



William R. Smith

November 11, 1916 - March 13, 2013

William R. Smith, 96, of Painesville, formerly of Pepper Pike, died March 13, 2013, at home with his family by his side. He was born Nov. 11, 1916, in Clemens, Michigan.

Bill was a loving husband with a contagious sense of humor. He had a zest for life and enjoyed quality time with family and friends. His warm, genuine smile would light up a room. Mr. Smith was an engineer for Detroit Edison and the East Ohio Gas Company (as an international sales manager). He was honored by former Gov. James Rhodes as the first chairman of the Development Department's Sales Council, otherwise known as "Rhodes Raiders", in 1965. Then in 2003, Gov. Bob Taft recognized William Smith at the 40th anniversary of the Ohio Economic Department Council for his commitment and diligent work as the first chairman of the organization. Bill also served on the Pepper Pike City Council. William served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a second lieutenant, 330th AAF Base Unit, Drew Field, Fla., during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Sandra M. Phillips-Smith; grandson, Robert Smith; sisters-in-law, Judi (Greg) Shemitz, Jackie (William) Adair and Susan Radcliffe; brother-in-law, James Naugle; nieces; nephews; great-nieces; and great-nephews. Preceding William in death were his parents, Robert L. and Elsie E. (nee Chamberlin) Smith; son, William R. Smith Jr; daughter Laura;

sister, Ruth Penwarden; and brother-in-law, Mark Radcliffe.

A Celebration of William's Life will be 11 a.m. Sunday, March 24, at Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave. Mentor. Please note change in funeral home for the service and visitation. The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Contributions may be made to the Cleveland Animal Protective League, 1729 Willey Ave., Cleveland, OH 44113.

Online obituary at www.brunners.com.