



Ronald Dean Smith

December 16, 1954 - December 22, 2022

Ronald Dean Smith “Smitty”, 68, a lifelong Omak resident died in his childhood home on Dec. 22, 2022 of natural causes.

Ron was a well loved person in this town. His upbringing included all summers at Omak Lake where our father had the boat launch-Boat Club. He would swim relentlessly and we often remember one of mom’s stories how at the end of summer she took the old cork life jacket, she always made him wear it and it was waterlogged! That early workout gave him the strength and endurance to achieve notoriety in every sport he competed in.

Much of the town would follow the Thriftway little league team around the state as Ron would pitch. Eventually, all the way to the State Championship, Regional and finally they were only beaten by Hawaii after winning the entire West coast. Ron could not pitch on that day against the team that went onto the World Series. These young Omak teammates were just two games from that privilege. And that same crew would dominate up to Omak High School with Ron in the ranks. As an End for the football team that would rate #1 in the state. As a first string starter for the team he helped to win the State Basketball Championship. Finally, he set and held the State Record in 440 meter run in Track, that record held for decades.

As an adult Ron would start a family with Monika and have two children. He

worked first as a forest worker and did Forest Service contracts for thinning. Ron was also an accomplished carpenter. He worked locally and on the coast in the trade. He enjoyed building his own home, building his brother's house as well as remodeling his mother's house. Ron claimed his best years were raising his children and life there with Monika and his mom around. He embraced family with a full heart. Ron and his family recently reconciled and had many dreams and plans for their home and family.

Ron is survived by Monika Smith, their two sons Wyatt and Casey with grandchild Avery. His family included two sisters, Joan Rappe-Wick with her children Dan Brownlee and Patty Thompson; sister Claudia Smith and her daughter Taleaha; and one brother, Denny Richardson with grown daughters Codi and Abby with belated wife Paulie and Willow, Triniti, and River with spouse Courtney Ellsworth. There are many great nieces and nephews as well.

He just celebrated his birthday on Dec. 16 with his reconciled family as they laid out the plans for remodeling their home. He was the happiest I had seen him in 20 years. Looking at pictures of family and laughing out loud. And his new German Shepherd puppy, Ike, at his feet.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald Dean Smith*

October 23, 2023 at 01:06 AM