

Leo Joy Smith, age 95, of Spencer, Iowa and formerly of Webb, Iowa passed away Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at St. Luke's Lutheran Home in Spencer.

Leo "Joy" Smith was born on July 6, 1921 in Royal, Iowa to Aubrey Clifton and Sadie Belle (Campbell) Smith, the fifth of eight children. Joy attended school in Sioux Rapids, Webb and graduated from high school in Wheatland, Indiana.

In 1942, Joy joined the United States Coast Guard and served under the Department of the Navy in the Pacific theater during World War II. He participated in the Battle for Okinawa. Learning to cook on board the ship, Joy took great pride in rising to the position of sous-chef (second in command) during his time in the service. When the ship docked in port, he would volunteer at local restaurants in order to learn about different foods and their preparation. San Francisco was one of his favorite places to dock. Joy was honorably discharged on February 20, 1946.

Joy and Esther Arlene Bittinger were united in marriage in 1947 in Sioux Rapids, Iowa. Joy began farming with Esther's father and continued farming for many years. To this union, four children were born: Merry Margaret, Timothy Joy, Theodore Hans, and Gaye Elizabeth. Esther and their son Theodore passed away in 1957.

In 1959, Joy and Joyce Ilene Johnson were united in marriage in St Paul, Minnesota. To this union Leo Brett and Matthew Lane were born. Now as a family of seven, they enjoyed school sporting events and programs, fishing, and summers at Lost Island Lake.

During his lifetime Joy worked at different jobs including his first love, farming. He also enjoyed running a hone at Medford's in Laurens, owning Smith Oil Co tank wagon service, and driving school bus for South Clay. In later years he enjoyed helping his son Tim on the farm and driving truck for Rohlin Construction.

Joy enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He was always available for sharing a conversation and reminiscing. After retiring, he enjoyed driving throughout Clay County to check fields and stopping by to see what his children were up to for the day. His family was his pride and joy.

Joy was a lifelong member of the First United Church of Sioux Rapids.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children: Merry (Mike) Crotty of Havelock, Iowa; Tim (Rita) Smith of Webb, Iowa; Gaye Smith of Los Angeles, California; Brett (Mary Jo) Smith of Dickens, Iowa; Matthew Smith of Denver, Colorado; eleven grandchildren: Jerry (Shirley) Crotty, John (Julie) Crotty, Holly (Daniel) Durbin, Tim (Erin) Smith, Nicholas (Angie) Smith, Adam (Lora) Smith, Ryan (Ashley) Smith, Madella (Christopher) Deffer, Andrew Smith, Carrie Mumma, Lee Sehestedt; twenty-one great grandchildren; seven great-great grandchildren: brother, Kenneth Smith of Greenburg, Indiana; sisters: Margaret (Lee) Messenger of Windsor Heights, Iowa; Glenna Jane (Francis) Miller of Rockford, Illinois; sister-in-law, Dorothy Smith of Bancroft, Iowa; numerous nieces and nephews; extended family and friends.

Joy was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Esther and son, Teddy; granddaughter, Janelle Crotty; sister, Gladys Miller; and brothers: Wade, Clifton, and Omar.

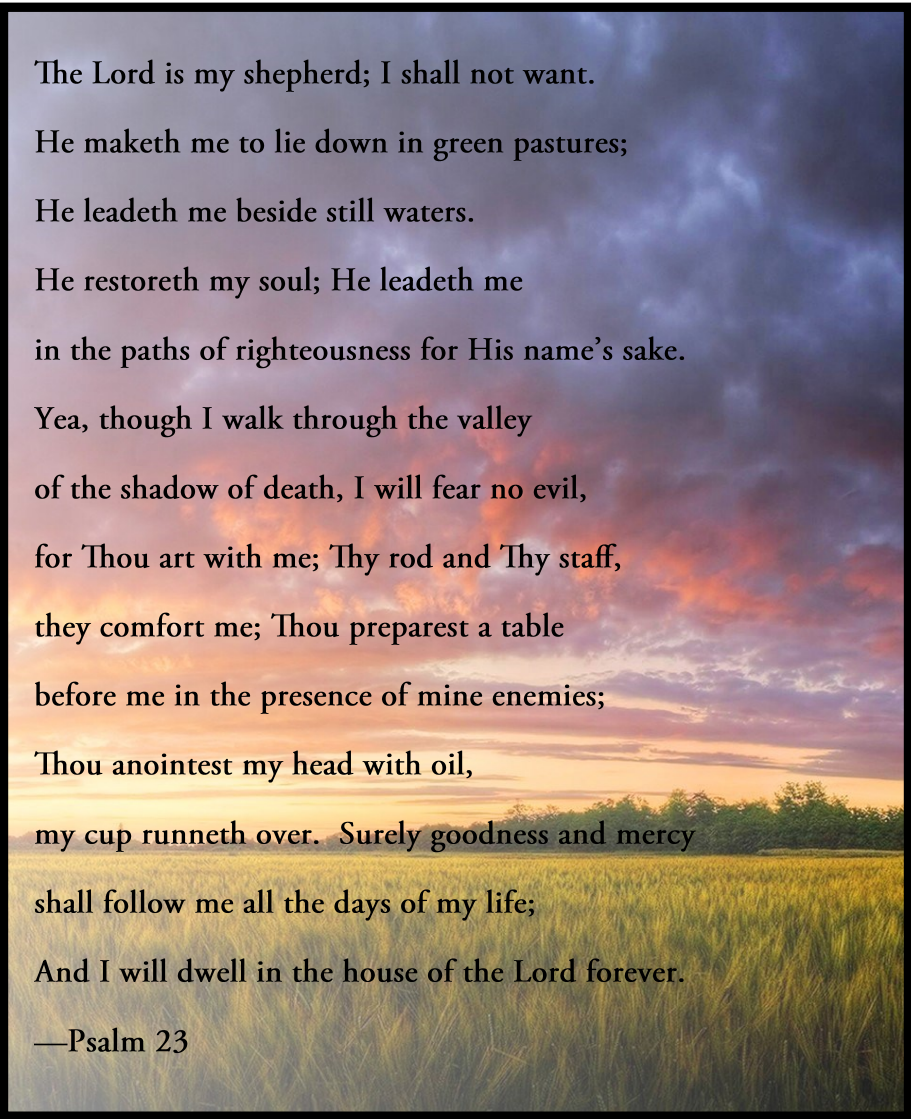
He will be deeply missed by all that knew and loved him.

In Loving Memory



Leo Joy Smith

1921 — 2016



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside still waters.
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me
in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,
for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff,
they comfort me; Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
—Psalm 23

We wish to express our sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. You are invited to join us for a time of fellowship at the church immediately following the service.

— The Family of Leo Joy Smith

IN MEMORY OF

Leo Joy Smith

July 6, 1921 — September 14, 2016

FUNERAL SERVICE

Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

First United Church of Sioux Rapids

Sioux Rapids, Iowa

CLERGY

Pastor Curtis Batschelet

ORGANIST

Eloise Obman

SOLOIST

Erin Smith

“In The Garden”

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

“We Gather Together”

“Amazing Grace”

CASKET BEARERS

Joy's Grandchildren

INTERMENT

Military Rites by Sioux Rapids American Legion Post #394

Northlawn Memorial Cemetery — Spencer, Iowa

Arrangements by

SLIEFERT FUNERAL HOMES

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