



William Dwight Smith

October 19, 1937 - June 7, 2025

W. Dwight Smith, 87, of Norwood, peacefully passed away at his home on Saturday, June 7, 2025.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, from 12:00 to 12:45 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Norwood. A funeral service, officiated by Pastor Kelly Crissman, will follow at 1:00 p.m. at the church. Burial will take place at Norview Gardens.

Born in Stanly County on October 19, 1937, Dwight was the son of the late Lenox and Georgia Smith. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Barbara K. Smith, in 2015, and his brother, Darrell Smith.

Dwight is lovingly survived by his children, Ardie Smith (Denise) of Norwood and Lynn Dender (Ray) of Charlotte; grandchildren, Will Chilton (Justine), Zach Smith (Megan), Amber Todys (Sam), and Carly Smith (Jacob Buchholz); great-grandchildren, RJ and Elias; and special friend Sandra Stone.

Dwight dedicated his life to public service and his community. He served as Mayor of Norwood from 1974 to 1984, followed by his tenure as Chairman of the Stanly County Commissioners from 1991-1995. From 1996 to 2015, he served as Norwood's Town Manager. He was a member of the prestigious North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine Society.

A lifelong entrepreneur, Dwight operated Smith Foods Store and several other local businesses. An avid outdoorsman, he served as a national judge for various field trial associations and contributed articles to national field trial magazines.

Dwight's faith was central to his life. He was an active member of First United Methodist Church Norwood, where he taught Sunday School and held numerous leadership positions. His love for his family and community was unwavering. He believed deeply in the importance of community involvement, humility, and service to others.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Samaritan Colony, 136 Samaritan Drive, Rockingham, NC 28379.

Stanly Funeral and Cremation Care of Albemarle is serving the Smith family.

Cemetery Details

Norview Gardens

949 Pee Dee Ave
Norwood, NC 28128

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 10. 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
208 Pee Dee Ave.
Norwood, NC 28128

Funeral Service

JUN 10. 1:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
208 Pee Dee Ave.
Norwood, NC 28128

Tribute Wall



“ *Stanly Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William Dwight Smith*



Stanly Funeral Home - June 11, 2025 at 08:37 AM

PL

“ *Paul Morris Lowder lit a candle in memory of William Dwight Smith*



Paul Morris Lowder - June 14, 2025 at 12:43 AM

GT

“ *Our deepest condolences to Lynn, Art and families. We have such fond memories of Dwight and Bobbi doing all the winters that we spent with them in Norwood. Over 20 great years. Always looked forward to seeing Dwight at Hoffman Field Trials! May he rest in Peace!*

George & Mary Tracy - June 11, 2025 at 06:34 PM

KE

“ I am so sorry to learn of Dwight's passing. He was a great friend to all that knew him. I remember very well the grocery store. The building will always be Smith's Grocery no matter what is there. May he RIP from his long days of labor.
Kathy Snuggs Edwards



Kathy S. Edwards - June 11, 2025 at 04:14 PM

MC

“ Our heartfelt condolences to the Smith family.
Mike and Nancy Campbell

Mike Campbell - June 09, 2025 at 06:31 PM

EW

“ Dwight will surely be missed around the Hoffman Field trial grounds. He was always so particular about the write ups if the field trials. Rest in peace. Prayers and condolences to his family. Gary and Ellen Winall

Ellen Winall - June 09, 2025 at 01:12 PM

NC

“ National Open Shooting Dog Championship purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of William Dwight Smith.



National Open Shooting Dog Championship - June 09, 2025 at 09:25 AM

DB

“ *David Lee Burris lit a candle in memory of William Dwight Smith*



David Lee Burris - June 09, 2025 at 12:35 AM

DB

Prayers for the family. God bless you!

David Lee Burris - June 09, 2025 at 12:40 AM

MC

“ I've known Dwight since I was big enough to walk to his family's store with my mother. Growing up, my father became disabled when I was eight and there was eight of us children, so times were hard for us after Dad's accident. Many times money would run out and so would supplies and even food, but we could always depend on Dwight's family to carry us through till Daddy's next check would come in. Also, on quite a few Christmases, Norwood First Methodist Church would bring boxes of not only clothing and other daily need items, but also they made sure all of us got toys and once I remember how excited we were to get a bicycle we could all share. I later learned that Dwight had a hand in all the church had done for us which I will always remember and always be so very grateful. I guess I was about 10 when I told Mom and Dad that I wanted to write the church a thank you letter. She said that would be a nice thing to do and that she would mail it for me if I wrote it in my own words. The next time I saw Dwight at the store, he told me that it was such a nice letter that it was posted on the church bulletin board for the whole church congregation to read. I was so proud. I guess what I am trying to say is that I will never forget how kind he always was to not only me, but my entire family. Because of his family's kindness, our family felt loved and supported. If I had to choose just one word to describe Dwight Smith, that word would be "kind". And the good Lord knows that we sure could use a whole heap more of that in this world. He will be sorely and truly missed.

Margaret Colson - June 08, 2025 at 09:51 PM

SI

“ He will surely be missed, member of the Bojangles morning gang.



Sidney - June 08, 2025 at 09:30 PM

DA

“ I will never forget working for Dwight at Smiths. He was an awesome man! Everyone he walked in the door he would come around and make him a banana sandwich but he ate it in a hotdog bun! Now that's the only way I'll eat mine. He my mom n dad was great friends and I'll also never forget him letting us fish at the pond where I caught me first 5lb bass! He will be missed by many. Love Danyelle Efirid-Wing

Danyelle - June 08, 2025 at 08:28 PM

EC

“ Edwin & Clara sent a virtual gift in memory of William Dwight Smith



Edwin & Clara - June 08, 2025 at 07:44 PM

DK

“ Dawn and Kevin purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William Dwight Smith.



Dawn and Kevin - June 08, 2025 at 06:10 PM

PM

“ Patricia Mabry lit a candle in memory of William Dwight Smith



Patricia Mabry - June 08, 2025 at 05:11 PM

DF

“ *David Fisher lit a candle in memory of William Dwight Smith*



David Fisher - June 08, 2025 at 03:19 PM

WS

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



W Jack Blankenship Sr - June 08, 2025 at 12:05 PM