



## Dwayne Leon Smith

October 14, 1952 - August 14, 2018

Dwayne Leon Smith, 65, of Bartlesville, died Tuesday, August 14, 2018 in Bartlesville

Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20, 2018 in the Stumpff Funeral Home Chapel with Chaplain Jsue Wagner of Comforting Hands Hospice officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of the Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory.

This is a story about my brother, Dwayne Leon Smith. He was born October 14, 1952 at Memorial Hospital, Bartlesville, Oklahoma to our mother, Annetta Drake Smith, and our father A. Leon Smith. I'm his big sister, LeAnne Smith Ames.

Dwayne was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at the age of 3 years old. At that time there were no accessories for handicapped children, so our daddy built him a wooden high chair stand with rollers and a big wooden tray. We could push him around the house to be with us and he used the tray for his toys and his favorite Little Golden Book, "The Lucky Puppy."

As a child I remember Dwayne being fun to play with, laughing, smiling and taking medicine. I remember there being lots of medicine. As I got older and understood his condition I learned the medication was for his seizures.

Dwayne has touched the lives of so many people. He was always ready to go. He got that from our mother. He's gone on cruises, weekend getaways, day

trips, birthday parties, Therapeutic Riding, Special Olympics, bowling, jubilee in Nowata on Saturday nights, rodeos, parades and on and on. Anything the community had to offer, and anything he could talk the staff in to doing. He was quite busy, quite entertained and very happy. Dwayne moved from the family home to Hissom Memorial Center in 1961. From Hissom he moved to Hays House in Nowata in 1971. From Hays House he moved to ARC Group Homes in 1993. He was with ARC for 25 years.

Dwayne's staff are more than people who work for him. They are his family. Patricia has been with Dwayne for 14 years and is day staff. Jamie has been with Dwayne for 13 years and is afternoon shift. Chad works midnight shift and has been with Dwayne for 11 years. Art, his weekend staff has been with Dwayne 14 years. I consider these people to be the most giving, caring, loving humans. They made my brother's world fun, and safe. They saw to it he was clothed, bathed and fed. They treated him with dignity and understanding. They were his family.

Now Dwayne's other family were his stuffed toys. Bozo the Clown – BooBoo, Bert and Ernie, Scooby Doo, and oh my gosh, his room was filled with his friends that he talked to, conspired with, and carried with him as his best friend.

Another favorite was catalogs, Montgomery Ward, Sears, JC Penney. He would flip through these catalogs endlessly finding numbers, pictures of dogs, cats, pretty girls and babies. Just like the rest of us do with our magazines and catalogs. Unfortunately, the catalog industry has given way to iPads, iPhones, computers and Amazon. Dwayne had to learn to look through magazines and phone books. He didn't really like those, but never complained. Well, maybe once he threw one across the room, but who of us hasn't done that.

Dwayne loved and was loved by his DNA family: his brother-in-law Lenard Ames Jr., his nieces CJ Buchanan and Katherine Buchanan, his nephew Scott Ames and their spouses. He had two great-nieces, Mallory Brendle and Taylor Ames, and two great-nephews Max Goad and Carter Ames. His favorite Uncle Cecil and Norma Lea Sanderson, and a gob of cousins, Don, Randy, Joe,

Jerry, Jeff, Jamie, Jim, Susie, Gene and Debra, and me, his sister.

At the age of 65 years and 10 months, his body tired and broken, gave up when our mother and daddy came to get him. The thought of him standing tall and straight, walking, running, jumping, reading, spelling, writing, never to be encumbered by his wheelchair again gives me great comfort, joy, peace.

And to the Community of Bartlesville, if you ever smiled at Dwayne, spoke to or was told by him to please get out of his way, I thank you for your compassion and understanding of someone that is a little different looking, speaking and acting.

Well, I could go on and on about the life of my little brother Dwayne, but as you can see, I thought he was a pretty special person and I'm going to love to see him walking towards me when he comes to get me.

Thank you for listening and loving Dwayne.

Blessings, LeAnne Smith Ames.

Memorial funds have been established and those who wish may send their contributions to the All-Star Therapy Group, 37500 US 75 Highway, Ramona, Oklahoma 74061 or to Special Olympics-Bartlesville Public Schools, c/o Education Service Center, Attn: Jason Langum, 1100 S. Jennings, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG **20**. 3:00 PM (CT)

Stumpff Funeral Home Chapel  
1600 SE Washington Blvd  
Bartlesville, OK 74006  
(918) 333-4300  
<http://www.Stumpff.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dwayne Leon Smith*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Dwayne Leon Smith*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *God Bless You, LeAnne Smith (Ames) and your wonderful writing for your precious brother, Dwayne, in the Examiner Enterprise on August 19. What an angel of a sister you were for him. This is Patrice Allen (Swanson) -- I still remember your wonderful parents, Leon and Anne and when I was a little girl and you invited me over to your house to play either after school or on a Saturday. And when I first got to see Dewayne as a little boy. What a sweeeeet little brother you had and how much you all loved him and cared for him. Thank you for what you wrote in the paper about his life. I read it to my sisters Bonnie and Sherry over the phone. You are beautiful both inside and out, LeAnne. So many great memories. I am so sorry with a full heart for the loss of your brother. I hope this makes it into the system as I do not know where to send you a card. Love, Patrice*

**Patrice Swanson** - August 24, 2018 at 11:07 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Flowers



Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory - August 20, 2018 at 02:05 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Flowers



Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory - August 20, 2018 at 10:47 AM



“ Dwayne and Donald have lived together for years in the old days. They had a special bond. Donald said "He is a BUSY BEE now." Meaning no more wheel chair. Donald's life and ours are better for knowing him. Love to all , Dianna Donald and Mickey.

Dianna - August 20, 2018 at 02:59 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dwayne Leon Smith.

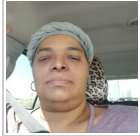


August 19, 2018 at 04:30 PM

KR

“ *This is a beautiful tribute to a life that was different but so well lived. I know that Dewayne was a huge part of the family life and loved so much. Rest In Peace and enjoy your everlasting life.*  
*Kathy Rose*

Kathy Sousa Rose - August 19, 2018 at 12:20 PM



“ *Dwayne was one of my FAVORITE people. He called me Chicken Pants, lord knows where that came from. Yes, he knew my real name but it didn't matter, I liked Chicken Pants better. Not everyone got a nickname from him. I was one of the special ones. He too was extremely special. I will miss him with all my heart. I can hear him saying, "Oh Chicken Pa"y"ants!!!"*



Loren Witherspoon - August 19, 2018 at 09:37 AM



“ *2 files added to the album Flowers*



Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory - August 18, 2018 at 11:31 AM

SM

“ I am so honored to have known Dwayne and his family, both DNA and otherwise. He loved riding his horses so much! Although he liked to refer to them as bulls. He was so happy and kind. One could not be in a sour mood when around Dwayne! He made me laugh constantly. I loved the way he saw the world and his interpretations of all of us. Fly high Dwayne! And say hi to Leon for me

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**Sharon McCullough** - August 17, 2018 at 11:06 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Flowers



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**Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory** - August 17, 2018 at 10:40 AM

BB

“ Well said LeAnn! Dwayne and his awesome dad, Leon, have been a part of our therapeutic riding family since 1992. They were an inspiration to many many people over the years. Dwayne had everyone in the place smiling or laughing less than 5 minutes after he got here. He rode his horse just a week before your folks came for him. We mourn his absence and will never forget him. At the same time, we thank God for the great reunion that has taken place. You and your remaining family are in our thoughts and prayers

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**Bob Burnett** - August 17, 2018 at 07:56 AM

JT

“ *I never knew you or your brother, but both of your parents were always good friends to my wife and I when we worked for the same company. Sorry for your loss.*

*Joe R Tucker*

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**Joe R Tucker** - August 16, 2018 at 04:57 PM