



## Samwise Often Smith

November 27, 1987 - February 10, 2026

Samwise Often "Sam" Smith -- Obituary

Born on November 27, 1987

Died on February 10, 2026

Wimberley, Texas

Samwise Often Smith, 38, left us on February 10, 2026 at his home in Wimberley, Texas following a short illness.

He was born in a rural hospital just west of San Antonio to Mark and Kathy Wood Smith. Sam was a 2006 graduate of Lytle High School, earned his B.A. in Graphic Design from Texas Tech University. Much of his career was spent with Urban Metal in Natalia and then Line Graphix in San Antonio.

Samwise was a loving brother to his sister Emily: "He was an easy laugh" as his sister describes Sam "We experienced the same references, so he got all my jokes no one else understood. Sam wasn't just my brother; he cherished deep connections with his friends and earned a bond worthy of the title Brother to many in his chosen family."

He was a wonderful son to his parents, and a quiet support to all of his friends. Samwise was the quiet one, you could feel his peaceful spirit in the

room. He was slow to anger but reacted fiercely when he felt something was just wrong. Sam was a great listener.

Samwise was preceded in leaving us by his grandparents Edward Wood, James and Jerri Smith, and his uncles Joe B. Smith and Frank Walton.

He is survived by his parents Mark and Kathy Wood Smith, his sister Emily Smith (Jonathon Dzein), his grandmother LaVerne Wood, his aunts Carol Smith and Amy Wood Walton, his uncle Wesley Smith, and his cousins Edward Walton, Irene Walton and Crystal Smith Anawaty (Jonathon).

Sam was an active member of Community Bible Church on Loop 1604 in San Antonio, Texas. He enjoyed fellowship, community and worship there. He led and participated in a number of groups within the church.

Sam was always ready and willing to lend a hand whenever someone wanted help or assistance. He loved evening walks in the country and hiking trips to many state and national parks. He loved drawing and sometimes made paintings as gifts to his grandparents. Samwise had a peaceful spirit that you could feel when he was in the room. He was a good friend to many and loved by everyone who knew him. He will not be forgotten and his spirit is joined with us forever. We trust he is now exploring the wider cosmos, free from the physical limitation of this earth; going, as always calmly and quietly

A celebration of Sam's life is will be held in Castroville, Texas on Saturday, March 21st at 11:00 am at Zion Lutheran Church at 1106 Fiorella St., Castroville, Texas 78009, followed by a pot-luck luncheon.

In lieu of flowers, you may donate a tree in Sam's honor by visiting <https://alivingtribute.org>



# Previous Events

## Celebration

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MAR **21**. 11:00 AM.

Zion Lutheran Church

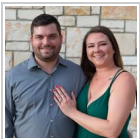
# Tribute Wall

IW

“ We were lucky enough to go on a lot of family trips together growing up. As has been shared many times; Sam was a calm, quiet guy. I always thought it was cool that he didn't feel the need to fill a room with empty words, and was okay with the silence. I remember going into his room on a cruise one time and he had a journal out and open. As a 12 year old I annoyingly asked if I could read it, and to my shock he said "sure". I was astounded! He was such a quiet guy that I couldn't believe he was going to let me into his secret, special journal. It was as I picked it up and realized, while it wasn't gibberish, there was no way I was going to read this. I looked up at him to see a soft smile from my cousin Sam. He only said yes because he knew I wouldn't be able to understand this secret language he had created for himself. We started to laugh as I tried to figure it out. Once I started to hold the journal up to the mirror he quickly snatched it back as he saw I had found out that it was a completely backwards notebook. I didn't mind not being able to read his secrets because I was more so just wildly impressed that he had taught himself to write a whole journal backwards. I will miss sitting around the Wimberley house while our parents figure out what to have for dinner, but will always remember him fondly and miss him dearly.

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**IRENE WALTON** - March 21 at 12:42 PM



“ An absolutely amazing cousin. On the Smith side I only had Sam and Emily. We will miss him so much.

*Love, Crystal & Jonathon*

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**Crystal Anawaty** - March 20 at 10:26 PM

AA

“ *Thanksgiving and Christmas will never be the same without Sam at the table. He had unofficially started a tradition of bringing his delicious broccoli rice casserole and we all looked forward to seeing him.*

*The epitome of the strong silent type, he was a lot like his grandfather. Pensive, thoughtful, always happy to do the heavy lifting.*

*Sam, I am so sad that you are not here with us in body but thank you for your spirit living in us... aunt Amy*



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**aunt Amy** - March 20 at 10:37 AM

AC

“ *Samwise stories*

*I remember when I had my knee scoped back in the 90's Sam and Emily came to Abilene to assist with driving me and mom to and from surgery. Sam and Emily stayed a couple of days to help me get around and run errands. I really appreciated that time with them.*

*Once Sam came for a visit and we went to Moran to check on things. We took dad's colt .22 and took some practice shots at an old rv left there.*

*Sam was so easy going. I really liked the walks we had at Belton in the fall. Ed Wood really made it an easy place for exploring.*

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**Aunt Carol** - March 19 at 08:09 PM

MS

“ 1 file added to the album songs



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**Mark S** - March 19 at 04:47 PM

MS

“ 2 files added to the album songs



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**Mark Smith** - March 19 at 09:54 AM

MS

“ *May Light always surround you;  
Hope kindle and rebound you.  
May your Hurts turn to Healing;  
Your Heart embrace Feeling.  
May Wounds become Wisdom;  
Every Kindness a Prism.  
May Laughter infect you;  
Your Passion resurrect you.  
May Goodness inspire  
your Deepest Desires.  
Through all that you Reach For,  
May your arms Never Tire.*

*- D. Simone*

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**Mark Smith** - March 02 at 11:13 PM

MK

*Marko, our deepest condolences to you and Kathy. A couple of months ago we had the pleasure of meeting a new member of our prayer team at CBC. It was Sam. What a beautiful spirit he held within. It was today that we learned it was your Sam and are heartbroken. You need to know this. He was doing the Lord's work so courageously and beautifully. May he be rejoicing at the banquet. Much Love, Marge and Randy Kiolbassa ❤️ ❤️*

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**Margaret Kiolbassa** - March 07 at 03:45 PM

NT

“ *Still shocked and extremely saddened by Sam's passing. My sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. We will miss you Sam!*

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**Nick T** - February 28 at 08:34 AM

LY

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*

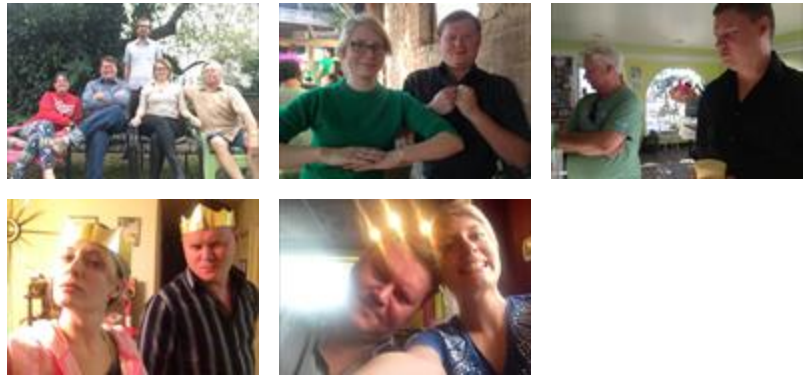


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**Lynda** - February 27 at 03:55 PM

EM

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Emily - February 26 at 06:21 PM



*Beautiful photos señorita Smith. I always enjoyed hanging out with the two of you. There's a uniqueness that y'all brought out of each other that will always be a joy to watch.*

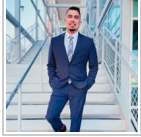
Jose Medina - March 08 at 01:33 AM

JC

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Janelle Campbell - February 26 at 12:34 PM



“ Sam, Heaven has gained your kind and caring soul. You always talked about how you loved to serve and what was ahead. I'll always remember your laughs and just the kind human you were to me and others. Thank you for your friendship bud. This isn't a goodbye forever. I'll look for you in heaven to shake your hand. I love you bro!

Joe Olguin - February 23 at 11:28 PM

VA

“ Sam was a good friend. Always listened to me, going 100 miles per hour, never rushed me or dismissed me. When he did speak, his words were intentional and meaningful. He wore the sweetest smile and served with his whole heart. I never heard him complain once. He was so quick to jump in and get whatever needed to be done, done. I miss him already. He never made me feel judged or silly or stupid. No matter what I was running my mouth about, and all the big feelings I had, he would just be with me, listen, and allow me to share. I'm very grateful for the brother he was to me. Praying for his family and friends, may our Heavenly Father be their strength, comfort, and peace, In Jesus' mighty & matchless name, Amen 🙏



Vanessa - February 23 at 04:54 PM

ME

“ Sam,  
Thank you for being such a good friend through design school and bringing chuckles to my life with your dry humor. I can't imagine my school days without your presence in it. The epitome of a quiet, soulful artist with so much talent! I wish we had kept in touch. You are missed.

Melissa Eastwood - February 23 at 09:47 AM

VI

“A gentle giant, a sweet heart! I'm so grateful to have served with man, who spoke volumes by his actions and very little words. You will be greatly missed Samwise.



Victoria - February 21 at 02:22 PM

MS

That's such a kind thought, Victoria. That's Samwise.

Mark Smith - February 23 at 08:45 AM

SL

“And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms, slowly and always irregularly. Spaces fill with a kind of soothing electric vibration. Our senses, restored, never to be the same, whisper to us. They existed. They existed. We can be. Be and be better. For they existed.”  
~ Maya Angelou

Sara Lawrence - February 21 at 11:07 AM



“I will always cherish the time i got to live with my buddy Sam. Ups and downs.



Jose Medina - February 21 at 10:42 AM

MS

It looks like y'all had lots of fun, Jose!

Mark Smith - February 23 at 08:45 AM

MS

“ When Sam and Emily were young enough for Saturday morning cartoons,  
I often was up making them cinnamon toast for a treat.  
One morning, I was a bit fuzzy headed but up for my task and delivered the treats in triangles with the edges cut off. But Sam came into the kitchen, shortly after, and said "Dad, this toast tastes funny."

*(No exclamation, just the facts; so Sam.)*

*- It turns out I had used cayenne pepper (also light brown in color like cinnamon but not as kid-delicious).*

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**Mark/Often Smith** - February 20 at 10:49 PM

CF

*That's a blessing memory for sure. Laughter with tears. Wishing you both sweet and fun memories. They will forever be in your heart*

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**Carmen Riches family/friend** - February 21 at 02:24 AM

CF

*I love you guys so much*

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**Carmen Riches family/friend** - February 21 at 02:32 AM

MS

“ Samwise was always willing to help or lend a hand.



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**Mark/Often Smith** - February 20 at 10:43 PM

KS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Kathryn LV Smith** - February 20 at 05:19 PM

MS

*That's the look. Sam always had that look!*

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**Mark Smith** - February 23 at 08:46 AM