



Justin R. Smith

April 24, 1982 - June 29, 2016

COLEBROOK, NH — Justin R. Smith, 34, of Colebrook, passed away as the result of a canoe accident on the Androscoggin River in Errol, NH, on Wednesday, June 29, 2016.

He was born on April 24, 1982, in Derby, Conn., a son to Doreen Robbins and Valentine Smith, Sr. Justin grew up in Connecticut and developed a hard-worker attitude and ethic early in life.

Justin was a quiet, shy man, and a true lover of the outdoors. He worked hard his entire life, first at construction in Connecticut, and later in northern NH where he owned and operating his own business as “the Chimney Guy” for the past 10 years. He loved to go hunting and fishing, and loved taking care of his animals on his small home farm in Colebrook. Justin was one to always be helping someone else before he thought of himself.

Justin is survived by his long-time partner, Jayne Benson and her children, of Colebrook; his mother, Doreen Robbins of Ansonia, Conn.; his father, Valentine Smith, Sr., of Pennsylvania; two brothers, Jason Smith of Woodbridge, Conn., and Valentine Smith, Jr. and wife Danielle of Tacoma, Wash.; his step-father, Vinnie B. of West Stewartstown; as well as 3 nieces and 3 nephews.

The family will receive visitors at the Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook, NH, on Saturday, July 9, 2016, from 2 to 4 p.m. Other services will be private.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Justin may be sent to the NH Fish & Game Dept., Attn: Business Div, 11 Hazen Dr., Concord, NH 03301.

Condolences may be offered to the family on-line by going to www.jenkinsnewman.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home, Colebrook, NH.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 9. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home
103 Main Street
Colebrook, NH

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Dearest Justin, your Jayne here its been seven years and I miss you always. Please watch for my son he passed away a little over a week ago. Like you everyone I've talked to said Billy was a great person. Iam glad that he is in good hands with you and all my dearly departed. Love you Justin



Jayne Smith - July 03, 2023 at 04:20 AM

AD

Jayne- with Christ no on is ever gone they are only waiting, may god bless you and bring you peace in these times of despair. God bless you and your waiting loved ones 🙏

Amber Decker - November 19, 2023 at 01:35 PM

MD

“ I finally found a name on your first name Justin
... I had no news from you via email, and I
thought you had lost my contact.
Then one afternoon I saw in a documentary
that my friend Justin was no longer with us :(
I was your French friend and we talked a lot
about our lives, movies and nature where you sent me a lot of
photos that I no longer have. You were a good boy with whom I
smiled a lot with your photos where you grimaced :).
You loved nature and now I'm sure where you are is wonderful and
peaceful.
I miss you my friend. God bless you
Michael from the Basque Country



Michel DALLEU - June 23, 2022 at 01:13 PM

JS

Where we lived in upstate New Hampshire My Justin loved. He loved my horses (morgans) especially when we had foals. He loved the fishing up here. During the summer we would go fishing almost everyday. He loved hiking and hunting boating and helping out our friends and his new family. Leaving his old family behind in Connecticut he was all to happy to leave. This is God land up here. I hope he is still fishing and hiking with a pack of German Shepherds. Michael if you ever come north near Canada stop in to see where he spent his last nine years.

Jayne Smith - July 03, 2023 at 04:31 AM

DL

“ Omg...I just watched the episode and sent up a prayer....my deepest condolences! I was hoping for a happy ending! RIP Justin



Dana Lee - September 26, 2021 at 10:27 AM

MA

“ As the years move forward, I wish the calmness time will bring to Justin's family members. I know he will not be forgotten, and remembered with peaceful, happy memories and meaningful thoughts.

Mark - April 23, 2019 at 08:13 PM

JS

Justin was my better half. An amazing man. He truly enjoyed living in New Hampshire way up north. He didn't miss the craziness of Connecticut. We lived together in CT. We often talked about moving to the live free or die state. So I sold my horse farm and we moved north Justin Jayne and my son Billy. I miss Justin every day.

Jayne Smith - July 03, 2023 at 04:38 AM

JS

He is never forgotten everyday I miss my better half.

Jayne Smith - July 03, 2023 at 04:40 AM

RE

“ I just watched the episode on North Woods Law... I'm so sorry for your loss! I kept watching and hoping for a happy ending and was very sad for him and his family for the outcome. Praying for the family 🙏

Ryan Eliason - September 02, 2018 at 03:06 PM

KS

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family . I feel like I knew you b/c I was watching the episode on North Woods Law . I felt like I was there . I am very sad for all of your family . I couldn't stop crying . The Wildlife and Fisheries done an awesome job . My heart goes out to all .



Katrina Jeansonne Schmidt - September 02, 2018 at 12:15 PM

JS

Your wrong the ranger on duty didn't do his job I was there with my son. The law was not enforced. My son and my better half Justin had no life saving devices in the canoe
When the ranger first stop me and stood there watching Justin and my Son he should have given both a ticket for not up holding the laws of the waterways in NH. but he was more concerned about his hair. While being filmed. The aftermath works did well but they didn't recover his body. The first ranger on the site was the same one whom didn't up hold the state laws. And while my son was diving down and pulling Justin up by his hair that ranger just stood there. I push him an yelled at him to go in and help my son save Justin. 7 years later and the pain isn't gone. That ranger flat out told me the water is to dangerous and he would have to get his boat. But he just stood there. Watching my son dive down over and over
They didn't help they didn't do a good job. A 24 year old did more than that ranger did. He even told the guy filming to turn off the camera so all they showed on TV. Was us under the tree (when he should have given the tickets. And parts of my son going back into the water an the so called recovery. Seriously the current cared Justin almost two miles down the river. He was gone from that spot way before they even got boats in the water. Don't believe everything you see on TV. Please excuse any misspelled words

Jayne Smith - July 03, 2023 at 04:58 AM

TE

“ I do not know you or your family, but I just watched the episode of North Woods Law and saw your story. My condolences to all of you. Prayers for all of you and to the young man who was with him. God Bless each of you.
Terri



Terri - August 05, 2018 at 07:28 PM

DG

I just watched this episode too! My heartfelt condolences to the family for their loss. Thank you for sharing your painful story. I certainly learned alot watching this story.... it was not the outcome I was hoping for! RIP Justin Smith. Prayers for your loved ones.

darlene Goodman - September 02, 2018 at 12:08 PM

KW

Broke my heart watching the episode of Northwoods Law. My heartfelt condolences to those who knew and loved Justin Smith. Life is fleeting. After reading the many condolence comments from the years, it is clear he was a very well loved and respected man. He had a true love for life it is evident by the way he lived and those who were blessed to know him.

Kimberly Weld-Harrington - March 03, 2019 at 10:50 AM



I watched Northwoods Law months ago and saw this tragic story. The show was on today again 3/3/2019. I just feel so very sorry for Justin..his mom..and Billy. My sincere condolences to the family. God bless.
Sandy Hunter
Colorado

Abbe Bjorn - March 03, 2019 at 11:26 AM



i just saw the episode today of north woods law and i was hoping for a good outcome... so very sorry for your loss and may he continue to r.i.p

Blair Knight - March 03, 2019 at 09:58 PM

KA

So very sorry for your Family's Loss of Justin. I too watched this on North Woods Law. My prayers go out to your Family.

kristen arnot - April 23, 2019 at 08:05 PM

TG

“ I know it's been a while since your loss, the loss of a man whom I did not even know but I watched an episode of North Woods Law and this is where I heard the story and looked it up. I'm very sorry to his partner and family and an hoping that time had helped healed you just a little. He must have been one heck of a guy, everything I read on him says so. They say the good go first, way before their time. And before I forget, I'm so sorry for the young man who was with him, Billy I believe his name was. I pray for all of you, and really hope you're lives have gotten a little bit back to normal. Gone but never forgotten they say. It's sounds as if all of you were very lucky to have him for as long as you did, what a blessing I read he was. I'm sad for the loss and did not even know him so my heart goes out to all of you and God Bless. I could only hope to be remembered like he, one day.

Tami Gabel - August 05, 2018 at 07:19 PM

JB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jayne Benson - June 29, 2018 at 02:24 PM

KW

I'm sorry for your loss, Jayne.

Kyle Wayne - September 05, 2021 at 05:58 AM

LR

“ *I am very sorry for your loss. I am an avid canoer and watched the search & rescue on the episode of North Woods Law on Animal Planet TV. I will light a candle for him and one for your family afterwork tomorrow at St.Patrick's Cathedral.*

Lisa R - March 18, 2018 at 06:06 PM

JB

Thank you today i light a candle two years without my beloved life partner.

Jayne Benson - June 29, 2018 at 02:14 PM

SC

“ *My apologies for the lateness of this condolence but I am truly sorry for your loss and heartache. I pray that you find strength and comfort in your beautiful memories.*

Sharon Cleveland - August 23, 2016 at 06:23 PM

WR

“ *Jayne & family, we met Justin through his business. Over the last few years he did several jobs for us. We found him to be friendly, efficient, and honest. We are so very sorry for your loss. Thinking of you in this time of sorrow.*

Walt & Jane Rankin

Walt & Jane Rankin - July 18, 2016 at 02:23 PM



Chrissy
La

So sorry for the family's loss. I watched what happened on tv and I'm sending prayers.

Chrissy La Barbera - May 18, 2018 at 05:04 PM

TS

“ my nephew Justin was a quiet and gentle man R.I.P Justin you will be sadly missed love always uncle tommy

thomas smith - July 10, 2016 at 05:39 PM

KL

“ Jayne & family...we are so very very sadden to hear of the tragic loss of Justin. We met Justin through his business and knew Justin to be an honest, hard working, quality craftsman full of integrity. We are so very fortunate to have a piece of Justin's craftsmanship in our home where he built a custom hearth with stone faced walls....truly a remarkable job. Justin was one of those people you meet in life who leave a positive impression.....we will certainly miss him. Our deepest sympathies...Roger & Kate Lemire



Kate Lemire - July 09, 2016 at 03:42 PM

KW

“ so sorry to hear of your loss. my sincerest sympathies to you and your family. Kim & Tom Wargo

kim wargo - July 09, 2016 at 01:12 PM

SA

“ We just wanted to take a moment to send a heart felt message to your family. We were the people setting up for the fireworks in Errol the day that Justin's brother and friend went to go look for him. We were still working when he was found right by where we were working. We are glad he was found but wish as everyone else that it could have turned out better. We couldn't be there today, do to other business but wanted you to know we are saying prayers for all of you. Also sending a big hug to his brother for being so brave and dedicated to finding him. I don't have any brothers but if I did I would hope they would be like him. I know it probably doesn't mean much but I am Catholic and believe in God and we'll that night we put on one heck of a show and lit the way for him. Are thoughts and prayers are with you. Sherry Anderson, and Crew, Anderson Pyrotechnics.

Sherry L. Anderson - July 09, 2016 at 12:27 PM

MF

“ To Doreen, Jason, and family. I am so very sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Melissa France - July 09, 2016 at 12:01 PM

LM

“ I am so honored that Justin was my children's uncle. Valentine had such a great time visiting justins home in NH & doing all the fun outdoor things Justin loved right alongside him. Even though we are separated by the entire country he made great efforts to stay in touch & communicate with the boys. My heart goes out to Jayne & the Smith family & to my Dear friend Doreen. I'm thinking of you. Lindsay Mora



lindsay Mora - July 09, 2016 at 10:01 AM

DM

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Don MacFarlane - July 07, 2016 at 09:06 AM

DM

It's been a sad and rough week for all of us in Colebrook. For myself and my wife Justin was more than just a good friend, he was family to us. This man was far to proud to ask for assistance but would stop what he was doing to assist anyone who needed help. Justin was just a class act will be missed by a lot of people in our small little town. Peace be with you forever my brother. I miss you..

Don MacFarlane - July 07, 2016 at 09:09 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Justin R. Smith*.



July 06, 2016 at 10:36 PM

BJ

“ *Brittany and Mark Jamgochian* purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of *Justin R. Smith*.



Brittany and Mark Jamgochian - July 06, 2016 at 07:58 AM

LD

“ Justin had a contagious optimistic personality and a strong work ethic. He did some chimney work and cleaning for us---he was so neat and respectful to detail. We will truly miss him ----he was one of those folks that leave a lasting impression on your life. Sincere condolences to all his family. Joe and Lorraine Dziegelewski Lancaster N.H.

lorraine dziegelewski - July 05, 2016 at 02:44 PM

GJ

“ Jayne, and Justin's whole family - many thoughts and prayers for you all at this tragic time. Whenever Justin came to do some chimney work for me it was always a very pleasant time, as he was very much into local things, and we always had a nice visit as he did his great work.

Ginger Jannenga

Ginger Jannenga - July 04, 2016 at 02:14 PM



“ I knew Justin through his chimney service business and he impressed me as a lovely young man. I send my sincere condolences to his friends and family.

Susan Dodge, Berlin NH

Susan Dodge - July 04, 2016 at 12:13 PM

RF

“ We met Justin a few years ago when he came out to inspect and clean our chimney and woodstoves. His attention to detail and work ethic left a lasting impression. We are so sorry for your loss. Rose Fitzgerald, Teri Anderson

Rose Fitzgerald - July 04, 2016 at 08:22 AM

PS

Justin was a hard working guy with a terrific work ethic. I never had to concern myself with his cleanings because he was so trusted. Please accept my condolences. The North Country has lost a great asset.
Peter Sutters

Peter Sutters - July 05, 2016 at 10:37 AM