



James Buford "JB" Smith Jr.

FEB 14, 1951 - OCT 14, 2025



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James Buford "JB" Smith Jr.

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We celebrate the beautiful life of JB Smith, Jr., a man who could turn a simple day into an adventure with a smile and a playful trick. Born in Nashville, Tennessee, JB grew up believing that hard work and laughter belong side by side.

As a boy, he learned to tinker under the watchful eye of his father, “Big JB,” at the family garage on Clarksville Pike. Those early hours with wrenches and engines sparked a lifelong love for fixing anything with wheels. Drag racing at Riverside was a rite of passage during his formative years.

Away from the garage, JB felt most at home outdoors—casting a fishing line, tracking squirrels and deer, or swapping stories around a campfire. Even during a quiet evening of western movies, he was known to plot a harmless prank, keeping friends and relatives on their toes and in good spirits.

JB’s favorite gatherings were the lively Fourth of July fish fry, Easter feasts, and the holiday fried turkey at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Whether flipping fish or carving turkey, he stayed humble, responsible, and ready to help anyone who needed it. Occasionally, he made trips to Oklahoma stopping at Tunica both coming and going to try his luck at the slots. He often walked away with more than he started with but always had fun no matter the outcome.

His steady support and joyful spirit shaped a circle of family and friends who carry his lessons of effort, confidence, and kindness. As we remember him in Ashland City, Tennessee, we promise to keep the fish sizzling, the stories rolling, and the laughter loud—just the way JB liked it.

Those who have passed on before him are parents Big JB and Lois Smith, brothers, Jimmy and Joe Smith, sister, Norma Hand, twin children, Donald Gene and Betty Jean Smith, daughter, Jackie Downing, and grandparents, Granny Randall and Papa Dave.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are loving wife of 23 years, Tina Smith, son, James (Hotrod) B. and Susan Smith, III, step-son, Doug (Dougie) and Jen Downing, grandchildren,



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Tabitha, Jared, Jeffery, Mika, Trey, Cali, Rylee, 12 great grandchildren, sister, Susie Phelps, and a multitude of nieces and nephews.

Celebration of Life is Saturday, November 1, 2025 @ 1pm
Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church
1709 Highway 12 N
Ashland City, TN 37015

Arrangements entrusted to Spring Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5110 Gallatin Pike,
Nashville, TN 37216, 615-865-1101, <https://www.springhillfh.com>.



Tribute Wall

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Jmd Smith posted:

In the 24 years we spent together, I am blessed with many wonderful loving memories to keep me smiling for the rest of my life. He always loved, laughed, pranked & helped family & others. That's my hubby. Jesus, please give him a hug from me.

November 1 at 9:56 PM



Jessica Bain lit a candle in honor of James.

Many prayers and love sent from Pleasant Hill, Oklahoma. Loved your visits and hugs. Rest in love. ~ Jessica Carrell (Bain)

October 21 at 8:01 AM



Connie Rolen posted:

I'm so sorry to hear of JB's passing. He was a very good friend of my first husband Eugene Carrell. Eugene thought he was the world's best friend and cousin. Praying for peace for his family and friends. Connie England Carrell Rolen

October 21 at 7:24 AM



Jennifer Downing shared 10 photos and a video to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Dad/Grandpa was the light of our lives. Always laughing, cracking jokes, & encouraging the grandkids to help in his pranks! He lived his best life & loved his family to the core. He loved his taco soup, hot sauce, goofy t-shirts, & fishing. We will miss him tremendously ♥

October 17 at 8:53 PM



Danielle Patterson shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

JB Smith. Ernest E Patterson, Charles Dean Hudgens taken by Johnny Patterson. A great bunch of cousins.

October 19 at 1:10 PM





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Missy Stoltz posted:

I just know JB Smith has been A great man that we all love dearly! I will forever see his smiles every time I seen him!

October 18 at 2:31 PM



James Smith posted:

My greatest memory was knowing fun loving father that was always game for a good laugh and easy going and humble and supportive for the ones he loved

October 17 at 8:53 PM



Media

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Jennifer Downing shared 10 photos and a video to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 19 at 5:14 PM





Media

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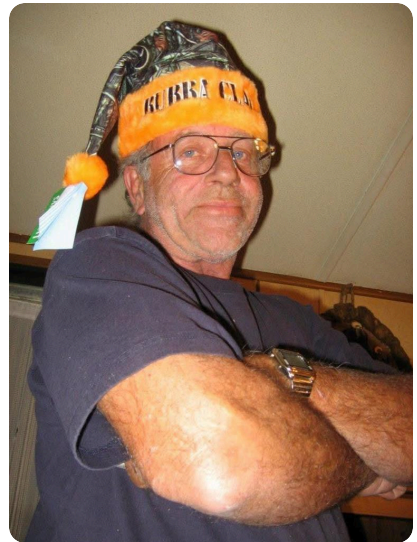




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Danielle Patterson shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 19 at 1:10 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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