

# Otto Leroy Smith

## 18<sup>th</sup> State Deputy of Oregon 1942-1944



Otto L. Smith was born on February 22, 1899 in Waynoka, OK to James and Elizabeth Trompeter Smith. The family moved to Oregon in 1905.

Otto married Mildred May Dryden on November 16, 1921 in Clackamas, OR. They moved to Klamath Falls in the 1930's and had four children: Phyllis Louise, Luana May, Darlene and Patrick. Patrick was a Staff SGT. In the 431 AAF Bomb SQ during WWII and was killed in an automobile accident in 1945.

Otto became associated with the Smith-Printing Co. in 1934 and purchased the business from W.O. Smith in 1956 and operated it until his retirement in 1967.

Otto joined the Knights of Columbus as a charter member of the Klamath Falls Council in 1921. He was Grand Knight of the Council from 1934-1936 and Faithfull Navigator from 1944-1945. Otto was also District Deputy, District Master and vice Supreme Master of the Junipero Serra Province.

Otto was invested as a Knight of St. Gregory on August 30, 1964, by decree of Pope Paul VI, thus becoming the fourth man in the history of Oregon to be so honored.

Otto was involved with the boy scouts, Red Cross, Klamath Falls Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and the Elks Lodge.

Otto L. Smith died September 30, 1971 of a heart attack and is buried Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Klamath Falls, OR. Mildred died in 1992 and is buried next to Otto.



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*"During the past year I have traveled a total of 20,929 miles, doing my part in the furthering of Columbianism. Checking the marvelous results of the year's work, I do not regret or feel one trip has been unnecessary or time wasted. I have missed only one initiation - this being due to my son's only furlough from the air corps, so I felt I should not leave home at that time." Otto L. Smith - May 29, 1944, 36th State Convention, Portland, OR*