

Roger Smith

Former Toledo, State Bar Associations President

Roger H. Smith, 62, a Toledo attorney and former president of the Ohio and Toledo bar associations, died Sunday in his home at 2147 Heatherwood Dr.

Mr. Smith was a senior partner in the law firm of Eastman, Stichter, Smith & Bergman, which he joined in 1940. He was general counsel for the Sheller-Globe Corp. the last two years.

He was chief legal counsel for the Medical College of Ohio during its organization and first years.

A native of Chillicothe, he was a 1940 graduate of the Ohio State University college of law and served as editor-in-chief of the Ohio State Law Journal. He also taught trial practice as a lecturer at the University of Toledo college of law for 12 years in the 1940s and 1950s.

Mr. Smith was president of the Toledo Bar Association in 1954, and of the Ohio State Bar Association in 1964. A member of the board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the Supreme Court of Ohio, he was named by that tribunal as a member of its rules advisory committee which helped draft the Ohio rules on civil procedure.

He also was a member of the Ohio State University alumni board and the college of law alumni association and its national council.

Mr. Smith had received the Toledo Junior Bar Association's Order of the Heel in 1963, and the University of Toledo Law Alumni Association's first annual "distinguished attorney" of the year award in 1977. He was named the Ohio State University Law School distinguished alumnus award in 1968 and received the Ohio State University Alumni Centennial Award in 1970.

Mr. Smith was a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and of the American Bar Foundation. He also was a fellow and trustee of the Ohio Bar Foundation and a trustee of the Toledo Bar Foundation.

Mr. Smith was a member of the Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio State and American Bar associations, Defense Research Institute, Ohio Defense Association, American Judicature Society, Toledo Claims Association, American Arbitration Association, International Association of Insurance Counsel, and the board of directors of the Ohio Bar Title Insurance Co. He was a member of the Torch Club, the Cousteau Society, Friends of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo Zoological Society, Toledo Club, and the Toledo Country Club.

Mr. Smith was active in the Damascus Lodge, F & AM, and was a senior warden of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Maumee, and St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Toledo.

Surviving are his wife, Betty J.; sons, Bruce L. and Glen; daughter, Mrs. Diane Ritchie, and one grandchild.

The body has been donated to the Medical College of Ohio.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Maumee.

The family requests that any tributes be in the form of contributions to St. Paul's Episcopal Church memorial endowment fund or to the Ohio State University college of law scholarship fund.