

## Obituaries

27 June  
2001

## Van R. Smith, 74

Van R. "Smitty" Smith, age 74, of Warsaw, Mo., died Sunday, June 24, 2001 at Research Medical Center in Kansas City, Mo. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, June 27, at 12 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Warsaw, with Rev. Larry Nail and Rev. Barry Edwards officiating. Pallbearers were Kenneth Lang, Cary Lang, Kurt Lang, Roger Randall, Darrel Howells and Larry Jones. Burial in Walnut Grove Cemetery.

Mr. Smith was born August 21, 1926, to Leslie and Effie Ross Smith, in Boonville, Mo. He was reared in New Franklin, Mo. Following his high school graduation in 1944 he joined the U.S. Navy. He served on several ships in the Pacific, his favorite being the U.S.S. Sierra and was highly decorated. He married Bonnie Amick in 1945 and to this union three children were born. Following his discharge, he and his family moved to Platte County where he worked for Burlington Northern Railroad, retiring in 1984. He was an avid fisherman and hunter, a member of the VFW Post 5894, American Legion Post 217, the United Transportation Local 5 and a member of the Truman Lake Professional Guides Assoc.

He is survived by his wife Bonnie, one daughter, Pamala J. Howells of Mobile, Ala.; one son, Michael L. Smith of Phoenix, Ariz.; three grandchildren and one step-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Chris W. Smith and a sister, Jacqueline Price.

The family suggests memorial donations be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.