



Drayton Lendell Smith Jr.

December 22, 1936 - August 31, 2025

Drayton Lendell Smith, Jr. 88, of Albemarle, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 31, 2025, at Spring Arbor. His funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 5, 2025 at Central United Methodist Church in Albemarle, with visitation to follow in the fellowship hall. Rev. Dr. David Blankenberg will officiate.

Born December 22, 1936, in Albemarle, NC, Lendell was the son of the late Drayton Lendell Smith Sr. and Ruby Smith. He graduated from North Carolina State with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and was a lifelong, passionate Wolfpack fan. Lendell served in the United States Army Reserve and was activated during the Berlin Crisis. Lendell worked his entire career for the City of Albemarle and retired as the Director of Public Works, where his leadership and high standards left a lasting impact on the community he loved. He was awarded the Samuel Greeley Award by the American Public Works Association for his long and faithful service with the City of Albemarle.

Lendell will be remembered by his family as a man of strong values and quiet strength. Family, friends and caregivers have described him as sweet, kind, and deeply appreciative. His grandchildren lovingly recalled him as always spending time with them.

Lendell had a lifelong passion for the outdoors, books, history, and sports, particularly tennis and golf. Yet, he also had a soft heart, cherishing his role as a husband, father, and grandfather above all else. His love for his church and his family was the foundation of his life. A devoted member of Central United Methodist Church, he lived a life grounded in faith, integrity, and service. He served Central United Methodist Church as Treasurer for many years, as Church Historian, as a member of the Administrative Board and in many other capacities. In addition he served a number of years on the Stanly County Historical Society Board. Lendell had a great love for all animals and in particular for his dogs.

Lendell is survived by his devoted wife of 62 years, Peggie Lisk Smith; two sons, David and wife Kecia of Albemarle, and Doug and wife Joy of Roswell, GA; and five beloved grandchildren, Drayton and wife Lauren, Sheldon, Savannah, Reid and Grant.

Those wishing to honor Lendell's memory may send memorials to Central United Methodist Church or Tillery Compassionate Care (Hospice)

Previous Events

Funeral Service

SEP **5**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Central United Methodist Church
172 N 2nd St
Albemarle, NC 28001

Tribute Wall

WS

“ *Sending Prayers for God's Comfort during this sad time 🙏💔*



W Jack Blankenship Sr - September 09, 2025 at 09:45 AM

BB

“ *Benny Don Bowers lit a candle in memory of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr.*



Benny Don Bowers - September 05, 2025 at 09:20 AM

BB

“ *David, so sorry to hear about the passing of your father. Deepest condolences.*
Benny Bowers

Benny Don Bowers - September 05, 2025 at 09:19 AM

EG

“ *Elliott. Gaddy lit a candle in memory of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr.*



Elliott. gaddy - September 04, 2025 at 03:19 PM

DF

“ *David And Hazel Frick lit a candle in memory of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr.*



David and Hazel Frick - September 03, 2025 at 10:40 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr..*



September 03, 2025 at 02:11 PM

JJ

“ *Jerry Thompson, Jr. lit a candle in memory of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr.*



Jerry Thompson, Jr. - September 03, 2025 at 01:40 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr..*

September 03, 2025 at 12:09 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr..*



September 03, 2025 at 12:09 PM



“ *David, I am so sorry to read of the passing of your father. Please accept my deepest condolences.*

Karen Lowder - September 02, 2025 at 08:02 PM



“ *Jenny Hatley lit a candle in memory of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr.*



Jenny Hatley - September 02, 2025 at 07:16 PM



“ *Sullivan Family purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of Drayton Lendell
Smith Jr..*



Sullivan Family - September 02, 2025 at 06:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr..

September 02, 2025 at 06:18 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr..



September 02, 2025 at 06:18 PM



“ Wade And Marian Mcswain lit a candle in memory of Drayton Lendell Smith Jr.



Wade and Marian Mcswain - September 02, 2025 at 02:46 PM