



## John Willard Smither

November 11, 1945 - March 26, 2026

John Willard Smither passed away peacefully on March 26, 2026, surrounded by family. He was born November 11, 1945, in Frankfort, Ky to the late Hartwell and Oletta Smither. John was a person of quiet integrity, who was deeply devoted to his family and guided by a strong sense of honesty in all he did. He is survived by the love of his life Mary Wilson Smither and daughters, Karen Smither and Kimberly Schweighardt (Tony) and grandchildren Travis Schweighardt (Megan & Sloane).

John proudly served in the United States Navy, carrying that same spirit of service into his community as a firefighter in Frankfort, Kentucky. He went on to work in state government, where he retired as a supervisor over toll roads in the Department of transportation, earning the respect of colleagues through his dedication and leadership.

John was an avid bass fisherman, competing in tournaments throughout the southeastern United States and finding great joy on the water. He also loved photography, capturing special moments through his lens. He was a gifted cook, especially when it came to his cajun and creole specialties which he enjoyed sharing with family and friends.

John will be remembered for his dedication to his family and his love of life's simple joys. He especially cherished traveling, with New Orleans holding a special place in his heart. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

A private gathering for celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Hospice Bluegrass Care Navigators, 643 Teton Trail, Frankfort, Ky 40601.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory.

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ *Lorrie Houck lit a candle in memory of John Willard Smither*



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**Lorrie Houck** - March 28 at 07:19 PM

LH

“ *What a kind person he was. Wow could he make the best grilled pork chops and the beautiful photos he took was amazing. Such a wonderful friend who will be greatly missed. Prayers for all the family. God bless each of you may God give you comfort and peace.* 🙏🙏😭😭

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**Lorrie Houck** - March 28 at 07:18 PM

JK

“ *Mary, I am so very sorry! You and the family are in my thoughts and prayers for peace and comfort.....*  
*June Kelly*

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**June Kelly** - March 28 at 10:09 AM