

Allan Gordon Smith

Obituary



Heaven has gained another awesome angel

Big Al -

Allan Smith was born one of eight children to Harvey and Carrie Smith in Luseland, Sask. Shortly after the family moved to warmer climates of Kettle Valley, BC and eventually made their way to Vancouver Island. Where they lived in a small house on the Vantreight farm, Tyndall Ave. in Gordon Head.

Farming was Allan's life, he took pride in working hard and doing things right. He dedicated 57 years to the farming industry working alongside his father and brother Jack at Vantreight farms and will always have a lasting legacy within the farming community. Allan's role providing direction and supervision to fellow workers, exercised with kindness and care, was rewarded with respect and many strong and long lasting friendships. When not in the fields, his spare time was spent watching the Toronto Maple Leaf's, walking his beloved dogs or next to the fire enjoying friends and family.

Allan was always the one for adventure and began his competitive race car driving career in 1956 and went on to have a

very successful racing career for over 10 years. The skills to drive these high-powered race cars seemed to come naturally to him and it was not long before he was winning races against more experienced drivers. Within two years he was setting track records and winning a major share of main events and special cup races. In his fourth year, he was crowned the season's points champion and voted most popular driver by local fans. Over the next ten years, Allan established himself as one of the best drivers in the Pacific Northwest racing circuits. Allan was one of the first to be inducted into Victoria Auto Racing Hall of Fame in 1984. Eight years later he was pleased to be joined in the hall of fame by his brother Roy Smith. He continued to enjoy going to stock car races whenever and wherever he could.

The goal of a participant in a race is to reach the finish line and to feel the satisfaction of having run the race to the best of your ability. Allan has run the race of life, received the checkered flag for the last time and if you were to ask anyone who ever knew him they would say he ran it very well.

He was predeceased by his parents Harvey and Carrie Smith, his sister Grace and husband Doug McColl, brother Roy Smith and brother-in-law Rob Hubbel and his first wife Charlotte (Neilson). Allan will be missed greatly by his wife Sonya (Podgorenko), brothers Norman (Carol), Jack (Shirley) and sisters Gloria Hubbel, Eileen (Bob) Sallis, Joyce and sister-in-law Diane (Chuck). Allan was proud of his children John and Leah (Darrel Sylvester), Brenna (Gillis), (Andrew Mitchell), and known as Papa Al to his 5 Grandsons Jesse, Richard, Keith, Logan, and Brody.

God looked around His garden and found an empty place. He then looked down upon the earth and saw your tired face. He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest. God's garden must be beautiful He always takes the best. He saw the road was getting rough and the hills were hard to climb, So He closed your weary eyelids and whispered "Peace be thine." It broke our hearts to

lose you but you didn't go alone, For part of us went with you the day God called you home.

Acknowledgments: The family wishes to express their gratitude to those who have supported us at this time of loss and to the staff at the lodge at Broadmead for their tender care.

-The Smith Family

At Allan's request, no funeral. In lieu of flowers please send donations to: Victoria Auto Racing Hall of Fame, Box 41 Malahat Post Office, Malahat, BC, V0R 2L0.

Go Leafs go!

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