



Roger K. Smith

November 27, 1951 - November 02, 2006

Roger K. Smith, local artist and long time Ponca City resident passed away Thursday, November 2, 2006. He was 54.

A memorial service will be held on November 18, 2006 at the Tonkawa High School. The time to be announced at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of Trout Funeral Home & Crematory.

Roger was born November 27, 1951 in Ponca City to Rodney and Billy Smith. He grew up in Ponca City and graduated from Ponca City High School in 1970. That same year he married Jane Keathly, mother of his son and daughter, Ezra and Elisa Smith. He attended Highland University in Las Vegas, New Mexico and went on to graduate from Oklahoma State University in 1975 where he obtained his degree in education. In 1977 he took a position teaching art at Tonkawa High School. Roger enjoyed sharing his love of art with numerous students throughout his 29 years of service. In 1990 he married Zondra Robinson mother of his younger daughter Jacqueline Smith. Above all else Roger enjoyed spending time with family and friends and being a Papa to his children and grandchildren.

Roger had a strong faith in God and many in his life were blessed by him sharing his relationship with them. He touched so many people with his sweet spirit, engaging personality and kind heart. He always brought a smile to your face with his quick wit and dry sense of humor. In all things he said and did his love of life was obvious. His creativity was a blessing and inspiration to all who knew him and he enjoyed sharing his artistic creations with family and friends. While his artistic talent was primarily demonstrated by his hands, it was also felt any time you listened to one of his stories. He often held a captive audience and had a way of turning an average event into an interesting tale. His zest for life was exemplified by his unbridled spirit of adventure. He spent much of his time fishing and shared memorable trips with brother-in-law Jim, brother Craig and sweetheart Stacy. His love of nature also sent him on many trips to hunt arrowheads with son Ezra, daughter Elisa and their brother Park.

Roger was a long time patron of Quail Unlimited and Ducks Unlimited and he was an avid fan of Tonkawa football and enjoyed traveling to watch the Buccaneers. In addition, Roger was a friend of Bill W. for nearly 10 years and helped many special people on their own journeys.

He is survived by his soulmate Stacy Merrifield of Ponca City; his mother Billy Smith, son Ezra Smith and daughter Elisa Smith all of Ponca City as well as Jacqueline Smith of Tulsa. He is also survived by his grandchildren Carson Smith of Irving, Texas and Joel and Jude Shed of Ponca City; sister Carol and her husband Jim Iraggi of Ponca City and brother Craig Smith and his wife Linda of Craig, Colorado. He is also survived by numerous other relatives and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Rodney Smith.

There is a Spaghetti Dinner Benefit Sunday, November 5 in the Tonkawa High School Cafeteria at 11:30 am. The lunch was organized by teachers and friends at Tonkawa High School.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society Co-Pay Relief Fund, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 in Roger's name.

Tribute Wall

M

Michael Saint

Mr Smith was my art teacher in high school in the late 80's. His work inspired me to become a professional artist myself. Over the years I would occasionally attempt to find him via social media and finally in 2014 I came across his obituary. I wanted so much to show him what I've accomplished as well as see how his art evolved over the last 20 years. Would have been great to talk to him one last time.

S

Stefanie

I'm so sorry for your loss and I'm sorry I'm sending this late - I used to live in Ponca city and knew a roger smith who taught an art class and he was in AA with me - was wondering if this is the man I knew

M

Mark Ellis

I will miss Roger. He was a great friend. I met him in 7th grade and we were good pals from then on. I was part of the crew that moved out to Las Vegas NM. We were just starting out. Had some great times in NM. I am fortunate to be in a new home and it is full of Roger's art. I have several big watercolors of maize and pottery and the like....wildlife...stills...ceramics. We have a big 3 panel mural of a SW horizon. It's the center of our home and makes us think of him. Roger was a great and skilled artist. Please accept our sympathies. Mar, Susan and Cayenne Ellis

R

Richard Thomas
