



Mr. Daniel Harold Smith

February 7, 1939 - June 2, 2020

Daniel Harold Smith of Nanton, Alberta passed away at Claresholm General Hospital June 2, 2020 in his 81st year, from the rare condition of Amyloidosis. He is survived by his loving and devoted wife Serena Smith (Hay) of 56 years, son John Smith and daughter-in-law Laura Laing of Nanton, son Lloyd of Calgary, and his grandchildren Clayton (Darby) and Shelby (Shane). He is also survived by three brothers: George and (Colleen) Smith of Nanton, Edward and (Jo-Ann) Smith of Hythe, Alberta and Warren and (Aileen) Smith of Eaglesham, Alberta, sisters-in-law Sandra and (Jan) Molendyk of Three Hills and Lucille James of Wainwright. He was predeceased by his parents Fred and Gen Smith and father-in-law and mother-in-law John and Shirley Hay, as well as brother-in-law Ben James. He is also survived by aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and numerous close, lifelong friends and associates.

Born in the Nanton Hospital, Dan grew up in Nanton, attending Nanton Consolidated School. Always a hard worker, Dan worked summer haying camps on the hills west of Nanton as a teenager, spending long days mowing the hay with a sickle, the evenings tending to and sharpening the knives on the equipment and then sleeping in tents. At the age of 15 he worked on the Nanton town water line that piped water to the town from the big spring west of Nanton. He spent a few years working for McLeod Construction and for Bruce Young at the Texaco.

In 1960, Dan graduated from Olds School of Agriculture with honors. After marrying Serena in June of 1964, he worked at Firestone Tire and Rubber Plant for several years. After renting some land for 3 years, in 1971, Dan and Serena were fortunate to return home to Nanton – to their passion for ranching and farming at Dad Hays Ranch, west of Nanton, raising reputable cattle and growing feed and hay. He was keen to learn new things and keep abreast of changes in agriculture, never backing down from work that needed to be done. It was here at Smith Hay Hereford Ranches that Dan and Serena raised their sons. Although Dan and Serena moved off the ranch and into town in 2012, he remained a mentor to his son John and wife Laura who have taken the reins into the third generation of the ranch.

Dan was always giving back to the community of Nanton that he loved, lived and worked. 4-H saw him serving as President and other positions, attending 4H Club week and judging showmanship and grooming at other clubs. He was a charter member of the Nanton Promoters, a 50-year member of Nanton Masonic Lodge No 17 and a member of Christ Church Vestry. Dan also served as a Waldron Grazing Co-op board member for 12 years and Secretary/Treasurer of Spruce Ranching Co-op for 23 years.

Dan delighted in time spent with family and friends. He enjoyed Square Dancing with Serena – a recreational activity they participated in for 40 years. Maui was a popular holiday destination where he spent time beaching and sight-seeing. Most of all, he loved spending time with family and friends in the mountain pastures that he called home.

A private family graveside service will be held at Nanton Cemetery on June 10th at 2:00 p.m. If so desired, memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice. The Smith family would like to thank the staff at the Claresholm General Hospital for their exceptional kindness, compassion and care.

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass)
403.652.4242.

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Lyle Reeves Funerals - June 12, 2020 at 05:12 PM



“ Serena and families, our sincere condolences at this time of Dan's passing.
Your neighbors,
Maggi and Tim McIvor

Maggi McIvor - June 21, 2020 at 04:15 PM



“ My condolences to Serena, Lloyd, John and Laura, Clayton and Shelby on the loss of your Dan. Serena, I am so sorry you have lost your husband, friend and half your team., and what an incredible team you two were . You worked so well together and complimented each other so much. I remember in 4H Dan was always there to help the PeeWee members with their calves and record books and that giving to the community continued on and now the community has lost a fine member and I a great neighbor.

Rod Coote - June 13, 2020 at 11:08 PM



“ Teresa McCoy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



Teresa McCoy - June 12, 2020 at 02:18 PM



“ Dear Serena,

Sorry to hear about your loss. So many losses this year. I remember Danny's kind face and eyes.

Thinking about you. Dad and Danny can visit on the porch again.

All the best,

Teresa McCoy (nee Heal)

Teresa McCoy - June 12, 2020 at 02:18 PM



“ Dan's laughter and kindness will be missed. I never thanked him enough for all of the help and support shown my family. So very sorry to all who knew and loved him. Cindy Leader and family.

Cynthia Leader - June 11, 2020 at 05:53 PM



“ Serena and family, our thoughts are with you all. May you be comforted with the many wonderful memories you have shared. Ron and Myrna Lafreniere

Ron and Myrna Lafreniere - June 11, 2020 at 05:10 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Dan's passing. We have many good memories of Dan, me from school and Bob from Firestone. Our thoughts are with you. Sheila and Bob Lake

Sheila and Bob Lake - June 10, 2020 at 06:53 PM



“ Becky Young lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



Becky Young - June 09, 2020 at 02:46 PM



“ Dear Serena, I was saddened to hear of Dan's passing.
Sending many hugs to you and your family during this time of saying goodbye.

Becky - June 09, 2020 at 02:51 PM



“ Serena and family, George, Ted, Warren & families. - It so saddens me to hear that Dan has passed. You boys are my second cousin, but in my eyes you are like first cousins since I never knew my first cousins when I was growing up. And now Dan is the first one for us to lose and that is hard to accept..One of the things I think about when I think of his life accomplishments that hasn't been mentioned is what a wonderful dancer, especially Square dancer he was!! That will be a memory and feeling you will hold onto forever Serena! Sending hugs and love to all!
Patty Fisher Ness

Patty Fisher Ness - June 09, 2020 at 01:10 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Terry and Patty Atkinson - June 07, 2020 at 07:21 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Terry and Patty Patty Atkinson - June 07, 2020 at 07:19 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Terry and Patty Patty Atkinson - June 07, 2020 at 07:17 PM



“ Dear Serena, John and Laura, Lloyd, Clayton and Shelby;
Although we watched Dan grow weary and weaker, we were none-the-less very sad to know he had passed. Not only was his illness hard on him, it was most difficult for you as well. You have chosen a very fitting photo of Dan to accompany this notice. He looks pensive and involved, which he always was. Dan was a great friend to Terry for 75 years, and that is an immeasurable loss. Not only was Dan a relative, he was a cherished friend. We will remember Dan for always being cheerful and ready to lend a hand. He was a valued member of the Nanton Promoters, a member of the remarkable "group 2", who had the same 5 members from charter to retirement. We will always have fond memories of our shared trip to the Rose Bowl Parade, and the cruise to Alaska. May you also find comfort and peace in your fond memories of wonderful times enjoyed together. Pride yourselves in knowing you enriched his life as much as he did yours, and he will be remembered by the Nanton community as "one of the good ones"!

Sincerely,
Terry and Patty Atkinson



Terry and Patty Atkinson - June 06, 2020 at 10:58 PM



“ I met Dan March of 1999 at the interview for the manager job at the Spruce Grazing Co-Op.
He was always there to help. Would always go above and beyond, and always had a kind word to say about everyone .
Just an all around top shelf man

joe engelhat - June 05, 2020 at 10:21 PM



“ My condolences to Serena, John, Lloyd and families. I have many fond memories of working with Dan on projects at the "Spruce".
Always looked forward to our visits. A hard working kind man.
Blessed to have had Dan as a friend.

Rex Davis - June 05, 2020 at 07:47 PM



“ Erika Keller lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



Erika Keller - June 05, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ Serena, John and Family and Lloyd, it is with great sadness to hear of your loss, It was a pleasure to know Dan as a family and community man. Sending our love Tom and Louise

Louise Attwood - June 05, 2020 at 11:56 AM



“ Serena, John, Lloyd and the Smith Family,
You lost a good one! Dan was such a kind, generous, hardworking gentleman. His support and friendship will never be forgotten. His journey through illness was not an easy one and you suffered along side him. May you find peace in your happy memories and solace in the fact that he will be missed by many! Thinking of you all.
Sandy and Dianne Comstock

Dianne Comstock - June 05, 2020 at 11:23 AM



“ Rory Duce lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



Rory Duce - June 05, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ Dan exuded kindness and was an outstanding gentle-man. We are so sorry for your loss. - Marianne and Doug

Marianne and Doug Morrison - June 05, 2020 at 09:23 AM



“ Serena, John & Laura, Lloyd, George & Colleen, Edward & Jo-Ann, Warren & Aileen, and family ,
Sorry to hear about Dans passing. May your memories keep him close.
Our thoughts are with you
Violet & Jerry Kautz

Violet & Jerry Kautz - June 05, 2020 at 08:26 AM



“ GlenAnnette Halbert lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



GlenAnnette Halbert - June 05, 2020 at 02:05 AM



“ Serena and family, we were so sorry to hear of Dan's passing. He was such a great guy and will be missed by all that had the pleasure of knowing him. Please know our thoughts are with you all.
Doug & Cindy McDonald

Cindy McDonald - June 04, 2020 at 11:41 PM



“ Serena, John and Lloyd,

I am so sorry to hear of Dan's passing. He was always the sweetest man. John, I am sending you a big hug and lots of love. Hoping you are all surrounded by your family and friends as you go through your grieving journey.

With Love,

Lynnette Mercer (Fries)

Lynnette (Fries) Mercer - June 04, 2020 at 11:40 PM



“ Ann Holmes Zirk lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



Ann Holmes Zirk - June 04, 2020 at 09:55 PM



“ Our condolences to the Smith Families on Dan's passing. He will be missed by all that knew him. Sheila Wilson and Family.

Sheila Wilson - June 06, 2020 at 01:11 AM



“ Serena, John, Lloyd and family, our sincere condolences to you all. Dan, was a great man, a good friend to all, was a pleasure to call him a friend, he will be missed.

Regards

Renne and Trevor Reidy

Renne Reidy - June 06, 2020 at 01:35 PM



“ So sorry for your loss of husband,dad & grandpa. May your memories comfort you at this difficult time.

Carolyn Walker

Carolyn Walker - June 04, 2020 at 08:47 PM



“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with you, Serena, and family.

Nancy & Ted Heidmiller - June 04, 2020 at 08:42 PM



“ Sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with your family at this difficult time.

Dan & Jackie Sawley - June 04, 2020 at 08:11 PM



“ Mu deepest condolences to Mrs. Smith, John, Lloyd and family.

Jennifer Herman - June 04, 2020 at 07:30 PM



“ Eric And Lea Sorkilmo lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



Eric and Lea Sorkilmo - June 04, 2020 at 05:34 PM



“ So sorry for you loss. Prayers for your family.

Gail and Albert Fries - June 04, 2020 at 08:16 PM



“ Sorry for your loss Smith family, from Duane and Darla smith.

Darla smith - June 04, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Dan, Serena. He was one of the good guys. Thinking of you. Take care.

Ralph Leavens - June 04, 2020 at 01:21 PM



“ Sharon Attwood lit a candle in memory of Mr. Daniel Harold Smith



Sharon Attwood - June 04, 2020 at 12:37 PM



“ sorry to hear about Dan

Sharon Attwood - June 04, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ Dear Serena, John, Lloyd and family. we are very saddened in the loss of such a great neighbour and friend. we have very fond memories of Dan over the years and we will cherish all of them. Dan will surely be missed by all who were blessed to have known him and to be proud that we were friends. He was certainly a hard working man who loved his life and now is at peace. Hugs Bruce&Bonnie

bonnie Smith - June 04, 2020 at 10:10 AM



“ Sincere sympathy Serena and family from Marlene herriman

Marlene herriman - June 04, 2020 at 09:36 AM



“ My deepest condolences to the Smith family In the passing of Dan, it was a honour getting to know Dan while I worked at CIBC. He gave good ole practical advice and I'll always keep that close to my heart. Kind thoughts and prayers to Serena, John and Lloyd and their families during this difficult time.

Bridget Shea



Bridget Shea - June 04, 2020 at 12:17 AM



“ Our sincere condolences Serena, John, Lloyd and families. Sad yet a blessing for Dan and family. So hard to see them suffer when nothing you can do for them. Those of us fortunate to have known Dan as a neighbor and friend will miss him always. Thankfully we will all very fond memories of a wonderful man, hard working and always there to help if needed. Many great memories of our years together on Spruce Grazing Board. Please call if we can be of any help at any time. We will always consider and remember you as great neighbours. Don &Pat



Don & Pat McRae - June 03, 2020 at 07:41 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the family at this time of sorrow. May fond memories of Dan live on in your hearts forever!

Cheryl & Sten Lundberg

Cheryl Lundberg - June 03, 2020 at 03:39 PM



“ Serena; John, Lloyd and families - my sincere condolences to all of you at the loss of this fine man.

Joanne Notdorft - June 03, 2020 at 02:12 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time .Sincere sympathy to you and your family Sincerely Eldon and Barb Lyall

Eldon and Barb Lyall - June 03, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ Serena & family - So sorry to hear about Dan. We are sending strength, peace and prayers for you and the family as you navigate the next days, weeks and months ahead. We know all your memories in time will bring comfort. Dan was respected and loved in the community and will be missed by so many. Betty & Bruce Bridgett

Betty Bridgett - June 03, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ Dear Serena and family- May your lifetime of treasured memories surround you with love and comfort at this time.



karen crawford - June 03, 2020 at 10:06 AM