

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Ron Smith, a dedicated and brilliant forensic professional who left an indelible mark on the field of forensic science. Ron Smith departed from this world on November 11th, 2023, leaving behind a legacy of tireless commitments and an unwavering pursuit of the truth for the challenges in the fingerprint science in the last three decades.

Throughout Ron's distinguished and successful career, his commitment and passion set him apart with his paramount precision style and reliability. Ron became a beacon of expertise, guiding colleagues, mentoring thousands of us, and extending everlasting friendships with his extensive knowledge, charisma, character, sincere caring heart and unwavering dedication to the science of friction ridge skin detail.

Ron served as an inspiration to many aspiring forensic professionals (like me), fostering a sense of camaraderie within the forensic community. He was instrumental in numerous high-profile cases and forensic unit audits. After finding root-cause of human errors in the fingerprint science, he designed training courses which contributed to the best resolution giving closure to grieving families and ensured that justice prevailed.

Ron's huge passion for continuous learning and professional development was as bright and big as his heart. He participated in IAI and many IAI's Divisions conferences, collaborating with experts, offering training scholarship opportunities, and always willing to make time for anyone stopping by his booth with a question.

We remember Ron not only for his significant contributions to the field but also for his warmth, exceptional generosity, and the profound impact he had on the lives of those of us fortunate to have learned and worked alongside him. Ron leaves behind a void that will be deeply felt by his colleagues, friends, and an entire forensic community. Let us honor his memory by continuing the work he was passionate about and by upholding the standards of excellence he set for us all.

Funeral services will be held at 12:00 Noon Thursday, November 16, 2023, at the Collinsville, MS First Baptist Church. Interment will follow at the Antioch Southern Methodist Church Cemetery.

May Ron Smith rest in peace, knowing that his legacy lives in the pursuit of truth and justice.

Domingo Villarreal

President