



## Dennis J. Smith

May 15, 1937 - June 2, 2017

Dennis J. Smith (1937-2017)

CEDAR FALLS – Dennis J. Smith, 80, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, died Friday, June 2, 2017 at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo.

He was born May 15, 1937 in Nichols, Iowa, son of Mark and Bernice “Peggy” Kahler Smith. He married Karen Miller and they later divorced. He then married Voya Drury on January 9, 1982 in Cedar Falls. She preceded him in death on April 26, 1997.

He graduated from Nichols High School and earned his BA in Music from Iowa States Teachers College (UNI) and MA in Music from the University of Iowa. He taught at Upper Iowa University and then taught instrumental music in the Waterloo School District retiring in 2002 and then at St. Patrick Catholic School for ten years. He was a member of the Cedar Falls Municipal Band.

Survived by: a daughter, Meghan (Ben) Russell of Cedar Falls; two sons, Rob (Sarah) Brost of Bolingbrook, IL, and Mike (Jennifer) Brost of Waterloo; eight grandchildren; three sisters, Pauline (Bill) Hotek of Ottumwa, IA, Delpha (Howard) Schuster of Dyersville, IA, and Phyllis (Bob) Shoemaker of Ackley, IA; and a brother, Paul Smith of Gays Mills, WI.

Preceded in death by: two brothers, Leland and Vince Smith.

Services: 11:00 a.m. Wednesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church with burial in Greenwood Cemetery, both in Cedar Falls. Visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at Richardson Funeral Service, where there will be a 4:00 p.m. Rosary. Visitation also for one hour prior to the service at the church.

Memorials may be directed to the Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo.

# Cemetery

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## Greenwood Cemetery

the end of College St, north of First  
Street

Cedar Falls, IA, 50613

# Events

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**JUN** **Rosary** 04:00PM

**6**

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Richardson Funeral Service  
615 Main Street, Cedar Falls, IA, US,  
50613

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

**6**

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Richardson Funeral Service  
615 Main Street, Cedar Falls, IA, US,  
50613

**JUN** **Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM

**7**

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St. Patrick Catholic Church  
705 Main Street, Cedar Falls, IA, US,  
50613

# Comments

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“ I am unable to attend today, but Mr Smith was my mentor and professor at Upper Iowa and for a few years after my graduation. He would wax philosophic and talk about following one's Muse, and how music is a difficult mistress. So I followed my muse, and he was right about the mistress thing. Over the years, I have felt a need to talk with him, and let him know that I've followed my Muse. There are no weeds on my path to the woodshed, and I still have some chops. But I guess he knows already. I wish Peace to all Dennis' family and friends. Bill Adams

**Bill Adams** - June 07, 2017 at 07:55 AM

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“ Dennis touched the lives of so many people in this area, including me. You will be missed, my friend and so many of us have so much to thank you for. My heart goes out to the family of this man with a giant heart.

**Colleen G** - June 06, 2017 at 06:14 PM

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“ The CF Municipal Band had a long-time connection with Dennis Smith. An excellent French horn player with us for many seasons, a school music educator, a composer, and so much more. He composed a work "Amphion" for us which we first performed under his baton at our 1991 centennial celebration. At our Monday rehearsal we shared some memories of Dennis including his patented hearty laugh, warm honest friendliness and great talent. At tonight's first "Marching Along" season concert in Overman Park we'll be playing G.F. Handel's "Thanks Be To Thee" in his memory. Featuring the French horn main melody, of course. Bravo! and many thanks, old comrade.

**Dennis Downs** - June 06, 2017 at 10:05 AM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dennis J. Smith.



June 06, 2017 at 08:01 AM

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“ Joe and Nancy Schumacher purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dennis J. Smith.



Joe and Nancy Schumacher - June 05, 2017 at 11:22 AM

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“ Rest in peace, Dennis. This all happened so fast. You just heard the bad news a few weeks ago. Thank you for always sharing jokes with me and making me laugh, for your words of comfort in the bad times and for never giving up on yourself or others. I know you are comfortable and happy and you so deserve that. You always had a joke for me and we shared them privately. Lol. Thank you for being my friend dear sir.

Jody Lorence - June 05, 2017 at 06:12 AM

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“ I will never forget your smile, nor the one you brought to others around you! Rest in peace now, we will hold your memories close to our hearts  
Lisa Poll

Lisa Downes-Poll - June 04, 2017 at 08:35 PM

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“ Monica, Paula, and Lori Smith purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Dennis J. Smith.



Monica, Paula, and Lori Smith - June 03, 2017 at 12:14 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Rajiv Hotek - June 03, 2017 at 09:38 AM

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“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis J. Smith.



June 02, 2017 at 10:10 PM

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“ So very sorry to hear about the loss of Dennis! He was a friend and colleague of mine at St. Patrick School in Cedar Falls - specifically my basement buddy (since we both taught in the basement :) ). Probably one of my favorite memories of Dennis was his first year there and we had recess duty together around Thanksgiving time. He asked me where I was headed for the holidays and I said West Liberty. He gave me a shocked look, and he said, "No kidding?! I'm from Nichols!" I said, "Well, so am I, but nobody has ever heard of it!" Anyway, turns out he knew my parents well, his dad was their high school principal, and he may have even taken my mom out on a date in high school! They even stopped in to visit him one time on a trip they made to CF and reminisced about the old days! He was quite a guy with a hearty laugh...and he will be missed.

Jennifer Meyers-Wills - June 02, 2017 at 09:05 PM

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“ I am saddened by the loss of this wonderful man! I am a teacher at St. Patrick School in Cedar Falls, so I had the honor of seeing Dennis on a regular basis. We always chatted and told each other to have a good day! Years back, I and several other teachers went to a conference for Catholic Educators. We had such a good time there! One evening, a bunch of us went to dinner at a place where people were playing a game they called BANGO!! We laughed the night away about this game and whenever I saw Dennis after that time, he'd say, "Kim, how about a game of BANGO!!" Then he'd laugh so hard! Dennis was a very spiritual man, one who loved to fish and talked highly of his daughter and family. I will always have a special place

in my heart for him. May he rest in peace.  
Kim Vandendriessche  
Kdg. Teacher  
St. Pat's

kim vandendriessche - June 02, 2017 at 08:31 PM

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“ Praying God will provide strength and peace to your family at this time of loss. We'll always have fond memories of sharing times together at the family gatherings. Love you all! Jim & Laurie Russell

Jim & Laurie Russell - June 02, 2017 at 08:21 PM

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“ Smith....I'm sitting here reading your obituary and I'm totally in shock. I had no idea that you were sick. I would have tried to get in contact with you by email. You were my Birthday Buddy (our birthdays were the same date only), I know it's been awhile since we've emailed but I'm going to miss you.

Rest in Peace Smith.....you've earned those wings!!

Love ya Smith....

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Cynthia L White - June 02, 2017 at 07:27 PM

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“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dennis J. Smith.



June 02, 2017 at 07:14 PM

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“ My deepest sympathies to the entire family on this great loss. Dennis helped many people, myself included. I will never forget his wonderful laugh. He was always there to talk and we talked a lot this past winter/spring. So glad I have those memories. Peace my friend!



Carrie Sharkey - June 02, 2017 at 05:41 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dennis J. Smith.



June 02, 2017 at 05:19 PM