

David C. Smith

November 30, 1938 to March 24, 2020

On March 24, 2020, David C. Smith (81) passed away peacefully at his home in Portland, Oregon, surrounded by his family.

Dave was a Certified Photogrammetrist and Professional Land Surveyor and the founder of David C. Smith and Associates, Inc., a photogrammetric mapping company located in Portland, Oregon. Dave was a long-time member of ASPRS, one of the original members of MAPPS when it was formed in 1982 and served one term as MAPPS president. Dave remained active in both organizations for many years; he was also an active member of ACSM, Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon and the Professional Land Surveyors of Washington.



Dave was a pioneer in the photogrammetry industry and embraced new technologies. He was an early adopter of orthophotography, digital mapping, analytical aero-triangulation and other emerging photogrammetry technologies in the 1970's and 1980's. He was very successful in business, choosing to keep the company as a small family business in order to balance his passion for his business with his love of family, church and the outdoors. He spent his free time hunting, fishing, biking, skiing, golfing, vacationing with his children and grandchildren and traveling with his wife Marilyn. Currently, David C. Smith and Associates, Inc. is run by Dave's two sons, Scott and Doug Smith.

Dave became interested in surveying and photogrammetry at Oregon State College (now Oregon State University) during course work taken in working towards his Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry, which he earned in 1960. While in college Dave worked summers fighting forest fires for the State of Oregon and was enrolled in the Army ROTC program. Upon earning his degree, Dave was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army. In 1962, following his service in the army, Dave worked briefly as a timber cruiser for Weyerhaeuser before moving to Portland to pursue a career in photogrammetry and surveying. He initially worked for KB Wood & Associates, Inc. before purchasing the mapping business from Mr. Wood and forming his own photogrammetry company, David C. Smith and Associates, in 1965.

Dave is survived by his wife, Marilyn Smith, his three children and his four grandchildren.