



Arthur R. Smith

March 27, 2014

Wantage - Arthur R. Smith, age 81, passed away on Thursday, March 27, 2014, at his residence. Born in New York City to the late Arthur A. and Gertrude (Schabrick) Smith, Art grew up in Bergen County and graduated from Westwood High School in 1950. He received his Bachelor's degree in 1954 and, subsequently, his Master's degree in School Administration and Supervision from Montclair State University. Art was inducted into the MSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1979 for both football and track. Art began his teaching career in 1954 at Westwood High School where he was a social studies teacher and assistant football coach. He was invited to try out with the Chicago Cardinals, but chose to serve in the United States Army from 1956 to 1958. He returned to Westwood HS and in 1962 he joined the faculty at Kinnelon High School where he served as Assistant Principal from 1964 to 1966 and Principal from 1967 to 1969. In 1969, he became the Principal of Wayne Hills High School until 1971 when he was appointed Superintendent of Schools at High Point Regional High School. He retired from High Point in 1993 as the longest serving Superintendent, and was loved and well-respected by his staff, administration, students, parents, and the community at large. He was an adjunct professor at Montclair State University from 1995-1996. In October 2007, Art was honored by the High Point Board of Education when they renamed their athletic field the Arthur R. Smith Athletic Complex. Art served as President of the Sussex County Superintendents Organization and President of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association and

was a member of Phi Delta Kappa Honor Education Society. He was recipient of the Sussex County Hall of Fame MDA Award for Scholar/Athlete in 1990, the Distinguished Service Award from the New Jersey Association of School Administrators in 1993, and an Award of Honor from the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association in 1999. Art also served for many years on the Board of Directors at the Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative and was a member of the Rotary Club of Walkkill Valley since 1971 where he was past President and a Paul Harris Fellow recipient.

Tribute Wall

RF

“ Today we got to say goodbye to my "Uncle" Artie. He would be proud of the tribute that was put forth by his family today. I have so many great memories of him in my life. I almost laughed out loud through all my tears when Melanie was going through all his sayings with one of them being "Miltie got me in trouble". Some of my fondest memories are seeing him at LBI. We stayed down at the same time before both he and my parents bought a house down there. He was always so quick with a joke. I must have been about 12 years old when he first told me that he swam out to the fishing boats in the morning and had coffee with the captain. Fast forward to 40 years later and hearing my wife and kids all relate hearing him say that to them. The best part is that my two youngest thought he really did until today.
Love you Uncle Artie, we will miss you.

Love,

Rob, Leigh, Cami, Emma, & Celia.

Rob Ortiz and Family - April 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KV

“ My thoughts & prayers are sent with much love to CJDemarco & family. my friend, I'm sad for your loss however after reading about Arthur(your step dad) I'm happy all of you shared great times & lifetime memories!! you are in my heart & on my mind. love you. Xooooox. Ken.

Kenneth Vasquez - April 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Dear Liz, Melanie, Scott, and family,

I was very sorry to hear about Uncle Art's passing. It is never easy to lose someone you love so much. I knew him as a loving, funny, and fair man who I respected as our Superintendent and loved like a true member of our family.

*All the best and with deepest sympathy,
Laurie*

Laurie (Miltner) Lawrence - April 03, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Every facet of Dot's and my life where touched and enriched by Art and his family. College teammate, army buddy, and valued life friend! You've left a proud and colorful legacy and a beautiful family. We shall always cherish the memories and thank the Lord for the opportunity to be part of your life.

Joe & Dot Esposito - April 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ My prayers go out to all of you. My Uncle Artie (though, not my blood Uncle) was the reason for so many cherished memories at the lake during my childhood summers. And later so much laughter at the Shore with my parents and The Smith gang.

Uncle Artie will be missed here on earth but I know he is making so many smile and laugh in heaven.

*Prayers for all of you,
Love,
Tracey (Ortiz) Kennedy
Alpharetta, GA*

Tracey Kennedy - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Dear Melanie & family

So sorry to hear of your Dads passing. He was an amazing man and a kind person. As a previous student at High Point High School I will always remember your Dad as a pleasant, caring gentleman. Always fair and well respected. As your friend I wish I could be there with you to celebrate your Dads life! He was truly a wonderful person who contributed so much to our world he touched many young people and will be greatly missed! Unfortunately I am unable to attend. Know I will be with you in spirit! May you be comforted by our Lord in heaven and know your Dad has reached everlasting life & peace!

Much Love Always Greg & Donna DeVries-Clark-Kelsey

Donna & Greg Clark-Kelsey - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TV

“ I am sorry to hear of Art's passing. I recall speaking with Him in the hallways of the School and working for Him at High Point back in the early 90's. R.I.P. Art.

Rev. Thomas D. Vance, Class of '79

thomas vance - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Liz and your beautiful family, Everyone who knew Art has been touched by a loving, caring person. We are praying for you and your family. Sending love, Janice & Michael

Janice & Michael - March 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ *Very sorry to hear. Thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Always remembered here as one of the nicest people I have ever met. Made the our school and no doubt the world a better place. Impressive life he lead.*

Mark Nowicki - March 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Art was a friend for 26 years in the walkkill valley club. He was always a gentleman with a dry sense of humor. He was a compassionate man who loved life, family, and friends and family and friends loved him. He will be missed.*

Mary Ann Seeko - March 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

W(

“ *My thoughts, prayers and love to all. Art was a wonderful mentor, employer, leader and above all a caring man. I was blessed to have been associated with him and I am forever grateful for his confidence in hiring me and his tutelage over the years. A true man of character, he will be missed. God bless!*

Wendy Chandler (Dutko) - March 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ To the Smith Family:

I am so very sorry for the loss of Mr. Art Smith! Mr. Smith was an awesome man, as well as superintendent. He left an indelible mark on my life, and am so very grateful that I had the extreme pleasure of knowing him and his family! In the hallway, he always had a smile on his face, and acknowledged everyone in his path. It is who he was, and will be deeply missed by all who knew him and loved him. Thinking of all of you, especially Scott and Melanie, as well as the entire family! You are in my prayers during this difficult time in your lives!

*With deepest sympathy,
Debbie J Howell Ayers
Olympia, WA*

Debbie Howell Ayers - March 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GI

“ *My sympathy to the Smith family. Art was my dear pal from MSTC on. He was a man dedicated to his family, our nation, his profession, friends and Public Schools. But even more a man of great wit, humor, and a subtle charm. Beyond his many honors, he was a true friend. Indeed "not your average man", I will miss him greatly, we all will. We enjoyed his presence and share grief together. " Ave, Atque, Vale"*

george iannacone - March 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ *Melanie and Gary,*

You have our most sincere condolence. Paula and I are praying for your family. I have added Art to my Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. "Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you." (Exodus 20: 12)

Ed Gordon - March 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM