



## Smitty Douglas Baker

August 5, 1949 - November 28, 2022

2 Timothy 4:7, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." Smitty Douglas Baker, 73, of Pennington Gap, Virginia, passed away, Monday, November 28, 2022, surrounded by those most cherished to him.

He was born in St. Charles, Virginia, on August 5th, 1949, the son of the late Ralph and Geneva Baker. He graduated from St. Charles High School, in 1967. In 1971, he received a Bachelor of Science degree, in Business Administration, from Lincoln Memorial University. He received his Master of Science degree in Psychology from Union College, in Barbourville, Kentucky, in 1988.

Smitty served as an educator for 34-years, most recently retiring, in September 2022. He began teaching as an Adjunct Psychology Professor, at Southeast Community College, in Middlesboro, Kentucky and Mountain Empire Community College, in Big Stone Gap, Virginia. Smitty finished his distinguished career as full-time Professor and Chair of the Psychology division, at MECC, where he was loved by his students and respected by his peers.

Smitty was a member of the St. Charles United Methodist Church. He was a member of the Miles Lodge No. 165, in Pennington Gap, Virginia., where he served as a 51-year Master Mason and Shriner.

He is survived by his loving wife of 41 years, Mona Baker; his son and daughter-in-law, Grant and Mary Beth Baker, of Jonesville; two precious grandchildren, Olivia and Walker Baker; special sister-in-law, Lisa Rasnic and nephew Adam Pendergraft.

The family will receive friends from 5 until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 1, 2022 at Robinette Funeral Home in Jonesville, VA. A service of honor and remembrance will immediately follow with Pastor Paul Davis, Jr. officiating. Special music will be provided by Olivia Baker and Mike Sprinkle. The graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 2, at Lee Memorial Gardens in Woodway with Masonic Rites presented by Miles Lodge #165. Everyone who would like to travel in procession to the cemetery are asked to meet at Robinette Funeral Home in Jonesville by 10:30 a.m. on Friday.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

DEC 1. 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Graveside service

DEC 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lee Memorial Gardens  
1986 Hickory Cir Rd  
Pennington Gap, VA 24277  
(276) 546-2523

# Tribute Wall



“ *Smitty Douglas Baker*

October 05, 2023 at 07:31 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the family and loved ones for your loss. My own memories of Smitty are fleeting and vague but my mother Retta Jo who was his first cousin spoke of him kindly through the years and it was evident how much she cared for him. I hope that with time you come to find more comfort in your memories than sadness.*



**Renee** - January 29, 2023 at 09:49 PM



“ *Wilma W. McNew lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker*



**Wilma W. McNew** - December 04, 2022 at 12:41 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Smitty's death. From his first cousin Allene Baker Collins. His uncle Fayette's daughter.*

**Allene Baker Collins** - December 02, 2022 at 07:51 PM

MI

“ I'll never forget our many conversations in his office. We would just sit in there between classes and just talk about things. I really enjoyed talking with Prof. Baker

-- Former Macarthur Inbody

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**Macarthur Inbody** - December 02, 2022 at 01:34 PM

TH

“ You are all in our prayers.  
Tim, Jacqui and Hayden Hobbs

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**Tim and Jacqui Hobbs** - December 01, 2022 at 08:24 PM

DH

“ Dr Clyde W & Freda M Hester lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker



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**Dr Clyde W & Freda M Hester** - December 01, 2022 at 06:27 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Smitty Douglas Baker.

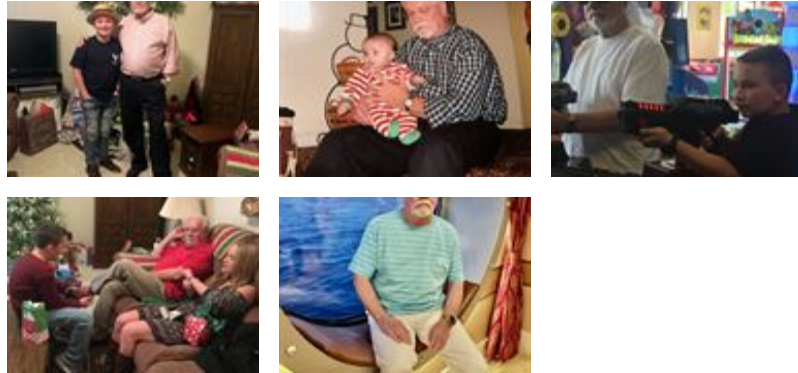


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December 01, 2022 at 03:34 PM



“ 43 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Robinette Funeral Homes - December 01, 2022 at 02:19 PM

RT

“ *Having roomed with Smitty at LMU, I was privileged to get to know him better than many—he was a most humble, giving and compassionate person. He always had a smile, and made everyone else smile. In spite of the fact that we hadn't stayed in close contact, I still consider Smitty a true friend, and those are few and far between. Tinkerbell was always easier for him than my name...*

Ram Tankersley - November 30, 2022 at 06:08 PM

MM

“ *Michael And Sheila Rhea McNulty lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker*



Michael and Sheila Rhea McNulty - November 30, 2022 at 05:47 PM

RS

“ *Mona and Lisa I am so sorry for the pain you both are feeling at this time. Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Ruby*



Ruby M Sanders - November 30, 2022 at 03:17 PM

BM

“ *Smitty will be so missed. I will miss his strolls into my office which would begin with a question but would usually end with a couple of stories and some laughs. My condolences to Mona and family.*

Brandi Martinez - November 30, 2022 at 02:15 PM

LM

“ *The world certainly feels darker today. Smitty was a brilliant man and I am so grateful to have known him in this life. This world could have used many more years of Smitty Baker wisdom. 🙁*

Lisa Milanese - November 30, 2022 at 01:42 PM

BS

“ *Beth Snodgrass lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker*



Beth Snodgrass - November 30, 2022 at 01:36 PM

TL

“ *Terri L Lane lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker*



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**Terri L Lane** - November 30, 2022 at 12:35 PM

BB

“ *Becky Bevins lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker*



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**Becky Bevins** - November 30, 2022 at 12:15 PM

MO

“ *Smitty will definitely be missed. He was so kind and easy to talk to. I really enjoyed working with him at MECC. My condolences to Mona and family.*

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**Miranda Oaks** - November 30, 2022 at 11:45 AM

HH

“ *It was an honor to work with Smitty at MECC and also to work with Mona. Smitty brought such joy and peace to us and was adored by many students. I could always depend on him to share wisdom, stories, and a helping hand. Smitty was a treasure in the Arts and Sciences division and he truly made my time there very special and rewarding. I will always cherish his faithful support and giving spirit. My greatest sympathy for Mona and family.*



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**Harriette Arrington Hall** - November 30, 2022 at 11:21 AM

DR

*Love and prayers for the entire family. May God grant peace and comfort in the days ahead. ❤️🙏*

**Debra Rhea** - November 30, 2022 at 06:46 PM

DS

“ *Donna Shelton lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker*



**Donna Shelton** - November 30, 2022 at 10:40 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Smitty Douglas Baker.*



November 30, 2022 at 10:35 AM

DS

“ *Division of Arts and Sciences purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Smitty Douglas Baker.*



**Division of Arts and Sciences** - November 30, 2022 at 10:26 AM

DD

“ Smitty was well beloved here at MECC. He always had a smile on his face and a kind word to give. He will be greatly missed. Prayers to Mona and family.



Dana DeFoor - November 30, 2022 at 10:12 AM

JJ

“ I enjoyed teaching with Smitty. He was a jewel and will be greatly missed.

Jane Jones - November 30, 2022 at 09:54 AM

LW

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Smitty was a wonderful man- always smiling. Kind. I pray God grants you comfort during these days

Lena L Whisenhunt - November 30, 2022 at 09:46 AM

KH

“ I so enjoyed working with Smitty. He was always friendly, kind, and helpful. I am so very sorry to hear of his passing. He will be missed. Praying for your family.

Kristy Hall - November 30, 2022 at 09:34 AM

AH

“ Prayers for your family.



Arietta Harvey - November 30, 2022 at 09:31 AM

MA

“ *Martha Anderson lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker*



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**Martha Anderson** - November 30, 2022 at 09:27 AM

MA

*Smitty will be greatly missed and I have gained so much in working with him. Sending prayers for the family during this time. - Martha Anderson*

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**Martha Anderson** - November 30, 2022 at 09:38 AM

PA

“ *Mona prayers for you during this time.*



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**Patsy Brimelow Adkins** - November 30, 2022 at 07:24 AM

CC

“ *I'm sorry for your loss, & peace & comfort for the family.*



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**Carla Crowder** - November 30, 2022 at 01:19 AM

SG

“ It was a wonderful privilege to work with Smitty at MECC and get to know him over many years. I will remember him for his kindness, humor, and thoughtfulness. I will miss him dropping by my office to ask a question that turned into a long chat. Smitty was a bright light in our division, and we will miss him tremendously. My thoughts and condolences are with Mona and his family.

-Sarah Gilliam

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**Sarah Gilliam** - November 29, 2022 at 11:15 PM

LS

“ Mona, Prayers for you and the family during this difficult time.



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**Lisa Stewart** - November 29, 2022 at 10:09 PM

TA

“ Tinker Anderson lit a candle in memory of Smitty Douglas Baker



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**Tinker Anderson** - November 29, 2022 at 09:52 PM

BH

“ Thinking of all the family during this sad time.

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**Bob and Sammie Horton** - November 29, 2022 at 09:11 PM

LS

“ Prayers for the family.



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**Lee and Pauline Davis MECC Staff** - November 29, 2022 at 09:02 PM

CH

“ Claudia Howard lit a candle in memory of  
Smitty Douglas Baker



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**Claudia Howard** - November 29, 2022 at 08:35 PM

MC

“ We are sorry for your loss. We pray God will  
give you comfort.



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**Mike & Patty Clark** - November 29, 2022 at 08:27 PM