a good man. He always brought a smile to me whenever our paths crossed. RIP Steve.

**Bill Garrison** - August 24, 2019 at 07:31 PM

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“ Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Steven R. Smith.



August 24, 2019 at 07:22 PM