



## Ralph Lester Smith

September 25, 1928 - January 15, 2015

Ralph Lester Smith age 86 of Athens, passed away Thursday, January 15, 2015 at Tut Fann Nursing Home. Mr. Smith was born September 25, 1928 in Limestone County, AL to Joseph Lee Smith and Helen G. Knox Smith.

Services will be Saturday, January 17, 2015 3:00 p.m., at Sardis Springs Baptist Church with Bro. Tim Keenum officiating. Visitation will be from 1:00 p.m. until 2:45 p.m. prior to the service. Burial will be in Sardis Springs Church Cemetery.

Mr. Smith was a member of Sardis Springs Baptist Church. He was a Korean War Veteran, worked at Redstone Arsenal for 38 years and was an avid gardener. He was a wonderful husband, good father and wonderful grandfather.

Survived by his wife, Frances Smith of Athens; one daughter, Teresa Bailes and husband, Mike of Athens; one son, Mike Smith and wife, Jennifer of Georgetown, KY; four grandchildren, Brandon Bailes and Ryan Bailes both of Athens, Bryant Smith of Union, KY and Matt Smith of Shelbyville, KY; two great-grandchildren, Caden Bailes and Bennett Bailes, both of Athens.

Pallbearers will be Deacons of Sardis Springs Baptist Church. Honorary pallbearers will also be Deacons of the church.

Sign our online Celebration Wall at [limestonechapel.com](http://limestonechapel.com)

# Tribute Wall

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“ I have many wonderful memories of Mr. Ralph. He & Mrs. Frances opened up their home to me so many times. Teresa & I were inseparable many weekends growing up. Mr. Ralph always made me smile with his quick humor & he was always easy going....but firm when he needed to be.....that is a quality of a great dad & he was like a dad to me. Thank you for allowing me to sit at your table & enjoy the fruits of your labor. I always marveled at the varieties of vegetables in your garden. It was a labor of love. I have so many incredibly fond memories. ...but one that will always have an impact on my life is remembering how Mr. Ralph always had his daily devotion. It speaks to his incredible faith & quiet strength. I do not ever remember Mr. Ralph yelling....but he had a way of talking that held your attention & had your respect. He was a wise man who I will miss, love, & always cherish. Thank you Mr. Ralph.  
Sincerely, Verona King Hargrave

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**Verona Hargrave** - January 17, 2015 at 11:24 AM