



Captain Matthew Smith,

March 25, 2013

Captain David Matthew Smith, CEC, USN, died on March 17, 2013, in Naples, Italy, where he was stationed. He was the son of Harry C. Smith (deceased) and Fredericka Leinbach Smith of Lancaster. He is survived by his wife, the former Lisa Michelle Stover of Brownstown, with whom he celebrated nearly 24 years of marriage.

A native of Holtwood, Pennsylvania, Capt. Smith graduated from Penn Manor High School in 1983 and Virginia Military Institute in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He held a Master of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from The Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and was a graduate of the University of Virginia, Darden School of Business Executive Program.

At the time of his death, Capt. Smith was the Executive Officer for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Europe Africa Southwest Asia. In his more than 25 year career, Capt. Smith had a variety of assignments. Highlights include serving during the First Gulf War onboard the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67). After transferring to the Civil Engineering Corp, he served at NAS Keflavik, Iceland; at Barksdale AFB in LA; and at NAS Oceana, in Norfolk, VA. While serving at Oceana, he did a tour in Iraq as Water Program Manager for the Project Contracts Office. In August 2010, Capt. Smith became the

Infrastructure Director at the Joint Guam Program Office, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Smith was a qualified Seabee Combat Warfare and Surface Warfare Officer. He was a member of the Acquisition Community and a registered Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia. His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with three gold stars, the Joint Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with gold star and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star. He was chosen as Naval Facilities Command Military Engineer of the Year for 2006.

In addition to his wife and mother, Capt. Smith is survived by his three children, Malena (14), Aubrey (12) and Michael (17 months); and siblings, Rebecca F. Smith-Kevern of Montgomery Village, MD; Rachel H. Smith May of Aiea, HI; and Daniel M. Smith of Lancaster.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend David's Funeral Service at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, 2013, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 321 W. Chestnut Street, Lancaster, PA with the Ven. Canon Daniel L. Selvage and the Reverend John W. Morris officiating. Friends may call at The Groffs Family Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc., 528 W. Orange St., Lancaster (corner of Orange and Pine Sts.) on Friday, March 29th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Interment will be in The Salem Evangelical Reformed Hellers Cemetery, 2555 Horseshoe Road, Lancaster, PA. There will be an opportunity to speak to the family and have light refreshments in the Salem Hellers Church Fellowship Hall immediately following the interment. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made electronically to: Captain David M. Smith Memorial Family Fund, Routing Number: 051005504, Account Number: 3700133355.

Tribute Wall



“ *Condolences to his family*



Carson Loveless - November 01, 2024 at 04:49 PM



“ *Captain Matthew Smith,*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM

CG

“ *Lisa and Family:*

I've just found out about Dave's passing. I'm so shocked and sorry. Dave was such a good guy! I met him in 1996 in Rota while being the reserve OIC for what was the Augment Unit for NMCB 133, connected again in Guam in 1997 and again in 1998 in Rota before deploying to Bosnia, and if my memory serves you were kind enough to invite me for dinner when you were all in Suffolk VA (probably around 2004 or 05) and Dave was attending Joint Staff College.

Some words that always remind me of Dave are earnest, kind, gracious, thoughtful, good humored, devout and devoted to you and his family.

I don't pretend to understand why such great people are taken from us so soon. However all of Dave's incredible qualities are represented in your beautiful children. And as children they bear witness to your' and Dave's love for them and are the messengers to future generations that due to our imperfect mortality and as parents - none of us will see. And that to me is the incredible blessing of children....

God bless you and your family and pls let me know if there is anything I can do to help. theodore.grabarz@navy.mil.

*Best always
Ted Grabarz*

CDR Ted Grabarz - December 29, 2014 at 01:23 PM

YL

“ Dear Lisa, Malena, Aubrey & Michael,
My heart is absolutely broken right now. I worked with David at Fleet Forces Command and he was the best Mentor a Sailor could ever had, so when I received my annual letter from the family and read about his passing, I just broke out into tears. He was such a wonderful and amazing person and I will always cherish that. I was looking forward to you'll coming to San Diego. Please know that if you and the kids need anything, I'm here. My email if you need anything is gloria.lawson@navy.mil. May God continue to bless you and the family. Amen. Gloria Lawson

YN1(Ret) Gloria Lawson - December 12, 2013 at 08:12 PM

MU

“ Dear Lisa and Family,
I am deeply saddened with the loss of Dave. We often spoke in the hallways at the office in Naples and I really appreciated his sense of humor. He will be missed. My prayers go out to you all during this healing period.
God Bless,
Matt Ukleja

Matt Ukleja - April 01, 2013 at 04:57 PM

LB

“ Dear Lisa,

He was an extremely wonderful, kind, intelligent man who will be missed by us all. I loved working for him for almost three years in Naples on a daily basis and am deeply saddened by his loss. I think he touched every life he came in contact with and made us all better for knowing him. I know that God will comfort and take care of you and your children at this time and in the future days to come; and am comforted by knowing that Capt. Smith is in eternal peace. My deepest sympathy for this tragic loss. Linda J. Boyd

Linda J. Boyd - April 01, 2013 at 03:30 PM

BH

“ Dear Ricki and family -

Shocked and saddened to read of David's passing. Unfortunatley we were out of town on Saturday and could not attend his life's celebration. As parents who recently lost a child, we share your grief, but having worshipped with you over the years we know from whence comes your strength. May the God of all grant you comfort, assurnace and peace and may light perpetual shine upon David now and forever more. Our deepest sympathy.

Bud and Kathy Hart - March 31, 2013 at 08:33 PM

LC

“ Dear Lisa,

*Please know that many of us from CVHS are thinking of you today and sending our love and prayers. May God Bless you and your beautiful children. With deepest sympathy,
Linda*

Linda Imboden Corcoran - March 29, 2013 at 05:52 PM

MB

“ Lisa and family,
David was a very special person and will leave a great void in this world and in our lives. Still can't believe he is gone. Kevin, Bridget and I wish we could be there with you during this tough time but you are in our prayers and thoughts.

Michaela Brown - March 29, 2013 at 01:34 PM

LK

“ Lisa and family,
Dave was special to all who knew him. Sending you prayers and strength on this very difficult day. My thoughts are with you all.
Liz and Michael Louise

Liz Knapp - March 29, 2013 at 08:44 AM

RN

“ I recall the day in Baghdad when a Chaplain arrived telling Dave of the sad news that his Father had passed away. Dave and I prayed together, and then we set about getting him out of Baghdad and back home for the funeral. I stayed with Dave through the day, he packed a few things, we got his orders cut and, I went to see if I could find something for Dave to eat as he was so focused... I grabbed a grilled cheese sandwich from the 24-hr DFAC line and went back to Dave's hooch to pick him up. I took him to HLZ Washington for his short hop to Camp Victory where he would go to Kuwait and then be processed for a civilian flight home. I remembered I had the sandwich and stuffed it in his battle rattle as he boarded the Blackhawk at Washington. I think that sandwich was the only thing he ate that day. I wish I could be there for the family Saturday. It was a blessing to serve with him.

R Scott Newman - March 29, 2013 at 06:04 AM

RN

“ Dear Smith Family, David was a dear friend, shipmate, and my battle buddy while in Baghdad. I remember how driven he was to make the Water Sector a success and his diligence was such an admirable quality - he was always a central figure in everything we did there. I was deeply saddened to see where my friend had departed this life, indeed - all too soon. I think warmly of the good times as well as those difficult and arduous times we shared together in Iraq. My prayers are with you as you go through this time. God's peace be with you. Scott Newman

R Scott Newman - March 28, 2013 at 08:41 AM

SM

“ David and I were roommates in Newport, RI - our first duty station in the Navy. He was a great guy, courteous roommate and made a helluva mess in the kitchen whenever he cooked! Can't believe I've known him and Lisa for 26 years. His sweet spirit will be missed. Lisa, Malena, Aubrey and Michael - Lots of good thoughts and love coming to you from me and my family. We're praying for blessings for ya'll. Please let us know how we can help. Susan, Patrick, Meagan and Colin McKeen

Susan McKeen - March 27, 2013 at 11:56 PM

BM

“ Dear Rachel,

My sincere condolences to you and your family; having experience the death of my sibling I can truly say to you and your family; place your faith in the Lord for He will sustain you during this time of sorrow.

Keeping you and your family in my prayers.

Brian

Matthew 5: 24 though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

Brian Miller - March 27, 2013 at 03:40 PM

LB

“ *Lisa and children, I grieve with you! The members of St. Thomas Episcopal Church and I send love and prayers to you. I cherish warm memories of you all.*

Liz Barber - March 27, 2013 at 12:06 PM

JS

“ *Lisa and family, we are so very saddened to hear of Dave's passing. You know how fond we are of him. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and we wish God's peace and love be with you.*

John & Joyce Soto - March 26, 2013 at 01:39 PM

AS

“ *Someone as special as Dave will never be forgotten. He will remain in our hearts forever.*

Andy Porter and the PWD Oceana staff - March 26, 2013 at 12:29 PM

DA

“ *Lisa:*

I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the entire family during this time of grieving.

*Blessings
Diane*

Diane Arment - March 26, 2013 at 10:44 AM

AS

“ *So sad to read this this today. I have wonderful memories of David as a neighbor, friend and classmate. We were fortunate to grow up in the little Village of Holtwood where we shared a bus stop and swam and ice skated together. I knew at a very early age that that he would have an amazing career as he was so intelligent. My deepest sympathy to his family and all who were close to David.*

Angela (Painter) Schmidt - March 26, 2013 at 09:04 AM

HS

“ *Lisa, Haven and I are so saddened to hear about David's passing. Haven enjoyed serving under him in Iceland, and he was a great help to me as the ombudsman. The military has lost a great asset, and you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Love, Haven and Tonya Shenefield

Haven & Tonya Shenefield - March 25, 2013 at 11:11 PM

CT

“ Our deepest condolences on the loss of Dave. We have fond memories of Dave and Lisa from our tour in Iceland back in the mid 90's and tracking the family's moves, events, and growth through Christmas cards and newsletters. We will keep Lisa and the children in our prayers. In sympathy, Jeff & Deborah Tubello

Captain Jeffrey Tubello - March 25, 2013 at 08:37 PM

CB

“ Dear David.....Patriot, Seabee, Confidante and Friend, Although we only shared the bridge for one year, it was one of the most enjoyable of my life. Your dedication, loyalty, work ethic, and human caring motivated me to be a better person. I also need to add sense of humor to the list.... I guess as fellow Cleveland Browns' fans, being able to laugh was a pre-requisite. You left us way too soon for any of us to understand, but your memory will not soon fade as you had such a positive impact on the lives of so many. Fair winds and following seas shipmate.
Your friend, Jeff

CAPT Jeff Borowy - March 25, 2013 at 05:35 PM