

William Claude Smith

William Claude Smith, son of Martin and Easter Smith, was born March 2, 1900, near Berryville, Arkansas, and departed this life, due to a heart attack, July 30, 1963, at the Waynesville General Hospital at the age of 63 years, 4 months, and 28 days.

In 1924, he was united in marriage to Lula G. Turner and to this union 6 children were born.

His wife, Lula, having passed away in September 1954, he was again united in marriage March 24, 1956, to Edna Searson of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Six years ago he rededicated his life to Christ and joined the Hopewell Baptist Church, where he remained active in church activities until his passing.

Three children, also, having preceded Mr. Smith in death, he leaves to mourn his passing his devoted wife Edna of the home, 1 son William Claude Smith Jr. of Houston, Missouri, 1 Stepson Jimmie Searson of Iowa City, Iowa; 2 daughters, Virginia M. Page and Vesta A. Welch, both of Big Piney, Missouri; his father and mother, Martin C. And Easter Smith, Big Piney, Missouri, 1 step-daughter, Bonnie Welch, Tulsa, Oklahoma; 6 brothers, Clyde Smith, Hazelgreen, Mo., Dewey Smith, Roby, Mo., Henry Smith, Dallas Smith, Sherman Smith, Modesto, California, Floyd Smith, of Ceres, California, One sister, Bessie Page of Merced, California. One brother and sister Roy Smith and Clara Lane having preceded him in death. He also leaves 6 grandchildren and 3 step-grandchildren. One grandchild having preceded him in death. Also surviving are his many friends and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Friday August 2, 1963, at 2 pm at the Hopewell Baptist Church at Big Piney, Missouri with the Reverend Reavil Hankins officiating. Interment was in Big Piney Cemetery under direction of Moss-Williams of Waynesville.

[From: Pulaski County Democrat (MO), 8 August 1963, 2/2 (Fort Wood Section)]