



## Van Doyle Smith

February 23, 1936 - February 21, 2016

Doyle Smith, 79, of New Waverly, Texas went to be with the Lord on February 21, 2016 in Huntsville, Texas. Doyle was born on February 23, 1936 in Bradley Co. Arkansas. He was a resident of Montgomery and Walker counties after moving to Texas in 1969. A veteran of the U.S. Army, Doyle served most of his time in Germany; he was very proud to have served his country. He was a master painter in auto body work. After retiring he was an avid fisherman and enjoyed several years of tournament fishing with the BASS Federation. He loved motorcycle touring, especially in the Rocky Mountain states. Doyle loved people and one of his favorite pastimes was spending time talking with his friends and gardening. Most of all, Doyle loved just being with his wife, Diane, at home and at their place on White Rock Creek. He also enjoyed having his dog Zeke go everywhere with him.

Doyle was a loving father and grandfather. Family was very important to him and he was an excellent role model to his two daughters and to his six stepsons whom he loved very much. Doyle was blessed with a lot of good friends who meant a great deal to him, especially his friend Cecil who was there nearly every day helping care for him for the last several months of his life.

Doyle is preceded in death by his parents Julius and Ethel Smith, brothers T. Roy, Bernard, John T. Smith, and stepson, Jimmy Hankins. He is survived by

his loving wife Diane Pool Smith of New Waverly, Texas; sister, Martha Sue Wilson of Warren, Arkansas, daughters, Rhonda Powell and husband, Scott of Brandon, Mississippi and Tammy Watson and husband, Brent of Little Rock, Arkansas. Stepsons: Randy Hankins and wife Donna, Mark Hankins, Scott Hankins and wife Rachel of Rison, Arkansas, Jason Richards and wife Ryann of Conroe, Texas, Jereme Eckles of New Waverly, Texas. Numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews also survive.

Services for Doyle will be held at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in Huntsville, Texas, Pastor Leroy Brown officiating. Visitation will be Wednesday, February 24, 2016 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Full obituary may be viewed and memorial condolences may be made to the family at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Moore's Grove Cemetery

FM 1374  
New Waverly, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 24. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr.  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(936) 291-7300  
belinda@shmfm.com

## Service

FEB 25. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr.  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(936) 291-7300  
belinda@shmfm.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Van Doyle Smith*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Our Prayers are with the family. He was a good and funny man. Lot's of memories of him and his brothers fishing with my dad. Teresa Savage Nichols and Varniece Savage*

**Teresa Nichols** - February 24, 2016 at 01:55 PM



“ *Alice "Savage" Owen lit a candle in memory of Van Doyle Smith*



**Alice "Savage" Owen** - February 24, 2016 at 01:47 PM



*Tammy & Rhonda---So sorry to hear about your Dad. We have a lot of memories of him from when we were in Sumpter. Nena Savage Williams & Alice Savage Owen*

**Alice "Savage" Owen** - February 24, 2016 at 01:49 PM

BF

“ *BRIAN BROWNING AND FAMILY purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Van Doyle Smith.*



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**BRIAN BROWNING AND FAMILY** - February 24, 2016 at 12:08 PM



“ *Sheila Hankins purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Van Doyle Smith.*



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**Sheila Hankins** - February 24, 2016 at 09:27 AM



“ *Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Van Doyle Smith.*



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February 23, 2016 at 05:22 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Van Doyle Smith.*



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February 23, 2016 at 04:29 PM

MK

“ Milton And Mary Knighton purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Van Doyle Smith.



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**Milton And Mary Knighton** - February 23, 2016 at 01:29 PM

AS

“ Doyle was a great man, friend, father. But the joy in his smile and his adoration was all because of you Diane. He knew you loved him as much as he loved you!! It was beautiful to watch your love story unfold. Our prayers and hearts are with you and your entire family. We love you and will miss him so much!

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**Anne Smith** - February 23, 2016 at 09:58 AM

WB

“ Had the privilege of knowing Doyle. Worked along- side Doyle from time to time for Brian. Always a pleasure to see doyle even at work. A good man.

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**wayne browning** - February 23, 2016 at 12:12 AM

BR

“ my best buddy always , brian

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**brian** - February 22, 2016 at 08:05 PM

BR

“ me and my friend laughed and joked daily , we had sum best times of my life.

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**brian** - February 22, 2016 at 08:03 PM

LD

“ Doyle was "one of a kind" and we will miss him terribly. Thinking of you, Diane always...

Lesley Davis - February 22, 2016 at 05:48 PM

BR

*my best buddy always, brian*

brian - February 22, 2016 at 07:58 PM



*Doyle was one of the best father figure men in my life. Such a good sweet man. He would give the last dollar out of his pocket to anyone that needed it.*

*Diane, you were the love of his life. Everybody could see it by the look in yours and his eyes and smiles on your faces. I have so many precious memories of you two staying at my house when you came to Arkansas. Such good times. He will be missed by many but mostly by you , I do believe. My heart and prayers go out to you right now and many many days that follow. I want to thank you for loving and taking care of this great man we called Paw Doyle! Love always,  
Sheila Hankins*

Sheila Hankins - February 24, 2016 at 08:42 AM