

Smith, John

John Wesley Smith, 72, of Decker, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2002, at his home. He was born in McKinley Township on Dec. 7, 1930, the son of the late James Nesley and Grace Maria (Bradd) Smith. On June 13, 1952, he was united in marriage to Mary Blanche Inwood at the Romeo Methodist Church. The couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June. Mr. Smith received his B.A. from Adrian College and his Master of Divinity from Garrett Theological Seminary. He received a Master of Arts in Teaching at Oakland University also. He served as a United Methodist minister in Wisconsin and Michigan for 20 years and as a teacher of elementary education for 20 years at Huron Valley Schools. He is survived by his wife, Mary; four children, John William Smith and his wife, Lori, of Pigeon, the Rev. Sandra Blanche Willobee and her husband, Edwin, of Southfield, James Robert Smith and his wife, Victoria, of Chelsea, and Sharon Marie Thomas and her husband, Jerry, of Lathrop Village; eight grandchildren, James and Benjamin Smith, Laura and Barbara Willobee, Michelle and Andrew Smith, and Alan and Ian Thomas; three brothers, Bill Smith of Bad Axe, Robert Smith and his wife, Joyce, of Pigeon, and Sidney Smith and his wife, Kaye, of Bay Port; sister, Lois Chisholm and her husband, Fred, of Pigeon; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two granddaughters, Elizabeth Anne and Wendy Marie. The funeral service will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 21, 2002, at the Shabbona United Methodist Church in Decker, with the Rev. Ellen Burns, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Caseville Township Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6:30 to 9 p.m. tonight and from 1 to 9 p.m. on Friday at Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home in Pigeon and at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Shabbona United Methodist Church in Decker. Memorials for Mr. Smith may be made to A.L.S. of Michigan or United Hospice.