



## Nicholas J. Smit

June 25, 1961 - January 2, 2022

Nicholas Jay Smit or as everyone knows him as "Nick" a loving and devoted father, brother, Son, and a friend to so many, passed away on January 2, 2022, after a hard fight with cancer at his home in Vancouver, WA. Nick was 60 years old and is survived by his Mother Donna Smit, his children Nicholas Smit, Ashley Smit, Madison Smit and Morgan Smit, his sister Kathy Shamrell (husband Dan), his brother Jeff Smit (wife Michelle). He was predeceased by his father Ronald Smit and twin daughters Gabrielle Smit and Isabelle Smit. Nick was born in La Grande, OR on June 25, 1961. He spent his younger years visiting Grandparents and family in Ontario, OR. The family relocated to Portland, OR where Nick attended Benson High School. He enjoyed playing football, basketball, fishing, hunting, golfing, jokes, and fine dining. Nick eventually moved to the Camas/Vancouver, WA area. He started his career as a women's shoe salesperson at Nordstrom but would eventually build his legacy in the Car business. He worked as the General Manager/Partner at Gresham Subaru for 25 years. Over those years he built countless friendships and connections. He was someone who wanted to truly help people however he could. If you were ever in the market for a car there was a good chance that someone would tell you "You have to go see my buddy Nick." That is exactly what Nick was trying to accomplish. He wanted to help as many people as he could.

Nick was such a major fan of Maui, HI that he eventually ended up purchasing a home that he frequented multiple times a year for many years to spend time

with family and friends. He loved lying in the sun and working on that dark tan. Eventually Nick sold the place in Maui to buy a home in Palm Springs, CA with plans to enjoy his retirement watching golf from his back yard.

With many accomplishments in Nick's life, one that he was most proud of was his involvement with The 4th Dimension Recovery Center. He was a founding member of the board of advisors over the past 5 years. In those years Nick was able to help raise over \$300,000 dollars for this amazing recovery center. This recovery center is unique in that its goal is to honor each young person's recovery journey and support them in finding a pathway that suits their unique needs through peer-based support, community centers, and supportive housing. With Nick's outstanding demonstration of recovery, 4th Dimension is going to name a new Gresham, OR location in his honor called "The Smit Center" additionally they will also be creating "The Smit Scholarship, an annual fund that will help families in recovery secure a vehicle to help them on their journey. Nick Smit, a legend of his industry, an incredible friend to many, and more importantly an amazing father to his children. He will truly be missed, and the impact he left will never be forgotten!

# Tribute Wall



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**Evergreen Memorial Gardens** - July 03, 2025 at 07:27 PM

AF

“ My uncle nick was a hard ass but he was a good guy. He was strict with my cousin nick Jr. And I but he always had good intentions. He knew I came from a less fortunate background and I remember him taking us to Royal Oaks golf club. I remember walking downtown portland with him and a very vial transient asking him in a very rude way, if he had an extra smoke, he replied, "only 20 came in his pack". He was protective of his family. He wasn't my real uncle as I am related on the other side of the family but he treated me kindly and like family. He has been greatly missed. I remember coming into greaham nissan Subaru for my first car loan. He gave me a 500\$ over invoice deal on a new WRX when my family was new and I was expecting a new baby. Good man. Good father. Learned a lot from him. Love you man. Rest in paradise!

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**Aubrey Fryman** - January 22, 2025 at 12:00 AM

SV

“ Donna , Kathy , Jeff and families- I am so sorry for your loss. I did not see this earlier. Henry was always going to stop by and have lunch. Sadly he passed on March1. Now they are all up in heaven telling whoppers. Sally Vit

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**Sally Vit** - March 15, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ That smile was great! It's been almost a year, and still doesn't seem real that you are gone.

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**Connie Simpson** - December 27, 2022 at 12:00 AM

VK

“ Thank you Nick for being a great human being! All the way from Nordstrom to teaching me to sell cars it has been a pleasure to have know you! Rest In Peace . You will be missed. Violet Kirkland

Violet Kirkland - January 23, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I am gutted by this news. You were part of my life for so long, all the way back to the Yellow Plymouth Duster you used to take us to school in those many years ago. And then onto the Jantzen Beach Mall working at Osaga Actionwear! Your innate ability for sales definitely started then! I hope you are no longer in pain and can fish or golf in paradise, anytime you want. Goodbye for now my friend. I will cherish the time we had and will always miss that beautiful smile.

Deb Bonnin - January 21, 2022 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ You are finally healed❤️ Enjoy every moment in Paradise and please give dad a hug for me. You will always be my big brother❤️ Love and miss you...Kathy

K. Shamrell - January 17, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ RIP little brother. I sure miss you!!!

Jeff Smit - January 13, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory

A Memorial Tree was planted for Nicholas J. Smit - January 10, 2022 at 12:00 AM