



IOWA SUPPLEMENT

Kyle J. Peterson KTCH
Grand Commander

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Sir Knights, Easter will soon be here and time for us to celebrate Jesus conquering death. Have you made plans to attend the Mid-America 6th Annual Easter Sunrise Service in Kansas City, Missouri on March 31st-April 1st yet? The Grand Encampment web site has forms for registration and housing for this religious annual event that every Templar should experience at least once. Grand Master Vaught and several Grand Encampment Officers will be in attendance this year to enjoy the Easter Observance.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert L. Smith, KTCH, KCT
Grand Commander
2014-2015

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Iowa

Robert L. Smith was born on December 28, 1940, the only child of Lewis H. and Thelma J. Smith in Belmond, Iowa. He attended school in Clarion, Iowa through the third grade. At the start of the fourth grade, he and his parents moved to Northwood, Iowa where he graduated from high school in 1959. Bob graduated from Morningside College in Sioux City in 1964. Following graduation, Bob worked for White Farm Inc. in Charles City for 29 years. At the closure of White Farm Inc., he accepted a position at the U.S. Post Office in Nashua and worked there for 11 years.

Bob and his wife Geneva "Genni" McCombs were married in 1964. They have two sons, Chris and Dan and three granddaughter, Oliva, Keira and Harper. Bob and Genni attended Trinity United Methodist Church in Charles City. Masonically, Bob was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on February 10, 1962 in St. Charles Lodge #141 in Charles City. He was raised to the degree of a Master Mason on July 31, 1962. Bob served St. Charles Lodge #141 as Worshipful Master in 1974 and as secretary for five years. He was currently serving as Secretary of Benevolence Lodge #145 in Mason City.

Bob was exalted to the degree of the Royal Arch on March 30, 1964 in Almond Chapter #53 in Charles City; greeted as a Select Master on March 31, 1964 in Mason City Council #45; and knighted in Joppa Commandery #55 in Charles City on May 6, 1964.

Bob joined the Davenport Valley of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite on October 23, 1971 and later transferred his membership to the Des Moines Valley.

Sir Knight Smith served as Eminent Commander of Joppa Commandery #55 in 1975. He had served as High Priest of Almond Chapter #53 and Illustrious Master of Mason City Council #45. Bob was currently a member Benevolence Chapter #46 RAM, Mason City Council #45 R. & S.M., and Anticoch Commandery #43 in Mason City. He was secretary/recorder of the Mason City York Rite Bodies. He was also a member of Baldwin Commandery #11 in Cedar Falls. He was a member of Charles Clyde Hunt Priory #42 KYCH and served as Eminent Prior in 1989.

He had served as Grand Treasurer and Grand Royal Arch Captain for the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Iowa and had served two terms as Grant Sentinel for the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Iowa. He was a recipient of the Knight of Ish Sodi. He was a member of Unity Chapter #58 in Mason City Order of the Eastern Star.

Sir Knight Smith was a recipient of the Knight Templar Cross of Honor from the Grand Encampment of the United States of America in 2010 and had also received the Knight Commander of the Temple.

His service to the Grand Commandery of Iowa included serving in the offices of Grand Sentinel, Grand Second Guard, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Captain General, Grand Generalismo, and Deputy Grand Commander. He was installed as the 151st Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Iowa on June 7, 2014. He was a commissioned Inspector for the Grand Commandery and was currently serving as Secretary of the Board of Instruction. He was also serving as a member of the Jurisprudence Committee.

Invitational Orders which he belonged to included the following: Iowa York Rite College #37, Lewis & Clark York Rite College #199; St. Bartholomew Conclave Red Cross of Constantine; Last Supper Tabernacle XVIII, Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests; Iowa College Societas in Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis; Royal Order of Scotland; and Iowa College #81 Masonic Order of Athelstan. Bob was a member of the Holy Order of High Priesthood, Thrice Illustrious Masters Association, and Iowa Past Commanders Association. In 2015, he was honored by the York Rite Sovereign College of North America with the Order of the Purple Cross.