In Memoriam: Andrew “Andy” Smith

Chris Beytes

Andy Smith, second-generation grower of well-known Smith Greenhouses of Bellingham, Washington, passed away peacefully at home July 30 at the grand age of 100.

Born April 6, 1913 in Bellingham, Andy lived most of his life on the Smith Gardens property, purchased in 1901 by his father, Harry. Along with his wife Nellie, and brother Russell, Andy was a second-generation owner/operator of Smith Gardens. In the late 1940s they took over the vegetable production company from Andy’s father, and along with Andy’s son, Terry, began developing it from a pre-World War I farm that employed two people and delivered vegetables and plants only in Whatcom County, into a modern, multi-state bedding and perennial plant operation that today employs hundreds of people.

Andy retired from Smith Gardens in 1993, at age 80, leaving a legacy that the fourth and fifth generations of Smiths are now building upon. He is survived by wife Pam Smith, son Terry (Carolyn) Smith, son Bruce Smith, 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. GT