



Graydon Lee Smith Zanyk Sr.

NOV 3, 1948 - AUG 11, 2020



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Graydon Lee Smith Zanyk Sr.

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Graydon Lee Smith Zanyk, Sr passed peacefully at home on the morning of August 11, 2020. He was born in St. John, New Brunswick Canada on November 3, 1948 to Graydon Lee Smith and Doris Whittacker. He was adopted by his Aunt Jaqueline Zanyk, nee Smith and his Uncle Michael Zanyk and was raised in and around Solvang, California.

He graduated from Santa Ynez Valley Union High School in 1967, joined the Army in 1969 and became a United States citizen in 1974. Graydon was a career soldier and was most proud of his leadership role as a First Sergeant. He continued his service to his nation as a civilian employee at Fort Polk in the G1/ Strength Management Division. In 2015, he retired once again and was happy spending time on his homestead with his wife, Barabara Jean Zanyk, his family and his friends.

Graydon is survived by his wife of forty-nine years, his brother Purdy Smith and his wife Leann, his daughter, Anatheia Brandy Evans (Scott Evans), his son, Graydon L. S. Zanyk, Jr. (Shana Swilley Zanyk), his grandchildren: Graydon L. S. Zanyk, III, Timothy Michael Thomas, Brenna Lemaire, K.C. Thomas, Sara Crockett, Paige Thomas, and Allison Zanyk, and two great grandsons.

Graydon Zanyk, Sr. will be dearly missed by all who knew him. A private gathering shall be held in the near future to celebrate his life.

In lieu of flowers, please give the gift of life to others by donating blood at your local hospital or blood bank.

Words of comfort may be expressed to the Smith-Zanyk Family at www.labbymemorial.com



Tribute Wall

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Kevin Hagerich posted:

Rest In Peace

December 18 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I was saddened to hear of Graydon's passing. He was a classmate of mine at Santa Ynez Valley High. While I did not know him well, I always admired his service to our great country and his devotion to family. Charles Illes

August 31 at 7:00 PM



Denise Ladnier posted:

I am so sorry to hear of Grady's passing, praying for comfort to Barbara and family, love always, Denise Ladnier and family. I know he and Gene are having a beer with the best of them. ❤️

August 16 at 7:00 PM



Tamera Butler posted:

I am so very sad to hear you are gone from us Grady! May you rest in peace my friend. To Barbara, my deepest condolences to you and your family. May God give you strength during this time of sorrow.

August 16 at 7:00 PM



Dane Goodwin posted:

This is so sad we have lost 3 soldiers in the last few days in our peer group. Grady and I served together both in green suit and after retirement as a government civilian still serving soldiers and their family members. Grady was a great American who served this country with distinction and will be sorely missed. Grady I will see you on higher ground. God bless Barbara on all his family.

August 14 at 7:00 PM



Linda Witherspoon Gray posted:

Rest In Peace my friend. My heart is so sad.

August 13 at 7:00 PM



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JH

John Hurlbutt posted:

In loving memory of a wonderful person. We will love you and miss you always.

August 13 at 7:00 PM

PG

Pam And Phil Graham posted:

Grady was a wonderful person and one of the greatest gentleman I have ever had the privilege to know. We will miss your kind heart and unique sense of humor. Rest in Peace our sweet, sweet friend. Our love and prayers to Barb, Brandy and family.

August 13 at 7:00 PM

DA

David Almendarez posted:

Grady has served his country as patriot and professional. I had a chance to work with him from 1999 to 2005 and he was one of the best person to work with, very friendly and professional to everyone he came in contact with. Gone my friend but will not be forgotten. Rest In Peace!

August 13 at 7:00 PM

DT

Dana Horn-Trujillo posted:

Our hearts are so heavy...

August 13 at 7:00 PM

DW

Denver Williams posted:

What a truly great man and patriot. His service to our great nation was unparalleled. He touched the lives of everyone he came in to contact with. Grady will truly be missed. Rest In Peace.

August 13 at 7:00 PM

ST

Shawnda Taylor posted:

One of the finest men I've ever had the privilege of knowing. I spent as much time in his & Barb's house as did in mine back in high school. Brandy and I were thick as thieves, and Mom and Pops put up with some shenanigans. My heart goes out to Mom, every broken little piece. I love you, both.

August 13 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Graydon by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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