



## Bruce Gibson Smith

April 2, 1955 - March 14, 2025

Bruce Gibson Smith, 69, of Duncan, South Carolina passed away Friday, March 14, 2025, in Greer, South Carolina. Bruce, better known as Gibson, was born on April 2, 1955, in Knoxville, Tennessee to the late Horace C. Smith Jr. and Jean Gibson Smith.

Gibson was an avid writer and journalist. After graduating from Doyle High School in Knoxville, he studied at University of Tennessee and Western Illinois University, where he later received a bachelor's degree in journalism. His love for writing took him to various colleges, including University of Tennessee, as assistant sports information officer, and at Walters State Community College, Lees-McRae College, and USC-S Spartanburg in public information. For two years he wrote rules and regulations for the NCAA in Kansas City. Gibson had a deep affinity for art, serving for several years as the executive director of the Artists Guild of Spartanburg.

While working at University of Tennessee Gibson held the announcer's chair in the press box at the Volunteers home football games. Beyond his professional career Gibson enjoyed reading, all types of music, collecting art, writing, and baseball. He was a fan of the Atlanta Braves, Kansas City Royals, and Boston Red Sox. His devotion to animals, especially his cat "Miss Robbie", was legendary to the neighbors whose pets he showered with treats and love.

Gibson is survived by his significant other of thirty years, Anne Leen; a brother Kenneth Smith (Carol); maternal cousins Bruce Gibson III (Susan) and Pat Gibson; paternal cousins Mike Smith (Leslie), Mark Smith (Imelda), Carol Smith and Laura Smith. Gibson was predeceased by his father Horace C. Smith Jr. and his mother Jean Gibson Smith.

There are no services scheduled at this time. In lieu of flowers you may donate in memory of Gibson to: Zero Prostate Cancer 201 N. Union Street Mailbox 110 Alexander, VA 02129, or Joslin Diabetes Center: 529 Main Street 4th floor Charlestown, MA 02129.

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ Dear Ken & Carol. We just heard of your brother’s passing and wanted you both to know that you are in our hearts today. Our paths had crossed with your brother on several Sarasota occasions and we remembered his easy smile the most. Take comfort in your memories of Gibson and honor him by keeping him with you in those remembrances.

*Diane & Peggy Pieringer*

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**Diane & Peg Pieringer** - March 17, 2025 at 11:45 AM

CS

*Thank you*

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**Caril Smith** - March 17, 2025 at 02:46 PM

CS

*Thank you*

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**Carol Smith** - March 17, 2025 at 02:50 PM

CF

“ Gibson was my duplex neighbor in Kansas City. Not only was he gifted with wry humor but he was a fabulous writer. I wanted to enter a contest to win Revlon’s Unforgettable Woman contest and I asked Gibson to ghost write a paragraph for me ( wish I could find it but it’s been over 30 years ago ). I did get Honorable Mention and a huge bag of Revlon products. I’m sure that’s due to his stellar writing. As a single mom, he was a great friend to my son and to me. We will both miss him.

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**Cheryl Fannin** - March 16, 2025 at 10:35 AM

RK

“Gibson has been my friend literally as long as I can remember. He truly was a man of remarkable talents and abilities. Growing up, his family along with 3 other families were extremely close, partied together, vacationed together, attended church together and much, so much more. My memories of Gib are so many I could write memories numbering in the thousands. Gib will forever be in my mind, and I truly am sad for learning of his passing. I feel certain Jesus welcomed you into your eternal life with arms-wide-open. I feel certain we shall again reunite some day in the presence of God's Kingdom...rick

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**Rick Kennedy** - March 15, 2025 at 11:11 PM

RF

“Gibby” as some of us called him at Doyle, and Ken were my friends, I'm honored to say. We had a lot of fun at Doyle! My sincere and heartfelt condolences to your family and friends upon hearing of his passing. Ken and I hung out together. Kenny, this is my husband's fb because I stopped using it a long time ago. I'd just like to say how sad this makes me, and at the same time how much I like hearing that he had such an interesting, fulfilling, and happy life. I hope you remember me- I was Becky Franklin in high school, and go by Rebecca now. I'm in Knoxville, I'd love to hear from you if you've a mind- you can message me on here. Wally and I will make a donation to Zero Prostate Cancer in his name. I loved you guys!

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**Rebecca Franklin** - March 15, 2025 at 06:06 PM

KB

“Gibson lived up the street from me during childhood, and we attended the same elementary, high school, and college. I especially remember the many nights during our college years that he and I and a couple of other friends stayed up into the wee hours in his apartment in Haywood Harris’ basement talking about the nature of life, or, as we called it, “getting cosmic.”

*Gibson’s wry sense of humor was unparalleled, and so there were more laughs than deep philosophical insights.*

*The two of us shared a passion for the music of Bob Dylan, and we spent a good bit of time interpreting the lyrics to many of his songs. In the spring of 1977, Gibson also introduced me to an up-and-coming rocker named Bruce Springsteen, and when he and I and another friend went to a Springsteen concert in the very small venue of the Knoxville Civic Auditorium, I was mesmerized. The next day, I cleaned out my wallet to buy Born to Run. We traveled to Nashville and Atlanta for other Springsteen concerts.*

*After college, when we moved to different areas of the country, Gibson never, ever failed to send me an email on my birthday. He would never let me forget that I was older than he, if only by less than two months.*

*Even though I have only seen him sparingly for the last few decades, I will nonetheless miss him. Rest in peace, my friend.—  
Kathy Byrd*

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**Kathryn Byrd** - March 15, 2025 at 04:54 PM

JJ

*Gibson was a wonderful friend in high school. God bless his family and I hope you find comfort in the memories.*

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**Joyce Joseph** - March 15, 2025 at 06:40 PM

DS

*Gibson was a great friend at Doyle. I last saw him at a small gathering of friends in 2005 in Knoxville. His wry sense of humor kept us laughing! My thoughts and prayers are with his family and many friends.*

*Debbie Stiles Snyder*

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**Debbie Stiles Snyder** - March 15, 2025 at 07:16 PM

SH

*Sympathy to Anne and the entire family. I'll miss attending baseball games with Gibson. He was the best for discussing strategy during a game.*

*Stephen Hewitt*

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**Stephen Hewitt** - March 16, 2025 at 11:38 AM

RK

*Gib Smith...I have known Gib since our childhood in the late 1950's. Our families met, vacationed, partied and even worshiped together. We were as close as families could be without being blood-relatives. Unfortunately, time does have a characteristic of separating friends geographically, but never by the heart. Gib was a great man and I am truly saddened that he has passed away from his life here on Earth, but I believe I shall again enjoy his company in Heaven...*

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**Rick Kennedy** - May 03, 2025 at 01:16 PM