



George Craig Smith

April 17, 1952 - December 16, 2020

Our family and community lost a very important person on December 16, 2020. George "Craig" Smith was born April 17, 1952 in Conway, SC to the late James Conley "J. C." Smith and Betty Cox Smith.

Craig, affectionately known as "Papa", leaves behind a beloved wife of 43 years, Vicki Thompson Smith, his son, Christopher Smith, and his wife, Ashley, his daughter, Kimberly Smith, and granddaughter, Ellison Grace Fortner. Papa's brother, Michael Smith and his wife, Janet, sister-in-law, Sonia Cargill, and her husband, Todd, mother-in-law, Billie Thompson, bonus brothers, Keith Herring, and his wife, Marsha, and Monty Graham. Papa also leaves behind special nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Papa was a successful entrepreneur and has been building businesses in Conway for decades, including Shoe City, City Athletics and, most recently, Papa's General Store. He had many passions and was planning to travel with his wife to as many Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood concerts as possible.

To us, and to all who knew him, Papa was a compassionate, selfless man who loved his family, friends and patrons with complete abandon. He was a friend and was loved by so many. He honored his hometown of Conway and always sought to share and preserve its rich history.

Our hearts and spirits are broken but we know he will be watching over us as

we continue to honor his legacy. Rest In Peace, Papa.

The family will hold a private ceremony. If you would like to make a charitable donation to one of the many causes he supported, information is as follows:

-North Conway Baptist Church (1608 Sessions Street, Conway, SC 29526)

-Anderson Oaks Building Fund (c/o Anderson Oaks, 996 Highway 90, Conway, SC, 29526)

-WES Foundation (1227 16th Avenue, Ste. 198, Conway, SC 29526)

Please sign the online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is serving the family.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Cemetery

1000 Highway 544
Conway, SC 29526

Tribute Wall

AK

“ I am so sorry for your loss and want to extend my sincere sympathy to Craig's entire family at this time. May his soul rest in peace! He was a good and decent man!

Alex Kramer

Alex Kramer - December 26, 2020 at 11:24 AM

MM

“ We are so sorry to hear this. He was one of a kind, and we loved him! Sending love and prayers your way.

Terry and Mary Matthews

Mary Matthews - December 24, 2020 at 09:35 PM

EJ

“ Edward Jordan lit a candle in memory of George Craig Smith



Edward Jordan - December 22, 2020 at 06:39 PM

CN

“ May God give all the family peace and comfort during this time. Continued prayers for all of you!

Cecil Norton - December 18, 2020 at 09:59 AM

BH

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family! May God continue to comfort and bless you all!*



beth hood - December 18, 2020 at 09:27 AM

Jen
Obstein

“ *I remember the day my parents and boyfriend, now husband, and I were exploring Conway. Adam and I had recently moved to Myrtle Beach and my parents came to visit. We bumped into Papa and his brother moving furniture pieces they had picked up from an estate sale. Papa was in the process of moving the little General Store from the corner down the block. His joy for life, hopefully outlook for the future, and genuity were immediately evident.*

Papa introduced us to auctions and always shared his newest projects in growing his business and in life. I will always remember his kindness and friendship. He will be missed. My deepest condolences to his family and all those who loved him.

Jen Obstein - December 18, 2020 at 05:10 AM

MJ

“ *My sympathies and prayers to Vicki and family. May God grant you strength in this time of sorrow and the peace that only he can provide. Marlene Johnson*

Marlene Johnson - December 17, 2020 at 11:03 PM

BS

“ Bruce Smith lit a candle in memory of George Craig Smith



bruce smith - December 17, 2020 at 10:29 PM

CL

“ Craig was a prince of a man. Respectful, kind, helpful, truly nice. A Southern gentleman. We mourn his loss and pray for Vicky, the children, and all of the family.

carol lee - December 17, 2020 at 07:17 PM

LR

“ Henry & Lois Roberts Conway high school class of 1970



Lois and Henry Roberts - December 17, 2020 at 06:35 PM

Alex Paulson

“ He was one of the nicest and most caring people I've met and he always brought so much joy to every person around him. I was so glad I got to know Craig and become friends with him and his wife Vicki, along with the G&T family. Craig, you'll be missed dearly, love you Papa Craig. I'll see you again one day. ❤️



Alex Paulson - December 17, 2020 at 05:13 PM

JP

“ When I started planning my move to Conway back in 1988 Craig was the person I met who helped get me started. I remember the first day I met him and from then on it always with a kind heart and support from him that made my business grow. I am forever grateful that he and his family were part of my journey.



Judy Barnett Potter - December 17, 2020 at 04:48 PM

MB

“ I didn't ever get to meet you and I was so lookin forward to it but I feel like you and Vicki are family! I could tell youre a great man just from pictures and posts but more importantly the way others spoke of you and how much they loved you! I hope that I meet you when my day is called! Rip papa Craig... so much love, thoughts and prayers to Vicki, the family, friends and g family ❤️❤️

Michael Brown - December 17, 2020 at 02:37 PM

EA

“ Papa Craig will live on in our hearts. He will be very missed. His smile and wit will always be remembered. Love and prayers for. Vicki and the family.



Eva Anderson - December 17, 2020 at 02:12 PM

CP

“ *Such a nice guy who treated everyone with a great deal of respect. Knew him a long time back to his shoe city days! We will be praying for the family.*

Clark B Parker

Clark B Parker - December 17, 2020 at 02:12 PM

DF

“ *Diane Hamilton Forbes lit a candle in memory of George Craig Smith*



Diane Hamilton Forbes - December 17, 2020 at 01:56 PM

DF

Conway lost an amazing man and icon. He was one of a kind and will be very much missed. Prayers for his family and all who loved him!

Diane Hamilton Forbes - December 17, 2020 at 01:59 PM

HC

Vicki sorry to here of the passing of Craig. Me and Betty remember you and Craig when we first came to NCBC in 2013 and we were in your Sunday School class and you welcome us to the church. May God Bless You and Craig is now resting in peace. Your Friends in Christ Betty & Harry Caldwell

Harry James Caldwell - December 20, 2020 at 02:07 PM

SR

Vicki, i was deeply saddend over hearing about Craigs death. He was a friend for a long time. My brother and Craig had the same birthday, Michael passed in Dec. 2019. I wish i knew something to say to make things easier but i know there isn't. Prayers for all the family

Shirley Richardson - January 04, 2021 at 07:35 AM

FS

“ From the Dr. Honick and Dr Lamm and staff purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of George Craig Smith.



From the Dr. Honick and Dr Lamm and staff - December 17, 2020 at 12:03 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of George Craig Smith.



December 17, 2020 at 10:06 AM

LP

“ Craig will be sorely missed by all. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Charles and Lisa Parrish



Lisa Parrish - December 17, 2020 at 08:53 AM

RB

“ So sorry for your loss. Craig was such a wonderful person. Hold on to those sweet memories. Prayers for each of you.

Rhonda Sanders Butler - December 17, 2020 at 07:45 AM

CJ

“ All my love to Vicki and the Smith family. I only knew Craig for a short time but he was one of my favorite people. Instantly made me feel like I had know him forever, the moment we met.

Cj - December 17, 2020 at 12:51 AM

VW

“ Craig, you and Vicki are a shining example of what the Garth and Team TY family is all about. The adventures and memories we made together is one of the greatest part of our concert experiences. You were such a funny and sweet Southern gentleman and you made so many fans of your own! God bless your sweet heart.



Valerie Woodcock - December 17, 2020 at 12:09 AM

DM

“ ops craig

Danielle Marie - December 16, 2020 at 11:35 PM

DM

“ papa craig, you inspired so many people to be kind, generous, and full of life... missing, starting today and forever.



Danielle Marke - December 16, 2020 at 11:34 PM

EH

“ Cousin Craig, thank you for your and brother Mike’s help in researching our collective family’s history. We developed a lot of solid family data in our research and I will be forever grateful for your help and insight. Rest in the arms of Jesus friend, we did good work.

The Harmon Family

Edward Raymond Harmon, Venica Lea Harmon, Jonathan Drew Harmon, Genean Harmon, Lisa Shea Harmon, and Janice Harmon

Edward Harmon - December 16, 2020 at 11:25 PM

JS

“ Jeff And Maria Faulkner Cheraw SC lit a candle in memory of George Craig Smith



Jeff and Maria Faulkner Cheraw SC - December 16, 2020 at 08:45 PM

GM

“ Sorry to hear of Craig's passing. He was a very special friend. I knew him from his City Athletics days. Debbie and I thought very highly of him.

Praying for his family. He was an inspiration and a great friend!

Gene Marlowe

Gene Marlowe - December 16, 2020 at 08:31 PM