



Wayne Paul Smith

July 6, 1938 - February 16, 2026

Wayne Paul Smith, 87, passed away February 16, 2026 in Sarasota, Florida. He was born July 6, 1938 to the late Raymond and Vera Smith in Waukegan, Illinois. Wayne came to the Sarasota area from Fremont, California in 2020 with the love of his life Peggy.

Wayne was a social butterfly and the life of the party who more than anything loved spending time with his family and friends. His infectious happy demeanor lit up a room and made everyone with whom he met smile. He was a beloved leader at his local Elks Lodge in Fremont for 30 years, and he was a proud veteran of the US Army. He enjoyed games, projects, tinkering in the garage, playfully torturing his loved ones, and going out for burgers and beer. Wayne loved his career in the medical device industry and was able to travel the world for his work.

Left to cherish Wayne's memory are the people he loved most of all: his wife of 58 years, Peggy; children Debora Duarte (daughter) and her husband Dave of Victor, Montana; Jerry McBrayer (son) and his wife Christine Cieri of Sarasota, Florida; sister Deanna Lee Tougas of Phoenix, Arizona; Randy Rios (nephew) and his wife Angie of Venice, Florida; Devin Ellis (granddaughter), her husband Nick, and great grandchildren Adeline and Violet Ellis of Carmichael, California; Eric Duarte (grandson) and his wife Kassielyn of Victor, Montana.

Memories and condolences can be left for the family at MFHCares.com

Tribute Wall

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“ *I'm going to miss you. Thank you for being the best father a girl could ever have, and for loving Jerry and I like we were your own kids. I will miss you and love you always. Debbie*

Debbie Duarte - February 25 at 05:20 PM