



Kenneth Wayne Smith

November 10, 1958 - May 8, 2026

Kenneth Wayne Smith, known to everyone who loved him simply as Wayne, passed away on May 8, 2026, in Corinth, Texas, at the age of 67. Born in Amarillo and raised in Fort Worth, Wayne was a proud Texan through and through, and he wore that identity with warmth and a good story always close at hand.

Wayne dedicated his career to counseling students with disabilities, and it was work he genuinely loved. He had a gift for connecting with people others might overlook, and his use of sign language was just one of the ways he met students where they were. His coworkers knew him as someone who brought heart to the job every single day, and the young people he served were better for having known him.

Wayne was a faithful member of West Main Church of Christ and had been an active Boy Scout leader during his son Garrett's years in scouting.

Away from work, Wayne's heart belonged to trains. He was a proud and passionate member of the North Texas chapter of the NRHS, serving as its President. He loved collecting, riding, reading, and chasing down old depots and historic locomotives, always with a camera and a story ready to share. Those who spent time with Wayne knew that a good train story might go long, and nobody minded a bit. When he wasn't thinking about trains, you could

likely find him cheering on the Texas Longhorns or the Dallas Cowboys, two loyalties that fit perfectly alongside his Texas pride.

Wayne had a deep love for Canada and cherished every moment with his Canadian family. Whether he was in Texas or traveling north, family was always at the center of who he was. He adored his son Garrett above all else, and that love was evident to everyone around him.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents, Nan J. (Wilkinson) Smith and C. Howard Smith.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Lana (Swan) Smith, whom he married on June 20, 1992; his son, Garrett Blake Smith; his sister, Brenda L. Davis and her husband Jim S. Davis; his nephew, Nathan D. Brookman and his wife Cassidy and their five children; his nieces, Melissa L. Johnson and her three children, and Laura D. Fiene and her husband Dustin and their two children; and his cousins, Jane Ann Cassidy and Dean Smith, both of Burleson, Texas; Sharon Ife of Burlington, Ontario; Carolyn Wilkinson of Winnipeg, Manitoba; Faye Pickard of Parksville, BC; Kathy Janswick of Parksville, BC; and Rob Wilkinson of Victoria, BC.

A graveside service will be held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at Lynn Creek Cemetery in Jacksboro, Texas.

Wayne was one of a kind: a counselor, a storyteller, a devoted husband and father, and a friend to many. He will be deeply missed.

Cemetery Details

Lynn Creek Cemetery

1021 Lynn Creek Road
Jacksboro, TX

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

Lynn Creek Cemetery
1021 Lynn Creek Rd
Jacksboro, TX 76458

Tribute Wall

LM

“ *Loretta Martinez lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Wayne Smith*



Loretta Martinez - May 19 at 05:52 PM

JG

“ *My office was next door to Wayne's in the Trio suite of offices on the Corinth campus. We visited often. Wayne was dedicated to his work. He was my friend and co-worker. I am very saddened to learn of his death. He leaves big shoes to fill at NCTC Lana and Garrett please accept my condolences for your loss*

Janie Grimes - May 13 at 12:32 PM

PH

“ *I worked next to Wayne for 2 years at NCTC Corinth and we always had kind and challenging conversations. I am sad and heartbroken to hear of his passing and am sending my love and prayers to the family and all those impacted by him.*

Phylliceia - May 13 at 09:23 AM

SM

“ *Wayne was my beloved brother in Christ. His faith and endurance will always be an example for. His pain is gone and he now has his great reward with the Father. I pray for comfort for his family. Steven Moore.*

Steven Moore - May 12 at 11:41 PM

LD

“ Wayne was truly a kind, wonderful person. He loved helping students. I enjoyed working with him. He is loved and missed.

Lieschen Donham - May 11 at 07:19 PM

KB

“ Wayne was a part of NCTC that you could always count on. He was super consistent, reasonable, calm, and kind. Of course, it didn't hurt that he was a Longhorn fan. Hook 'em Wayne!



Keith Bailey

Keith Bailey - May 11 at 03:55 PM

AE

“ Over my eight years at NCT, Wayne was consummately polite and always had time for a friendly visit. Even on days when he was feeling weak, Wayne showed a good attitude and a willingness to be present. While he will be missed for sure, may a spirit of peace be upon his loved ones during his absence.

André Evans - May 11 at 11:19 AM

MM

“ 1 file added to the album North Central Texas College



Mary Martinson - May 11 at 10:48 AM

MM

“ Wayne, your family at North Central Texas College will miss you! Your dedicated service to the college and students since 2009 have been so appreciated. May you rest in peace and be riding trains in heaven. Sincerely, Mary Martinson



Mary Martinson - May 11 at 10:26 AM

RK

“ RoseAnna & Bob Kennedy purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Kenneth Wayne Smith.



RoseAnna & Bob Kennedy - May 10 at 07:51 PM

RK

“ RoseAnna & Bob Kennedy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth Wayne Smith.

RoseAnna & Bob Kennedy - May 10 at 07:51 PM

TN

“ THE NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER NRHS purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Kenneth Wayne Smith.



THE NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER NRHS - May 10 at 07:25 PM

TN

“ THE NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER NRHS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth Wayne Smith.

THE NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER NRHS - May 10 at 07:25 PM

MM

“ Melba Mower lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Wayne Smith



Melba Mower - May 10 at 07:29 AM

LC

“ Love from your cousin Carolyn purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kenneth Wayne Smith.



Love from your cousin Carolyn - May 09 at 10:20 PM