

Obituaries

BLOGS MAYORS SJM 7-2625-91 3B

Vernon Smith, Lockheed engineer, ex-Santa Cruz mayor, councilman

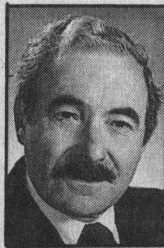
A memorial service will be held today in Santa Cruz for Vernon L. Smith, a research and design engineer for Lockheed Missiles & Space Co. and former Santa Cruz councilman and mayor.

Mr. Smith died of cancer Sunday at his Santa Cruz home after three months of illness. He was 69.

He was born in Middlesex, England, and received a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from Southall Technical Institute. He was employed by Fairey Aviation Co., first as an apprentice, then as a junior engineer and, after World War II, as a design engineer before coming to this country in 1957.

During the war, "he joined all three services (Army, Navy and Air Force), actually, but as soon as they found out how much he knew about aeronautics they hiked him on back" (out of the service), said Mr. Smith's wife, Phyllis.

Vernon L. Smith



■ **Born:**

June 4, 1922, Harrow, Middlesex, England. ■ **Died:**

July 21, 1991, Santa Cruz, Calif. ■ **Survived by:** Wife,

Phyllis Smith of Santa Cruz; son, Ian Smith of Santa Cruz; daughters

Susan Smith of Sante Fe, N.M., and Lesley Smith of San Francisco; brothers Barry and Colin Smith of Great Britain; sister, Joan Rees of Great Britain; two grandchildren. ■ **Services:** Memorial at 1 p.m. today at Calvary Episcopal Church, Santa Cruz. Private inurnment. ■ **Memorial:** Donations can be made to American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 1438, Santa Cruz 95061.

Mr. Smith joined the Lockheed Corp. in Atlanta and in 1958 moved to Santa Cruz, where he worked on

development of the Agena satellite series. He also worked in ordnance and propulsion on the Trident, Poseidon and Polaris ballistic missiles.

He became manager of engineering and testing, and in 1982 was named manager of Lockheed's Santa Cruz test facility near Boulder Creek, a position he retained until retiring in 1989.

Mr. Smith was a director of the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the city council from 1970 to 1975, including a term as mayor in 1973-'74. He also served on a financial advisory committee for the city and was a member of the civil service commission there.

Mr. Smith was a board member for the Monterey Bay Area Boy Scouts of America and was a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain.