



Charles Albert Smiley Jr.

November 1, 1935 - February 6, 2021

Rev. Charles Albert Smiley Jr., 85, of Wilmington, NC went to be with the Lord on Saturday, February 6, 2021. He was born in Danville, VA on November 1, 1935 to Charles A. Smiley Sr. and Nora Aaron Smiley.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his brothers Glen E. Smiley and Jimmy Smiley, and step-son Charles C. Bowen III.

Charlie graduated from VA Tech with a BA in Business and retired from E.I. Dupont. He served for the US Army and served God as a Presbyterian Minister. He played professional ball for 9.5 years for the Cleveland Indians and Baltimore Orioles. He loved to garden and tend to his beautiful tomatoes and collards. Charlie was a true patriot who loved "God and Country". Charlie loved his family, loved people and would have given you his shirt off his back if you needed one. Most importantly he loved the Lord. He has labored and served him faithfully, loving others and preaching the gospel of Jesus. Now he is in the Kingdom surrounded by angels, worshipping with his hands held high. God the Almighty has brought him to glory.

He is survived by his wife Elsie Smiley, son Steven L Smiley and wife Paula, sister Colleen Wright, brothers; Benjamin "Bennie" Smiley, Keith Smiley and wife Wendy, step-daughters; Mechelle Meier, Yolando Bond and husband Woody, nine grandchildren, eight great grandchildren.

A memorial graveside service will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 1:00 PM at Highland Burial Park with the Rev. Lurice Jones-Wilkes.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Chinquapin Presbyterian Church, Wounded Warriors, or DAV: Disabled American Veterans.

Wrenn-Yeatts North Main Chapel is serving the Smiley family.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR **20**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Highland Burial Park
3049 North Main Street
Danville, VA

Tribute Wall

JM

“Charlie Smiley was my friend and study partner for four years from 1962 to 1965 starting at the VPI branch in Danville. Charlie, Bobby Robinette and I started college later than most students. Charlie had been playing professional baseball, I had been in the Marine Corps, and Bobby had been in the Army. We were all learning how to study all over again and the VPI branch was difficult. In fact when we got to Blacksburg we found the classes less challenging than they had been in Danville. Our study approach involved developing questions to test each other. Charlie was a serious student and majored in accounting, clearly the most difficult major in the college of business. In Blacksburg we taught each other, celebrated our successes together, and suffered our setbacks together. We drank beer at the Golden Gobbler and some truck stop on the other end of town where they put tomato juice in the beer. You could not drink beer at a bar or restaurant in Blacksburg when we were there. There were no bars. Charlie and Bobby also served as baby-sitters for us on occasion and they were much appreciated. In 1965 we all went in different directions and lost touch with each other, but I will always remember Charlie, and I am very sad to hear about his death. I was surprised to read that he became a minister, but I'm sure I would have enjoyed one of Charlie's sermons. I suspect they included some unique mixture of biblical, baseball and accounting terminology.

James R. Martin

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James Martin - March 20, 2021 at 01:52 PM