



## Robert A. Smiley

March 14, 1925 - August 4, 2021

Robert A. Smiley, died on August 4, 2021, age 96, a very fortunate man. Not only did he die at an old age, but he had a clear memory of all the good things that happened to him in his life. His childhood was spent in a small town in Ohio where prejudice was unknown, something that stayed with him the rest of his life. Like all his male high school classmates, he went eagerly into the military to fight in WW II, ending up as an Army infantryman in Europe. On his return, he went to college to study chemistry. While in college, he met and persuaded Jane Cadden to marry him, the best thing he ever did. She gave him 6 sons and 4 daughters and raised them all to be good, decent people. Thanks to her, they are all successful in their chosen fields of interest. They gave him and Jane many grandchildren and great-grandchildren with more to come. Celebrate his death since he died a contented and happy man.

Sadly, Jane preceded Bob in death in 2015 after struggling with dementia. He is survived by their ten children: Sally Dodds (Richard), Bob Skinner (Paula), Terry Pizzarello (Jim), Joe (Kerry), Tom (Esther), Andy, Michael (Tammie), Tony (Mary), Joan Smiley, and Amy Platt (Michael) and the many grandchildren and great grandchildren all who will sorely miss his engaging personality.

If you want to attend his funeral, a visitation will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1000 Shipley Rd. Wilmington, DE from 10:30 AM - 12 PM with a Mass of Christian Burial following at 12 PM on Monday, August 16th. There will only be two hopefully short eulogies. Burial will be in nearby Newark

Union Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Catholic Charities, 2601 W 4th St., Wilmington, DE 19805 or [ccwilm.org](http://ccwilm.org).

# Cemetery Details

## Newark Union Cemetery

Wilmington, DE

# Previous Events

## Viewing

AUG **16**. 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church  
1000 Shipley Road  
Wilmington, DE 19803

## Mass of Christian Burial

AUG **16**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church  
1000 Shipley Road  
Wilmington, DE 19803

## Burial

AUG **16**. 1:15 PM.

Newark Union Cemetery  
Wilmington, DE

# Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Robert A. Smiley.* ”



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August 15, 2021 at 01:15 AM

“ Condolences from the Snyder Family in Ohio to the Smiley Family in Delaware - and wherever else you ALL may be.

*Bob was the Scoutmaster of BSA Troop 33, at IHM Parish, Wilmington, DE, and he, Jane and Family were members of IHM Parish when we joined in the early 1970s. I was his Assistant Scoutmaster for 4 years - until 1976 - when our family moved to Ohio. Our sons, Ken, Tim and Steve attended IHM School and were scouts and classmates with some of the younger Smileys; Michael, Andy, Tony, and Joanie. Bob, Bill Petit de Mange and I spent many camp-outs with the scouts over those years and our three families became close friends.*

*Of course, there are many "stories" and memories to share from those days ....but, "what happens in camp, remains in camp"!! Fortunately, about 3 years ago, my wife, Kathy and I met Bob, Joanie, Amy, (and perhaps one other that I do not now recall) when they visited relatives in the Canton, OH area. AND, the stories and memories poured forth, much to the boredom of the ladies, I suspect. Thank you ladies for driving him west and for your patience with a couple of "old-timers"! The point here is that Bob, Kathy and I began talking, right where we left off when last we met many years ago; a tribute to long enduring friendship!*

*Bob was a man of incredible intellect, enormous generosity with time and specie, a great story-teller, enormous capacity for love and caring, completely dedicated to his family, church, and country, a patriot, a trusted friend, and most important of all - in possession of a great sense of humor! He is a person I most highly respected, enjoyed spending time with and regarded as one of my dearest friends.*

*Of course he will be missed; but I remind myself that memories are of the mind, while love is of the heart. So, he, Jane, and all you other Smileys live on in Snyder hearts.*

*God bless you all!*

*Jim and Kathy Snyder  
Ken, Tim and Steve Snyder*

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**Jim and Kathy Snyder** - August 13, 2021 at 09:58 PM

AF

*Smiley family,  
Such nice memories posted by Mr. Snyder! My Dad and brother had such fond memories of Boy Scouts with your Dad and Andy and Tony! Such a nice tribute that captured his life perfectly! Sorry my Dad and I missed his funeral. My parents treasured your parents' friendship!  
Take Care,  
Anne Flaherty (Petit de Mange)*

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**Anne Flaherty** - August 27, 2021 at 07:54 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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August 13, 2021 at 06:46 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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August 12, 2021 at 03:18 PM

WS

“ *With Love Kris Smiley purchased the Large Basket et Garden for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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**With Love Kris Smiley** - August 12, 2021 at 12:19 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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August 12, 2021 at 12:07 PM

YC

“ *Your friends at Keystone Shipping Co. purchased the Cherished Memories for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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**Your friends at Keystone Shipping Co.** - August 11, 2021 at 04:07 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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August 10, 2021 at 03:34 PM

WR

“ *With love, Erin & Jody Roughan purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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**With love, Erin & Jody Roughan** - August 10, 2021 at 03:18 PM

AN

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Andy** - August 10, 2021 at 01:25 PM

KM

“ *Koch Shipping Team & Koch Mexico purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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**Koch Shipping Team & Koch Mexico** - August 10, 2021 at 12:55 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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August 10, 2021 at 12:18 PM

GE

“ I am very sorry to hear of the passing of my Uncle “Doc.” It was always a pleasure to see him at family gatherings or when in town for a visit ! Uncle Doc was very knowledgeable about many subjects ! He would often come up with a funny comment on whatever subject was being discussed !  
My condolences go out to my cousins. Your father was a great man ! You are all in my prayers and thoughts ! Love you !



George Ehret - August 09, 2021 at 09:12 PM



“ So many memories! Your dad's scratchy voice (very distinctive). When I was a kid, he called and asked for Dad. I put the phone on the counter and called to Dad "Mr Smiley is on the phone", which your dad could clearly hear. He asked Dad "How did she know it was me?" How could I not? "Who stepped on my azaleas" lived on in our house for years (when your parents came to Jay's wedding, I think they found the only azalea in Colorado as a present!) And, of course, Joanie remembers (and still laughs about) the time I came down to the house on a Saturday night. Your parents were headed over to someone's house for the evening, but they were pissed about something and were yelling at each other. I looked with wide eyes and said, "I'm gonna go home" and took off up the street. (I think my mother would have liked to argue, Dad never would.) Your mom then said "what happened to Bitsy?" and a phone call was made and I came back down. And, when your mom started working at St Francis, your dad would come home at lunch, I guess to make sure the house was still standing. I remember him sitting at the table, reading the paper, having a glass of wine and cookies for lunch. I hope to join you next week. My condolences, but here's to a life well-lived!

Mary Hannon - August 09, 2021 at 06:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert A. Smiley.*



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August 09, 2021 at 05:27 PM



“ *Elaine & Tom Cannon lit a candle in memory of Robert A. Smiley*



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**Elaine & Tom Cannon** - August 09, 2021 at 11:35 AM



*Bob Smiley was the Scoutmaster of Troop 33 when my brothers and I were Boy Scouts. His patience and skills left a lifelong impression on me. He will be missed.*

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**Bill Trask** - August 09, 2021 at 04:45 PM