



Arthur D. Smith

October 12, 1939 - December 18, 2023

Arthur (Artie) Smith made an indelible impression on everyone he met. He was quick-witted, always willing to buy the first, last, and sometimes middle rounds while out with his many friends and family, who would refer to him as “Artie the one-man party”. He could and would strike up a conversation with anyone he met. Artie was a storyteller, who it truly can be said had never met a stranger. He was born October 12, 1939, in Syracuse, NY, and remained in the Liverpool area for more than 50 years before his career relocated him to Louisville, KY, and later retired to Bonita Springs, FL.

On Monday, December 18, 2023, Art died peacefully with his loving wife Barbara by his side after a long and brave battle with AML Leukemia.

Growing up, he attended Liverpool High School and was a member of the varsity football and baseball teams. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Air Force (1957-1961). Artie attended Syracuse University on the GI-Bill and was a longtime Syracuse University Football fan and season ticket holder. From the concrete seat Archibold Stadium days to the grand opening of the Carrier Dome, Artie was always there to cheer on his beloved Orangemen.

Artie also enjoyed his time on the golf course, though all would agree he liked spending time at the 19th hole with his friends even more. Artie belonged to

the Glenn Oaks Country Club (Louisville, KY) and later, became a proud member of the "Quota Group" at Highland Woods Country Club (Bonita Springs, FL).

Art's career in union leadership began locally at General Electric in 1961, while working his way up the ranks he held numerous elected positions and ultimately served as President and Business Agent of the Local 320 IUE AFL-CIO from 1979-1990. Art accepted a position with the International Union of Electrical Workers in 1990 and was elected nationally to the Office of Chairman of the IUE-General Electric and Aerospace Conference Board. He was the Union Chief Negotiator for national labor contracts with General Electric, Lockheed-Martin, General Dynamics, and British Aerospace. Art was a fierce and skillful negotiator who would advocate for the membership and was never afraid to fight for their worker's rights. He retired on December 31, 2003.

Art was predeceased by his mother and father, Clarabelle (Grieb) and Harold Smith of Liverpool, NY, and his sister Nancy Ager of Sequim, WA. Surviving is his wife of 45 years, Barbara (May) Smith, originally from Liverpool, NY, now residing in Bonita Springs, FL; his daughter, Carey (Mike) Hutchins of Syracuse, NY; his son, Michael (Karen) Cusano of Clay, NY; his brother Dennis (Jeri) Smith of Auburn Hill, MI; his grandson, Shawn (Ipshita) Trifoso of Charlotte, NC along with a wonderfully supportive extended family and numerous amazing friends.

At Artie's request, there will be no calling hours and a Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date.

Expressions of sympathy can be made in his honor with the American Cancer Society. Please visit our online register book at www.shikanyfuneralhome.com to leave treasured memories for the family.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Tribute Wall

CL

“ *Charlie Liska lit a candle in memory of Arthur Smith*



Charlie Liska - January 26, 2024 at 06:19 PM

ST

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Shawn Trifoso - December 30, 2023 at 06:44 PM

DM

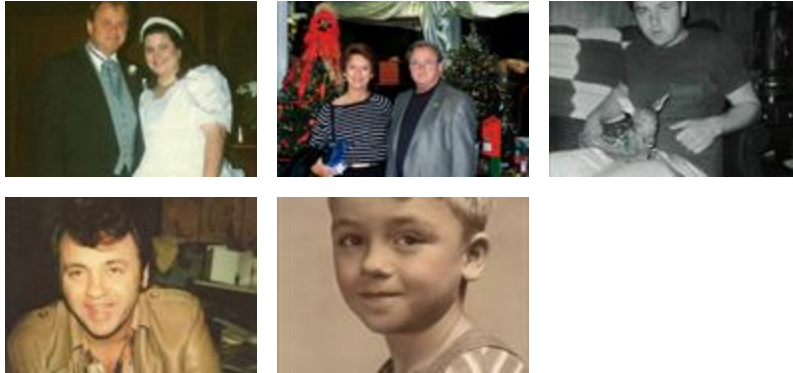
“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Debbie Meyers - December 26, 2023 at 05:41 PM

CH

“ *Memories of Dad.*



Carey Hutchins - December 26, 2023 at 08:41 AM

LM

“ *Art and I knew each other for 50 years. We first met at General Electric in Liverpool, New York. Art and I were both members of the Local 320 International Union of Electrical Workers; each of us were elected to represent our co-workers as stewards. Through the years and decades, through promotions and relocations each of us had the privilege of representing workers and those in need right into retirement.*

Many years later I was caught completely by surprise when I was introduced to Art the SECOND time. A dear niece of mine and my wife Lucille introduced Art as her significant other! I became Art's "UNCLE Lynn" when he married our niece BARBARA. Art and Barb, and Lucille and I enjoyed many vacations together . . . They were the best of times.

God Bless You. Rest in Peace.

Lynn & Lucille Meyers

Lynn Meyers - December 25, 2023 at 01:43 PM

TM

“ *Tim Meyers lit a candle in memory of Arthur Smith*



Tim Meyers - December 24, 2023 at 07:21 PM

ML

“ *Art was my Union Mentor and taught me much. My thoughts and prayers are with the family and I will be raising a glass of Makers Mark in his memory!
Please keep my informed on the Celebration of Life
Mike.labulis@gmail.com*

Michael Labulis - December 22, 2023 at 05:33 PM

DM

“ *Debbie Meyers lit a candle in memory of Arthur Smith*



Debbie Meyers - December 22, 2023 at 02:04 PM

LM

“ *Lynn Lucille Meyers lit a candle in memory of Arthur Smith*



Lynn & Lucille Meyers - December 22, 2023 at 02:00 PM

LD

“ Artie, Barb, my husband John and I spent lots of time together travelling or going to the Dome for SU football games. Every trip was a blast. He certainly was a good storyteller. Artie will be missed, very much, by all of us who knew him.

Lynn Dobkowski

Lynn Dobkowski - December 21, 2023 at 07:30 AM

RH

“ I met Arty the one man party approximately 20 years ago. Although we had very little in common we became the best of friends. He taught me the never ending joy of celebrating every single day of life to it's fullest. Barb, Art and my wife Rose enjoyed hundreds of dinners and evenings and countless golf vacations together. He regaled us with his stories and life experiences. They were never ending. He brought a smile to everyone he met. Every day was an adventure and when you were around him you felt like you were part of the story. I loved being around him. He never took himself seriously or any body else.

He was a big prankster and you never knew what he might say. A number of years ago Art, Barb, Rose and myself were on a golf vacation in Orlando and a cop pulled me over. I turned to look at Art who had a grin on his face. He said he would handle the cop. The cop came up to the window and said I made an illegal turn. Art without skipping a beat said” you'll have to forgive him officer he just got out of prison and hasn't driven much lately”. Typical Arty. I still got the ticket.

I'm going to miss his big personality, wit and charm. There is never going to be anyone like him a again. He put a smile on my face every time we spoke.

So long dear friend. I know you are telling your stories in heaven and making new friends already.

Regan Hutton - December 20, 2023 at 07:50 AM

DB

“ *Artie. Artie Artie You will be sorrowful missed lots of great times together and stories. R I P. My friend Condolences to Barb and the family. Dan and Judy Brown*

Dan Brown - December 19, 2023 at 08:57 PM

BS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Barbara Smith - December 19, 2023 at 08:30 PM

BS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Barbara Smith - December 19, 2023 at 05:48 PM

BS

“ 22 files added to the tribute wall



Barbara Smith - December 19, 2023 at 04:18 PM

CM

Wonderful pictures and memories.

Connie McDonogh - December 19, 2023 at 06:25 PM

RM

Artie was my brother in law, from day one our family accepted him, we quickly learned my sister hit the jackpot. He was always kind and friendly. I've never met anyone like Art , I sincerely believe God broke the mold when he created this very special man. Few people have the gift to light up a room but Art had it. To say our family is heartbroken would be a gross understatement. We all loved Artie and admired the love he and Barb shared all these years. For me personally, Art was an inspiration, he lived his life with a zest as though everyday was he last. I cherished our time together and I deeply respected how well he treated my sister. Speaking for my family we couldn't have asked for anyone better. I promised Art the family would look after Barb and that's exactly what we're going to do. We're a very close loving family that's one of the reasons why Art fit in so well, the man was truly a gem. Gone but never forgotten, Art will remain in our hearts till we see him again. ❤️

Robert (Bobby) May

Robert May - December 20, 2023 at 10:19 PM

BL

I'm so sorry to hear about Art. He and George Liberty were the best of friends. May he RIP and prayers for you and family

Becky Liberty - December 26, 2023 at 04:10 PM

RC

“ I met Art in the early 1990's when he was a IUE Staff rep. and then Chairman of our IUE (became IUE-CWA) Conference Board. I was on the Union's National Negotiating Committee in 1997 to 2003 with Art, being the Business Agent of IUE-CWA Local 201 from Lynn Ma. Enjoyed working with him tremendously. He was a great help to me and enjoyed his feistiness negotiating with the Company and was always a blast to lay back and have a drink after work. Loved to hear his numerous funny stories whether they be on union issues, politics or sports. Made everyone relax and laugh, despite stressful negotiations. And I remember he took us (the whole union negotiating committee) back to his new house in Louisville after a work session in the Union office, where his lovely wife Barb put out a wonderful food and drink spread for all of us representatives from around the country. Lots of wonderful memories. RIP my brother. You will be really missed. My deepest and sincere condolences to Barb and the entire Smith family.

Ric Casilli, Lynn Massachusetts

Ric Casilli - December 19, 2023 at 03:39 PM

CA

“ Peace be with you

cathy - December 18, 2023 at 10:20 PM