



## George C. Smith

August 8, 1935 - April 15, 2020

George C. Smith, age 84, passed away on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 surrounded by his family at Riverside Methodist Hospital. He was born in Columbus, Ohio on August 8, 1935 to the late George B. and Dorothy B. Smith. Also preceding him in death were his brothers Jack B. (Gloria) Smith and Richard (Judy) Smith. He graduated from Columbus North High School in 1953 where he was President of his senior class. George entered The Ohio State University graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1957 and was a member of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity. He continued to earn a Juris Doctor degree from the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State in 1959. From 1959 through 1962, he served as Assistant City Attorney for the City of Columbus in both the civil and criminal divisions. As civil counsel, he served as counsel to the Columbus Board of Education and drafted the ordinance for the establishment of German Village. He then served as Executive Assistant to the Mayor of Columbus from 1962 through 1964. In 1964 he became Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio. From 1965 through 1970, he served as Chief Counsel to the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney and then in 1971 became Franklin County Prosecutor, a position he held until 1980. From 1980 through 1985, he served as Judge on the Franklin County Municipal Court, and from 1985 through 1987, he served as Judge on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. The highlight of his professional career came in 1987, President Ronald Reagan appointed him to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on November 6, 1987, and took the oath of office on December 1, 1987. George volunteered his time as a member of the 2003 Ohio Bicentennial Commission, Historical Marker Committee; Chair of the Perry Group at the Perry Memorial National Park at Put-in-Bay; Commodore of the Put-in-Bay Yacht Club; several Republican organizations; Elder at Covenant Presbyterian Church; Columbus Athletic Club President; GYRO Club President; Lawyers Club President; Masons Supreme Council 33 Degree; and Shriners Tri-Village President. George will be deeply missed by his loving wife of 57 years Barbara Wood Smith; children G. Curtis (Christine) Smith Jr., Geoffrey C. Smith, and Elizabeth (Jonathan) Fligner; grandchildren Toby and Becket Smith and Christina and Amanda Fligner; in-laws Patricia (William) Martin and Robert (Daylene) Wood; numerous nieces and nephews; and his caregiver Stella Kuhn. Family will receive friends from 4:00-7:00pm

on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at SCHOEDINGER NORTHWEST, 1740 Zollinger Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 2:00pm on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at SCHOEDINGER NORTHWEST. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the George C. Smith Memorial Law Scholarship <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/makeagift/?fund=316952>. Please visit <http://www.schoedinger.com> to share memories and condolences.

# Cemetery

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## Union Cemetery - Columbus

3349 Olentangy River Rd.  
Columbus, OH, 43202

# Events

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**JUN 23**   **Visitation**   04:00PM - 07:00PM

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Schoedinger Funeral and Cremation Service -  
Northwest

1740 Zollinger Rd, Columbus, OH, US, 43221

**JUN 24**   **Memorial Service**   02:00PM

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Schoedinger Funeral and Cremation Service -  
Northwest

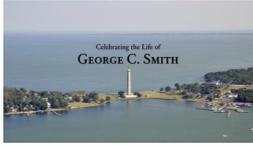
1740 Zollinger Rd, Columbus, OH, US, 43221

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Schoedinger Funeral Service** - June 18 at 09:43 AM

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“ So sorry to hear of Judge Smith’s passing. As an FBI agent in Columbus, I had several cases go to trial before him and I always appreciated the professional way he ran his courtroom. He was such a good judge - fair, consistent, had such a wonderful personality, and treated everyone with dignity and respect. Even the defendants that appeared before him liked and respected him for the type of judge - and man - that he was. I will always have fond memories of our interactions and know that he left his positive mark on justice in Columbus. To his family and friends, you have my deepest sympathy and please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers at this time.

**Harry Trombitas** - June 20 at 07:09 AM

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“ George and I were classmates at Clinton and Crestview before he left us to attend Columbus Boychoir. And then he returned to North! I’ve been a Democrat since I reached the age of reason and George and I had some mighty heated exchanges in debates at North. But when we met at reunions, we were still the best of friends. I never stopped admiring him. His was indeed a life well lived. My sincere condolences to his family.

Donna Mueller Amick, New Jersey

**Donna Mueller Amick** - May 15, 2020 at 04:27 PM

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“ Barbara, you have Lyn and my condolences. It has been more than 46 years ago, but we have the fondest memories of those great times of George as boss and mentor to me as a new attorney and with you both in the political campaigns for retention as Prosecutor and for Attorney General. I enjoyed painting the floor of the swimming pool for the campaign and the travel all over Ohio. After all these years George remains the best and most professional prosecutor I have ever seen in my career. George and Lyn Rogers

**George C. Rogers** - April 26, 2020 at 07:25 PM

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“ Barbara, we were certainly saddened to learn of George's passing. We always found George so affable and interesting to converse with which includes our get-togethers in the Florida Keys. Ken also enjoyed working with him on The Athletic Club board.

Even though we can't express our condolences in person, Barbara, know that you have our heartfelt sympathy.

Ken and Judy Pierce

**Ken Pierce** - April 23, 2020 at 04:44 PM

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“ We will miss Uncle George deeply. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Aunt Barbara, Beth and Jon, Geoff, and Curtiss and Christina. We will miss seeing his familiar and welcoming face at family weddings for Jack and Suzanne. And, we will miss hearing about wonderful family memories and his impressive professional accomplishments.

May Uncle George rest in peace, after a life well-lived.  
Sincerely, Kristin Smith and Steve Scarbrough.

**Kristin Smith** - April 21, 2020 at 03:16 PM

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“ I was proud to work for Judge Smith in 1989 not long after he was appointed to the federal bench. We were happy to see the Judge and his wife at Put N Bay. The last time I saw the Judge was at the Investiture for Judge Sarah Morrison. He was a great mentor and will be missed by many. Our deepest sympathies to the family.  
Frank J Reed, Jr.

**Frank Reed** - April 19, 2020 at 07:08 PM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your entire family. As a new and young fire chief, Judge Smith was the County prosecutor. His kindness and wise counsel was so appreciated by me. He was a great public servant. Blessings to you all. Larry Flowers

**Larry Flowers** - April 19, 2020 at 12:58 PM

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“ To the Smith family - Judge Smith is a great human for all of us to emulate. We have been blessed that he and your family have been in our lives. May he eternally Rest In Peace and you all remember his greatness forever.

Tim & Maria Rankin family

**Tim Rankin** - April 19, 2020 at 09:15 AM

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“ My heartfelt sympathy and condolences to his wife and children. May he rest in peace.

**Mike Cook** - April 18, 2020 at 11:12 AM



“ Dear Barb  
Ron and I just saw in the Gazette that George died last month. We want you to know that we have good memories of both of you on Toledo Avenue. We are sorry to hear of his death, send our condolences to you and the family, especially the granddaughters who used to visit, and hope you are well.

Take care,

Ron and Eileen Kohut, Put-in-Bay

**Eileen Kohut** - May 03, 2020 at 08:49 AM