
JACK L. SMITH(1929 - 2016)**Smith, Jack L.**

Jack L. Smith, who was signed to a professional baseball contract by the legendary Branch Rickey, worked in the insurance industry in Orange County for more than 50 years, but is likely best remembered for his charitable work with the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Ana. He died June 28, in Santa Fe, NM. He was 86.

Born in Eugene, OR in 1929, Smith graduated in 1952 from the University of Oregon, where he played baseball and was president of Sigma Chi fraternity. After college, Smith signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates and played one season for the Class B affiliate in Waco, Texas. The Air Force interrupted his baseball career when Smith served as a first lieutenant in Minnesota from 1953 - 1955.

Smith turned his focus to insurance, which brought him to Orange County in 1957. He bought Tausch Insurance Brokers of Anaheim in 1969, which was reorganized as Independent Risk Management in 1977.

His work in community service earned him the Santa Ana Junior Chamber Man-of-the-Year Award in 1964. Smith served on the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Ana for more than 50 years, was honored at a Dream Maker in 2004 and was recognized as director emeritus in 2012.

He is survived by a sister, Mary Lu Jones of Eugene; daughters Lisa Smith (Johnny D. Boggs) of Santa Fe, NM, and Julie Smith of Tacoma, WA; and a grandson, Jack Boggs, of Santa Fe, NM.

Interment will be at Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana with his wife, Donna, who died in 1992.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in Smith's name be made to the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Ana, 250 N. Golden Circle, Suite 104, Santa Ana, CA 92705,

BoysAndGirlsClub.com .

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