



Dexter Smith

June 20, 1927 - May 9, 2008

Dexter R. Smith, age 80 of Dayton died Friday at Parkridge Medical Center in Chattanooga. Dexter was born in Rhea Springs on June 20, 1927 the son of the late William Houston Smith and Minnie (Miller) Smith. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Hubert Smith and Paul Smith, sisters, Vergie Malone, Ruby Fugate, Joan Smith, son-in-law, Benjamin Powell and brother-in-law Dale Green.

Dexter lived all of his life in Rhea County where he was a member of First Baptist Church. Dexter retired after many years as a distribution manager for Kayser-Roth in Dayton.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Rita (Green) Smith, two daughters, Sharon (Roy) Rice and Marilyn Powell both of Dayton, grandchildren, Chris (Alyson) Rice, Kevin (Melissa) Powell, Amber (Tommy) Edgeman all of Dayton and Eric (Debbie) Rice of Harrison, 13 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandson, two sisters, Iva (William) Ellis and Faye Riggs both of Dayton, brother, Lester Smith of Bellevue, MI, brother-in-law, Berry (Mildred) Green of New Bern, NC, sister-in-law, Alene Smith Green of Sierra Vista, AZ, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Dexter will be held Monday afternoon at 2:00pm in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Milton Knox and Rev. Bill Ewing officiating.

Burial will be in Rhea Memory Gardens followed by a white dove release.

The family is being served by the Vanderwall Funeral Home in Dayton where they will receive friends Monday after 10:00am.

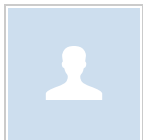
Please share your memories on Dexter's on-line guest register at www.vanderwallfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ Rita, Sharon, and Maryln, I am so sorry for the loss of your husband and father. Dexter and your family has always meant so much to me and was always there for me and my family in our time of need and loss. My prayers go out for you and your loss.##imported-begin##Daphne Wood##imported-end##

March 13, 2009 at 04:26 PM



“ Rita, you and Dexter were dating when I was five years old, married when I was six. I do not remember a time when he was not part of our family. He was much more of a brother than a brother-in-law to me. Others have said that he took time to teach them. He taught me many things too, some by showing me but more by just being Dexter and living his life as a tremendous example for me to see and attempt to follow. I loved him dearly and I will miss him until I have the joy of seeing him again. Until then, what great memories we have to cherish. We also know without doubt that he is now having the best family reunion that he has ever attended and that one day we will get to be part of it too. I love you sis.##imported-begin##Berry##imported-end##

May 15, 2008 at 08:41 AM



“ Aunt Rita, Sharon, & Marilyn - I have so many memories of the times I spent with both you and Uncle Dexter. As I spoke with people over the weekend, everyone had a story to tell about his kindness and giving nature. There were also many stories about his sense of humor and what a joy he was to be around. I always knew how special he was to me, but, it was quite evident that he was an inspiration and touched the lives of everyone that knew him. Mark didn't get to know him as well as he would have liked, but, he told me that he could see the Love that we all had for him and the Love that Uncle Dexter had for his family. We will truly miss him and we will continue to keep all of you in our prayers.##imported-begin##Beckie & Mark Bergeron##imported-end##

May 14, 2008 at 12:43 PM



“ Hi Aunt Rita ,
Sorry that I could not be there today but you and the family was in our prayers.

Love
Bob and Linda##imported-begin##Bob and Linda##imported-end##

May 12, 2008 at 05:49 PM



“ Rita, Marilyn and Sharon,

Just know that Dexter is no longer suffering. He is with our Lord and Savior and rejoicing greatly. We will always miss him here, but we know we will see him again in eternity. May God give you peace and comfort.

Love,

Mary##imported-begin##Mary Pendergrass##imported-end##

May 12, 2008 at 09:50 AM



“ Dear Rita,

You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. We are praying that God will comfort you and give you peace as only HE can during this time of grief. We can only imagine the joyous things Mr. Dexter is experiencing at this time - free of pain and sickness.##imported-begin##June and Jim Poole##imported-end##

May 12, 2008 at 08:48 AM



“ *I didn't get to know Dex as well as I would have liked. The few times we had together were always interesting, and we enjoyed his conversation. Rita, We'll miss him and our sincere condolences to all the family.##imported-begin##Lew and Judy Barger##imported-end##*

May 11, 2008 at 02:17 PM