



## Charles Earl Smith

April 30, 1932 - October 28, 2020

Charles Earl Smith, age 88, of Wibaux, Montana, passed away on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at his home in Wibaux. A Vigil service will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, November 2, 2020 at the Silha Funeral Home in Wibaux with Deacon Jim Wosepka officiating. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Wibaux with Father Silvester Anthonysamy officiating. \*Due to COVID-19 restrictions, it is requested for both the Vigil service and Mass that masks are to be worn and social distancing guidelines followed. Unfortunately, there will not be a luncheon following the Mass to adhere to the distancing request. Silha Funeral Home of Wibaux, Montana has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Earl was born on April 30, 1932 in Wibaux, a son of Jesse Earl and Kathryn Augusta (Zielsdorf) Smith. He was raised and educated in Beach, graduating from Beach High School with the class of 1950. Shortly after receiving his high school education, he married JoAnn Mae Sokoloski on January 5, 1953 at St. Phillip's Catholic Church in Wibaux. They lived on the family farm east of Wibaux for sixty years, where they farmed and raised their six children. They later moved into Wibaux in 2013.

During his downtime Earl enjoyed fishing, playing cards, doing yard work, and traveling. He was also talented at refinishing antiques of all types. One of Earl's favorite things to do however was attending all of his children and grandchildren's various sporting events.

Throughout the years Earl was active on numerous community organizations, including: Wibaux County Commissioner, Wool Growers Association, Nation Farmers Organization, Knights of Columbus, and as a former board member of Cenex in Beach.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Kathryn; his wife, JoAnn; son, Douglas Smith; grandson, Jason McBride; and two brothers-in-law, Floyd (Dorothy) Sokoloski and James Sokoloski.

Earl is survived by five children, Deborah McBride of Wibaux, Brenda Smith of Hamilton, Montana, Bruce (Carmen) Smith of Wibaux, Kendall Smith of Petaluma, California, and Jess (Kim) Smith of Florence, Montana; eight grandchildren, Scott (Sue) Smith, Julie Smith, Sheri (David) LeGrand, Edward (Julie) McBride, Meriah Smith, Riley Smith, Bridger Smith, and Jayden Vogan; two step-granddaughters, Rachelle (David Allred) LaPierre and Danielle LaPierre; five great-grandchildren; five great-step-grandchildren; one sister, Marilyn VanStralen of Moraga, California; one brother-in-law, Donald (Muriel) Sokoloski of Wibaux; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com).

# Previous Events

## Rosary Service

NOV 2. 7:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Homes - Wibaux, Montana  
204 South Wibaux Street  
Wibaux, MT 59353  
(406) 796-2421  
silha@midrivers.com

## Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 3. 11:00 AM (MT)

St. Peter's Catholic Church  
313 1st Avenue Southwest  
Wibaux, MT 59353

# Tribute Wall



“ *Charles Earl Smith*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *David Ekre here i have never met a guy like you and your family, I've had a good time helping work on your equipment and you telling what to do when u called me for help, but u always had a smile and made life fun, well missed my friend.. David Ekre Jr*

**David Orlando Ekre** - November 04, 2020 at 08:10 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles Earl Smith.*



November 02, 2020 at 08:06 AM



“ *Bob Rogers lit a candle in memory of Charles Earl Smith*



**bob Rogers** - October 31, 2020 at 01:43 AM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Earl Smith.*



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October 30, 2020 at 11:56 PM



“ *Love, Jackie and Alan Daniels purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Charles Earl Smith.*



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**Love, Jackie and Alan Daniels** - October 30, 2020 at 06:46 PM



“ *So many memories of such a good man!! He was such a good friend and neighbor to Dad as he struggled to continue farming as his health failed... as well as the friendship and support to Mother during the many years he farmed our land. The memories of our 2 families as we kids grew up together are way too many to list... just know we share your grief and loss and we are sending you all our love and prayers for comfort during these very hard days ahead.  
Genie, Jim, and Mike Welsh; Ruby & Toby Tennant*

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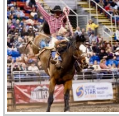
**Genie Welsh** - October 30, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you. (John was ring bearer at Earl and Joann's wedding.)*

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**Angie (Nix) and John Ross** - October 30, 2020 at 08:19 AM



*Our thoughts and prayers are with you and yours Bruce. God grant you comfort. Losing a dad leaves a void no matter your ages. God bless you all. Val and Carol*

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**Carol TescherObrigewitch** - November 03, 2020 at 04:27 PM