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Willis C. Smith, 77, died Friday July 8, at Shenandoah Memorial Hospital following several years of failing health.

He was born October 22, 1910 in Shenandoah the son of Clark A. and Cora (Keith) Smith. He grew up in the Shenandoah area where he received his education in country schools and Shenandoah High School.

Willis was united in marriage with Lois M. Hurst on October 18, 1936 and following their marriage they made their home in the Shenandoah area a short time before moving to a farm north of Tarkio, Mo. where he farmed for 39 years. Leaving the farm he worked as a custodian at Tarkio College for 8 years and then as a custodian at Peru College for 7&1/2 years, retiring in 1982. After his retirement they lived in Peru, Coin, and Hamburg before returning to Shenandoah in 1982.

He was a longtime member of the Summit United Methodist Church.

Memorial services following cremation will be held at 1 P.M. Thursday, July 14th from the Hackett Funeral Home. Dr. Carl Klein and Rev. Robert Borten will officiate with inurnment to be in the Center Grove Cemetery, rural Westboro. A memorial is being established.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one sister Gertrude Simonsma

He is survived by his wife Lois of Shenandoah; one son W. James Smith and wife Sharon of Palm Harbor, Florida; three grandchildren: Sharon Wendy Smith, W. James Smith II, Stacey Elisa Smith; one sister Elsie Bussard and one nephew Kenneth Bussard both of Salmon, Idaho; and three cousins in the area: Mrs. Clarence (Geneva) Hiser of Shenandoah and Willard and Russell Larson both of Clarinda.