

Ben N. Smith, Jr., 83

Ben N. Smith, Jr., 83, of Boonville died Friday, July 7, 2006 at the Missouri Veterans Home in Warrensburg, Mo.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 9, 2006 at Nelson Memorial United Methodist Church in Boonville. Visitation will be Saturday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. at Thacher Funeral Home in Boonville. Burial will be in the Walnut Grove Cemetery in Boonville.

Mr. Smith was born November 13, 1922 in Cooper County, Mo., the son of Ben N. and Zula Smith. He graduated from Boonville High School in 1940 and attended Central Methodist College. He was a World War II veteran, serving for three years. Most of that time was spent in Europe. He received five silver stars. On January 20, 1946 he was united in marriage to Florence Hartley.

Mr. Smith was owner of the Ben N. Smith Agency and Boonville

Abstract Co. Inc., from 1978 to 1996. He was past president of Central Missouri Real Estate Board, past president of the Friends of Historic Boonville and past president of Thoma Tuttle American Legion Post No. 52, 40 and 8. He was also a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Masonic Lodge and Nelson Memorial United Methodist Church. He had been in the insurance and real estate business since 1948. Prior to that, he worked for the A.B. Chance Co., in Centralia, Mo.

Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his daughter Rebecca Lee Hudson, two sisters, Jan and Jean, and one brother, Art Putnam.

He is survived by his wife Florence of the home, one granddaughter, Christine Louise Hudson of London, England and one sister, Margaret Hankewich of Boonville.