



Daniel Smith

July 29, 1928 - January 21, 2012

Daniel R. Smith, age 83, of Hazelhurst and formerly of Tomahawk, passed away on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at Seasons of Life Hospice House in Woodruff. He was born on July 29, 1928 in Wausau, WI, the son of Martin and Elizabeth (nee Bushmaker) Smith. Dan attended St. Mary's School in Tomahawk, Tomahawk High School and NCO School at the Army Military Academy. He married Beverly J. Wesenberg on April 1, 1975. Dan enlisted in the WI National Guard 32nd Division on June 9, 1950, having served through the Korean War, Vietnam and Berlin Crisis. He was activated in 1961, by the call of President Kennedy, to serve during the Missile Crisis at Ft. Lewis, WA. Dan was in charge of training 4th Army Personnel scheduled for Vietnam. As the administrator of the Tomahawk Armory, 1SG Smith was instrumental in making the Armory available to the elementary grades for two years when the Tomahawk School burned down in 1978. Over 250 students graduated from the Armory School and appropriate diplomas were awarded by 1SG Smith. Dan retired from the Army National Guard in March 1984 after working for 33 years as an administrator and First Sergeant. He played semi-pro football for the Merrill Foxes. Dan was a member and past commander of the American Legion Post 89 and former president of the Lee Lake Property Owners Association for more than 20 years. Dan is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Beverly J. (nee Wesenberg) Smith; son, Brian D. Smith of Wausau, WI; daughter, Deborah M. (Wayne) Hester of Semmes, AL; son, Victor P. (Ruth) Smith of Gleason, WI; son, Vincent W. (Sandy) Smith of Gulfport, MS and son,

Jeffrey J. (Judy) Smith of Marathon, WI. He is further survived by 9 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, relatives and friends. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, January 28, 2012 at Bolger Funeral Home- Minocqua Chapel, with visitation one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Full Military Honors will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Arthritis Foundation, Wisconsin Chapter, 1650 S.180th Street, West Allis, WI 53214-4021 or to a charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall

CS

“ One of my fondest childhood memories was a Sunday afternoon drive to visit Uncle Danny and his family. We had so much fun playing with our cousins! You and dad had the same twinkle when you smiled! Say "hi" to pops when you see him....Love you!

Cheryl (Smith) Schroeder - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

DH

“ I'll never forget dad's twinkling, piercing blue eyes nor the Smith smile. I see it many times in my own mirror. I am so thankful for having reconciled with dad several years ago after a self-imposed estrangement. Seeing him in December was a wonderful time of sharing with him and Brian and I will treasure those few hours forever. Although we didn't always see eye-to-eye, I always loved the man who brought me into this world, gave me my sense of humor and helped to give me an emotional strength I have had to use time and time again. Til we meet again, Daddy, You will ALWAYS be important.

Debbie Smith Hester - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

JS

“ Dad and I spent time together talking about everything and anything but it still wasn't enough. Take advantage of what time you have because now it's gone. I'll miss you friend.

Jeff Smith - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

LE

“ My heartfelt sympathies to the family. I had the privelege of serving under 1st Sergeant Smith's command for nine years while serving with Company C in Tomahawk. He was a terrific leader as well as a friend. So sorry to hear of his passing.

Larry Erickson - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

JK

“ My sympathy to all of the Smith families. I have so many great memories of growing up in our "troubled neighborhood." May your Dad rest in peace. With kindest regards.
John Krueger

John Krueger - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

"B

“ Daniel Smith

"CPT Lee" & Sheila Bruegl - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

JH

“ Dan had a great personality and I enjoyed his sense of humor when Bev and Dan made the journies to Nebraska to visit my family when I was young. My sympathies go out to Bev and the rest of the family. I will remember all the good times! God Bless!

John Harms - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

MF

“ Bev,

So sorry for your loss. Always cherish the fond memories you have shared through the years with Dan.

Thank you for being a special friend to me. You are one awesome lady!

Maureen Friel - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

DM

“ *I was blessed to be a 6th grader to not only say I graduated from the armory but to gain a better respect and understanding of flag, duty, and country. First Sergeant Smith was the face of the National Guards a true figure who got respect not just because he demanded it, because of his own actions and convictions. 1SG Smith would become my first First Sergeants when I enlisted in February 1984 and one who I looked up to, admired, and wanted to be.*

Thank you for being a big part of my life, you will be missed!

Dan

Daniel Molley - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

LT

“ *Dear Bev,*

*We are sorry for your loss. Dan was a great 6-week neighbor.
Lynn and Skip*

Lynn & Skip Tosch - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM