



Jerry C. Smith

August 30, 1946 - May 2, 2014

Jerry C. Smith, age 67, of Evansville, passed away Friday, May 2, 2014 at Deaconess Hospital Main Campus.

Jerry was the owner and operator of Smith's Media Advertising Agency, but was better known for his days as DJ James Oliver Stagg "JOS" on WJPS. He was an avid collector of vintage vinyl records and loved to fish. Jerry was a veteran of the Army National Guard and a member of American Legion Funkhouser Post #8. He was active in trying to better his community through his service in the Westside Nut Club, Water for People and the Tri-State Hot Stove League.

Surviving Jerry are his wife, Debbie Baylor-Smith; daughter, Crystal (Kirk) Martin of Evansville and three sons, Jason (Amanda) Smith of Newburgh, Sean (Stephanie) Baylor of Fishers, IN and Seth (Sara) Baylor of Evansville. Jerry was also a very loving grandfather and is survived by seven grandchildren, Shane and Logan Martin, Nathan and Natalie Baylor, Jackson Baylor and Jackson and Jenna Smith.

Friends may visit with the family from 2:00 until 7:00 P.M. on Monday, May 5, 2014 at Pierre Funeral Home, 2601 W. Franklin Street, where there will be an memorial service conducted at 5:00 P.M.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Pierre Funeral Home to help defray funeral expenses.

An informal gathering to celebrate Jerry's life will be held at a later date at the American Legion Funkhouser Post #8.

Condolences may be made online at www.pierrefuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 5. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home
2601 W. Franklin Street
Evansville, IN

Service

MAY 5 (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home
2601 West Franklin Street
Evansville, IN 47712
(812) 423-6471
info@pierrefuneralhome.com
<https://www.pierrefuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Jerry C. Smith

January 16, 2023 at 06:53 PM



“ Debbie,

I never met you, but I knew Jerry. And, I started off in radio working for Courtney in Mt. Vernon back in 1973. It was in looking for any posts on Courtney that led me to discovering this page, and then I realized that today is the one year anniversary of Jerry's passing. I am truly sorry.

My own air name in those days was Jay Michaels - I worked for WROZ, then I became a weather man on Channel 25, WEHT.

You are in my prayers. God bless you.

*Mike Gilland
Gainesville, FL*

Mike Gilland - May 02, 2015 at 09:37 AM



Hi Jay, Thank you for such a wonderful note. I come here for some sort of peace. My email is debejere@gmail.com if I may help with anything. God BLess you. Debbie

Deborah Baylor-Smith - March 01, 2016 at 03:17 PM

SO

“ Ah, "Jim Stagg". Along with the other Tiger Square Dj's, I hung on his every word,annocing the Top 40 position of my favorite tune he was about to play. Mr. Smith most certainly brightened the sound track of my teenage years. RIP and Godspeed, Jerry Smith. I would give anything to return to those days of listening to you while dragging Main.

Samantha Orez - May 13, 2014 at 08:32 PM

DB

This is Jerry's wife, Debbie. I am revisiting this page today. to gain comfort. This made me smile. Thank You.

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:11 AM

TF

“ My prayers go out to the family. I will miss such a beautiful person as Jerry. I was and still a huge fan. What a voice. Evansville lost an incredible talent

Tonya aka Ferran - May 08, 2014 at 10:23 PM

DB

Evansville lost an incredible talent, Thank you for saying that. They sure did! His voice was amazing. You made me smile. Debbie (Mrs. Jerry Smith)

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:13 AM

GW

“ I played softball on the WJPS team with Jerry for many years and bowled together also. Used to go to the Days Inn to listen and Dance. My deepest condolences to Jerry's entire Family. A good friend will be missed by many.

Gary Pete (Superfly) Winsett Jacksonville Fl.

Gary Winsett - May 07, 2014 at 08:34 PM

DB

I can't tell you how many times he talked about Superfly ... I am reading today, these post because.... soon it will be the anniversary of his death. I still can't believe he went to heaven. God Bless you

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:14 AM

DB

Thank you Gary for your kind note. Bless you. I still can't believe he is gone. Debbie

Deborah Baylor-Smith - March 01, 2016 at 03:19 PM

BH

“ Working with Jerry was an experience I'll never forget. Truly, Jerry, Dave Wood, Jim Embry and a few others deserve credit for making Evansville radio in the 60s and 70s what it was.
Bill Horn (Buddy Holiday, 1969/70)

Bill Horn - May 06, 2014 at 03:23 PM

MG

“ I didn't know Jerry for but about 4-5 years...he was always very kind and supportive to me and my business. I truly appreciated his willingness to share his advertising and broadcasting wisdom. I'm sure he will be missed by many. -Matt Gray of Gray Sky Music

matt gray - May 06, 2014 at 03:04 PM

DB

Matt, he sure did think your were a Great Guy ! Thank you for the kind words. Debbie

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:15 AM

DH

“ *Debbie, so sorry to hear about Jerry. Life won't be the same without him, but you are certainly blessed to have had him as long as you did.*

David Herrenbruck

David Herrenbruck - May 05, 2014 at 09:38 PM

DB

Visiting this page now, as it will soon be a year. I can't believe it is a year. And life is not the same and my world is just up-side-down... Thank You David !

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:17 AM

DF

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Jerry's passing .I have nothing but good memories of him and lots of laughs .he will be missed*

Donnie Fulton - May 05, 2014 at 05:19 PM

DB

Thank you Donnie Thank You !

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:17 AM

DA

“ *I'm sorry for your loss. I will pray for comfort & peace for your family.*

Dave Amerman - May 05, 2014 at 10:56 AM

BL

“ *A big voice, a big talent, and a big heart. Jerry could tell you every oldie record, who recorded it and on what color label. A radio giant in Evansville. He will be missed especially at the head of the table leading the weekly meeting of the "Moldy Microphones" - Bill Love (Bill Herald)*

Bill Love - May 05, 2014 at 10:39 AM

DB

I bet he is still at the head of the table, leading the weekly meeting. He lived to go to that Moldly Microphones Breakfast. I can see him, in spirit, shaking his head at each and everyone of you now. Much love to you all. Debbie

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:19 AM

JN

“ *Denise and I are so sorry to hear of Jerry's death. We were in the same high school class of 1964. Jerry and his father were Important to the growth of broadcasting in the tri-state. Jerry was a positive Influence on all who were fortunate enough to know him. His great rdio voice shall be remembered with gratitude and respect.*

Denise and Jack Norvell

Jack Norvell - May 04, 2014 at 08:23 PM

DB

Thank you for such kind words, Debbie.

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:20 AM

SY

“ *Evansville media has lost a giant. I was a James Oliver Stagg fan long before I knew his real name was Jerry Smith. He was THE boss jock of WJPS. And in advertising, he MADE you run into that store and buy that thing! Even though he treated me like a colleague, what he didn't know was that I was still a fan. JOS...I will always treasure my friendship and professional association with you. God Bless and comfort his family and many, many friends.*

Sam Yates

Sam Yates - May 04, 2014 at 07:55 PM

HC

“ *Jerry was always someone I could turn to when I needed no-nonsense information in local and regional media. He always knew the lay of the land no matter what market I needed information about, and always told it like he saw it. He was my go-to voiceover guy, and he saved me a few times when spots got lost.*

Twenty years ago, Jerry was the DJ for my wedding reception. I think he had just as much fun as the rest of us that night.

Jerry would stop by my office to shoot the breeze occasionally and I'll miss his unique point of view. Between he and Debbie, I always felt like I had a couple of good friends in the media business who watched out for me.

I offer my condolences to the Smith family. They don't make guys like Jerry anymore.

Hope Church - May 04, 2014 at 04:48 PM

SC

“ Jerry wasn't a simple man. And he sure didn't have a simple life. But the 45 years we were friends. He simply did touch a lot of lives. So, looky here, Jerry. No matter where you are sitting behind a golden microphone. And hitting the streets making those calls. See'em all and have a ball!

stan clark - May 04, 2014 at 12:01 PM

DH

Well said Stan. Doreen

Doreen Hallenberger - May 04, 2014 at 01:05 PM

 Jerry Smith

You are such an amazing friend ...!

Jerry Smith - May 04, 2014 at 03:22 PM

DB

I posted under Jerry when it was Debbie - sorry for the confusion.

deborah baylor-smith - May 04, 2014 at 11:41 PM

DB

this made me cry !

Deborah Baylor-Smith - April 13, 2015 at 11:21 AM

PS

“ An important radio voice has been silenced, but never forgotten. All of us who worked with Jerry in the hey days of AM rock radio, will always remember the fun times we all had punctuating people's lives with the music that changed the " landscape of America." Our collective heart felt sympathies go to Jerry's immediate and extended families in this time of grief. We wish him eternal peace in his journey onto "Glory." Pete Swaim

Peter M. Swaim - May 04, 2014 at 10:41 AM



“ Jerry was one of my first bosses at WJPS. When I did something stupid and had to be fired, he got me a job at Courtney's WPCO. Jerry was a great friend and had an awesome voice. I always knew I was back home when I heard Jerry voicing a spot. RIP JOS!! Dale Carter

Dale Carter - May 04, 2014 at 07:23 AM



“ Jerry and I worked together for many years at WGBF on Washington Ave and at WYNG on Lincoln Ave. I was in accounting and traffic so I saw Jerry daily for many years.

Jerry was a friend and I will and miss him dearly.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Debbie and the family.

Linda and Ron Heidorn

Linda Heidorn - May 03, 2014 at 11:10 PM



“ Jerry and I worked together for many, many years in radio and in television. I first worked with Jerry when he was James Oliver Stagg (JOS) at WJPS Radio. It was the rocker radio station in those days and Jerry did afternoon "drive".

Jerry was a good friend and I will truly miss him.

Our thoughts are with Debbie and her family at this time.

Ron and Emma Lee Eberhart

Ron Eberhart - May 03, 2014 at 09:43 PM

MS

You will be missed by so many, I am proud to have called you friend. Your journey here is over, your next journey will be the best and forever.....see you again some day my friend. Mike Sturgeon

Mike Sturgeon - May 04, 2014 at 06:11 PM

DB

Such a sweet post - Thank you Mike

deborah baylor-smith - May 04, 2014 at 11:42 PM

JR

*“ Our sympathies go out to Debbie and all the family. I considered Jerry a good friend for so many years. He and I were competitors in business with a common bond to work hard, enjoy and always promote the business and entertainment of the radio industry. May your microphone always be golden and your peaceful rest be everlasting. Job will done JOS.
John & June Reiplinger*

John & June Reiplinger - May 03, 2014 at 03:37 PM

KA

Gonna miss this guy and will always think of him when we cook ribs!!! Prayers to all!

kathy - May 04, 2014 at 12:37 PM