

PCC Lion Benjamin Reed (Ben) Smith Jr., 75, of Ferrum, died after a lengthy illness on Saturday, February 26, 2011. He was predeceased by his parents, Benjy and Elizabeth Smith and a son, Benjamin R. Smith III. A native of Roanoke, he was a graduate of Jefferson High School and the University of VirgiFor 30 years he was an analyst for E.I. Dupont Company. A member of the Ferrum Lions Club, he served as District Governor and Council Chair of the Virginia Council. Also, he was president of the Virginia Lions Hearing Foundation and was a Melvin Jones Fellow. An active member of St. James United Methodist Church, he served as lay leader. Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Margaret W. (Peggy) Smith; daughter, Elizabeth W. (Betsy) Smith, of Ferrum; son, Philip W. Smith, of Melbourne, Fla.; granddaughter, Sidney Elizabeth Smith; brother, Donald L. Smith and wife, Kitty Lou; nephew, Theodore L. Smith; and beloved aunt, Ruth B. Dillard. For their love and care of Ben, the family wishes to thank the staff, nurses and doctors of Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital as well as the special caregivers at his home. Memorials may be made to the Ferrum Lions Club, c/o Inez Cook, Treasurer, 875 Henry Rd., Ferrum, VA 24088 or St. James United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 308, Ferrum, VA 24088. Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at Oakey's Roanoke Chapel. The Rev. Mary S. White will officiate. Interment will be in Evergreen Burial Park. The family will receive friends from 3 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, at Oakey's Roanoke Chapel, 540-982-2100.