

Byron Earl Smith



December 2020



1977

Byron Smith, 87, of Villa Rica, Georgia, died on January 1, 2021 of kidney failure. He was born Sept. 20, 1933 in Bellingham, Washington. He is survived by his wife Margaret Smith (nee Iverson), his three sons, Randy (Cindy) of Douglasville, GA, Keith (Sandy) of Franklin, MA, and Martin (Gina) of Amherst, OH. Seven grandchildren, Hayden (Melissa) Smith, Preston (Heather) Smith, Cameron (Nathan) Pew, Chelsea (Matt) Weaks, Riley Smith, Elisabeth Smith and Byron Smith, and great-granddaughters Eliana and Madilyn Pew.

Byron is preceded in death by his parents Fred and Mary Smith of Bellingham WA, and his sister Roma Jones, also of Bellingham.

In 1951 Byron enlisted in the US Navy, serving aboard the troop transport USS Noble where he was a signalman and LST driver. He was involved in US Army and Marine amphibious landing operations on the Korean peninsula during the Korean War. Following his discharge from the Navy, Byron attended Western Washington State College where he earned a teaching degree. Following several teaching assignments in Washington State, Byron entered the Department of Defense Dependent School system where he worked and lived with his family in Newfoundland, Japan, the Azores Islands and Germany. Byron taught industrial arts and was a very successful basketball, football, and track coach. When he retired from teaching in 1992, Byron was one of the winningest basketball coaches in DODDS history. Byron enjoyed golf and tennis, and was an excellent pool player. He also enjoyed watching football and spending time with his family.

First retiring to Ft. Walton Beach, FL, he and Margaret moved to Villa Rica in 2005.

Due to the Corona virus, there will be no service at this time.