

Bryan Michael Smith, 69, passed away in the early morning of Thursday, March 30, 2023 at Kingston of Perrysburg where he was recovering from surgery. He was born August 12, 1953 in Cleveland. Bryan grew up and attended public schools in Parma, Ohio. The 3<sup>rd</sup> of five children, he made his mark as a fierce competitor in all the street sports played by the kids in his neighborhood, and particularly as a big hitter in the pick-up baseball games. At Parma Senior High School, he played and lettered in both football and baseball. He also played on a junior hockey league team in the community.

From Parma High he went on to Williams College, where he excelled in both football and baseball. His teammates selected him as a co-captain in both of those sports his senior season. Bryan majored in American Civilization at Williams, and graduated with honors in 1975. He served as a Class Marshall for the Class of 1975 Commencement.

After graduating from Williams, Bryan joined Eaton Corp. in their management program. He cycled through three different 4-month assignments, and then settled in a permanent position in Materials Management at an Eaton division based in the Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN area. After a lengthy stint with Eaton, he moved to Caterpillar, Inc. for several years, also in Materials Management. After Caterpillar he moved into the cryogenic tank manufacturing industry – first as a Manufacturing Operations Director with an industry leader at the time, and later as a Manufacturing Operations consultant for C-suite manufacturing executives at two different companies.

While employed in Minnesota, Bryan obtained a Master of Science degree in Manufacturing Engineering from the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul. During his later years in the St. Paul Bryan shifted to project management consulting. During the Y2K conversion era he led several installations of the J.D. Edwards ERP system, both here in the U.S. and in Japan.

In 2007 he moved back to his home state of Ohio, settling in the Toledo area and reuniting with Ann Sanford, whom he had originally met in the All-Ohio Youth Choir at the Ohio State Fair in 1971. In Toledo he continued his consulting and project management activity, and participated as an advisor to several small business owners looking for help in selling their companies. Bryan also joined the

faculty of Owens Community College, where he taught classes in calculus, physics, and information services.

Bryan's wit and humor was front and center at every phase of his life. He probably never came upon a circumstance he didn't think he could lighten up a bit with a comedic interjection of some kind. His basic intelligence coupled with a broad range of career experiences made him a top notch "problem solver".

With his partner, Ann, Bryan was quite visible in Toledo's cultural realms, and for nearly 15 years he volunteered as Treasurer of the Toledo Jazz Orchestra. Besides managing the organization's cash assets, Bryan regularly wrote grant requests to secure valuable funding support for the Jazz Orchestra. They are one of the better funded cultural organizations in Toledo today.

Bryan is survived by his son, Michael, and also by three siblings - brothers Terry (Shelley) and Chris (April) and sister Stephanie. His parents, Lawrence Barrett Smith III and Mary A. (nee Prinios) Smith, predeceased him as did a brother, Lawry.

Terry Smith, Bryan's brother; Williams Class of '72