Wednesday, July 2, 2008

Thomas Smithers III

Collected, restored old trucks

GILMANTON - Thomas W. Smithers III, 80, of 789 Province Road, died at the Lakes Region General Hospital, Laconia on Sunday, June 29, 2008.

> Mr. Smithers was the widower of Margie R. (Mee) Smithers.

> Tom was born May 6, 1928 in Arlington, Mass., the son of Violet Ann (Stevens) and Thomas W. Smithers Jr. Tom had been a resident of Gilmanton since 1944 and as a youngster spent many summers on Loon Pond.

Tom served in the Navy and was a hoisting engineer and a member of Local 4 Union.

Tom was known near and far for his "digging" and "hoisting" business. He owned, restored and operated many pieces of old equipment. His trucks were highly anticipated entries in the Gilmanton Fourth of July parades along with the Barrington Truck Show and Truck Tours. Tom raced stockcars

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in the early 1950s, paving the way for his two older sons and now his grandson.

Tom was well known for his dry sense of humor and quick wit.

Tom is survived by two sons, Thomas William Smithers IV and his wife, Dodie, of Gilmanton Iron Works, and Terrence James Smithers of Phoenix, Ariz.; one daughter, Tracy Jean Davis and her husband. Duane, of Maricopa, Ariz.; two stepsons, Raymond Robertson and Lee Robertson, both of Wyoming: one stepdaughter, Patricia Kindel of Kentucky; six grandchildren, Michelle Smithers Hevman, Nichole Smithers Fahey, Thomas W. Smithers V, Tamsen Smithers Boyko, Blaine Davis and Talia Davis; four great-grandchildren, Madison Heyman, Brady Heyman, Kendal Heyman and Thomas W. Smithers VI (his namesake); two sisters, Kathy Kelly Fiel of Mission Viejo, Calif., and Jane Kelly Seivert of Bozeman, Mont., and several nephews and nieces.

Tom was predeceased by his mother in 1985 and by his father in 1975; by his wife, Margie (Mee) Smithers, who died in 2004, and by a son, Timothy J. Smithers, in 1992.

"Enjoy the waterfalls, Tom. We love you dearly and you will be sincerely missed by family and friends. Toodle-oo, Tom."

There will be no calling hours. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, July 5, 2008, at 10 a.m. at the family lot in Beech Grove Cemetery, Gilmanton.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Gilmanton Year Round Library, Gilmanton Iron Works NH 03837.

Wilkinson-Beane Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 164 Pleasant Street, Laconia, is in charge of the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial go to www.wilkinsonbeane.com.

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