



John T. Smith

October 22, 1941-October 23, 2019

John T. Smith, commonly known as "J.T", 78, passed away at his home on the morning of October 23, 2019, leaving this earth for eternal peace.

J.T. was born in Mt. Clemons, Michigan on October 22, 1941, to Herman and Evelyn Smith. He graduated in 1959 from Romeo High School in Michigan and quickly joined the U.S. Air Force where he proudly served our country until his honorable discharge. Upon completing his service, he immediately found his career path in the automobile service industry. In 1978, he moved to Arizona and continued his career path which led to meeting his wife, Ruth, of whom he married in 1983. Soon after, he also met his longtime and best friend, Michael Popovich.

J.T. spent 17+ years working as a popular service manager for local dealerships in Casa Grande, AZ. He was an avid fan of the actor, John Wayne, and all things western. His favorite pastimes were tinkering with cars and outdoor gardening. J.T. was known to have a "green thumb", a skill that many around him envied. As an extremely patient man, J.T. was also known for his ability to converse with anyone and make you feel important no matter who you were. He was an extremely devoted husband, father, and grandfather and greatly valued spending time with his family.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Smith; son, Justin Manford and wife Barbara; son, Joshua Manford and wife Christy; and his beloved grandchildren, Hannah and Elaina. Survivors also include brother, Jimmy Smith of Michigan; brother, Danny Smith of South Dakota; brother, Stephen Smith of Arizona; and sister, Sarah Reilley of Michigan. J.T. was preceded in death by his sister, Sandra Harms; his brother, Keith Smith; and his parents.

A private celebration of life is to be planned at a later date.

