



## Jimmy V. Smallwood

April 20, 1932 - November 3, 2025

Jimmy V. Smallwood, 93, passed away Monday afternoon, November 3, at Holston Valley Hospital, Kingsport, Tennessee. He was preceded in death by his parents, Della Burgin Smallwood and Howard Smallwood, Pennington Gap; by a brother Bill Smallwood and wife Marjorie of Salt Lake City, Utah; and a brother-in-law, Charles Pope, Paris, KY.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Roberta; and three nieces Kathy (Wally) Grace; Gina (Jeff) Soto, Salt Lake City, Utah; and Anne (Chuck) Cushing, Blaine, WA. He was the last male survivor of the Smallwood family. He is also survived by Terry and Diana Pope, brother- and sister-in-law, Pennington Gap; and sister-in-law, Carolyn Pope, Paris, KY.

Jimmy was a Pennington High School Graduate where he played baseball, basketball and was a quarterback on the Bobcats Football Team. He was a US Navy veteran and served on the USS Hooper Island, 1952-56, during the Korean Conflict.

He worked at the Appalachia Hospital as a lab and X-ray technician, then as an electrician and mine foreman for Bethlehem Steel in Pike County, KY. He was also a partner in an underground coal mine and a strip mine in Wise County, VA. He and his wife owned Gibson's Department Store, Pennington Gap, for many years.

His hobby was woodworking, and he helped build several houses which included handcrafted woodwork and stained-glass windows.

He served on the Pennington Gap Town Council and as Mayor for twelve years. During his tenure as Mayor the renovation of Lee Theatre was a major project.

He was a member of Miles Lodge #165 for 60 years. He attended FUMC, Pennington Gap, and St. Charles First Baptist Church.

He loved to travel, and his favorite places were Ireland and the Canadian Rockies.

He was a passionate UK basketball fan. When the Cats went to the Maui Invitational, he traveled with several other fans to Maui with the basketball team. He traveled to the SEC tournament for twenty years and several Final Fours (the Cats never won the Final Four.)

Friends will be received on Thursday, November 6th, from 10 -11 am at Robinette Funeral Home, Jonesville, VA. A graveside service will follow at Cecil-Fry Cemetery, Pennington Gap, VA at 11:30 am. with Pastor Paul Davis Jr. officiating. Nephews will serve as pallbearers.

Following the graveside service, everyone is invited to a luncheon at First Christian Church.

Contributions can be made to the Cecil-Fry Cemetery Association, Nancy Sergent P O Box 160, Pennington Gap, VA 24277

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Robinette Funeral Home (Jonesville)  
146 Maple Drive  
P.O. Box 238  
Jonesville, VA 24263  
(276) 346-1196

## Graveside service

NOV 6. 11:30 AM (ET)

Cecil-Fry Cemetery  
40910 W. Morgan Avenue  
Pennington Gap, VA 24277

# Tribute Wall

EW

“ *Roberta, I am so sorry for your loss. I didn't know until yesterday. Sending sympathy and condolences.*



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**Ernestine Wright** - November 11, 2025 at 08:18 PM

JM

“ *We were so sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing. Jimmy was such a good man, and he was a wonderful neighbor. My daughters, Ella and Ashleigh, loved Jimmy, and they always enjoyed visiting him and Roberta. We will continue to keep the Roberta and the family in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Jonathan, Eleshia, Ella & Ashleigh Marion*

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**Jonathan Marion** - November 05, 2025 at 11:36 PM

GM

“ *Prayers for Roberta and the families. I will miss seeing Jimmy with Roberta at our Adult Education meetings. He was a great person and will be missed.*

*Glenna McReynolds*



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**Glenna McReynolds** - November 05, 2025 at 08:05 PM

KW

“ Kathy & Wally purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Jimmy V. Smallwood.



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**Kathy & Wally** - November 05, 2025 at 07:13 PM

FB

“ Where do I begin to share .y love and gratitude to this amazing man and dear friend ? There is a lifetime of memories of good times at club picnics, dinners, award ceremonies, and special friend with him and Roberta at our family gatherings. Jimmy loved country cooking and he would always find something that reminded him of the old days being served at our gatherings. He was so talented in e erythin he did. While visiting Charlotte and I one day at Leeman Field, he watched us struggle getting clips to fit on the displays. He watched intensely and left. A few days later he came back with a unique invention, a small block of sa ded wood with a clamp and screw head which fit perfectly on the metal of the display and with ease allowed the clip be stretched enough to fit. We were amazed. This incredible man had the mind of a genius and I believe he could have built a thing. We will treasure those 2 small blocks of wood forever. Jimmy was always our biggest supporters of the lights a d worked endlessly to make sure they stayed in Pennington Gap. He was a charismatic Mayor and did so much good for our town. He gave 12 years of his life to that position and I wish we could have kept him forever. My heart aches for Roberta and his family. What a tremendous loss this is for them and for all of us that loved him so much. It's always been Jimmy and Roberta and I can't imagine one without the other. I just hope both knew and know how much I love them Both. Rest in Heaven dear friend. You sure deserve it.

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**Faye Riddle Bocock** - November 05, 2025 at 05:27 PM

SD

“ *Roberta, Please know I am thinking of you and all who loved your husband. You have my sympathy and prayers for comfort and peace in the coming days. Susan Doughty*

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**Susan Doughty** - November 05, 2025 at 12:21 PM

CA

“ *Roberta and I went to H.S. together. At one of our class reunions, we discovered we all like to travel. We took some memorable trips with Jimmy and Roberta. We are keeping Roberta and the family in or prayers during this difficult time . Sending her our love, Carol huff Artone and Carm Artone!*

*Caro*

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**Carol Artone** - November 05, 2025 at 12:10 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jimmy V. Smallwood.*



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November 04, 2025 at 07:20 PM