

Hudson Henry Smith

Hudson Henry Smith Jr. '65 PharmD (PHM) of Los Angeles; Jan. 1, 2018 at the age of 76.

Born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and raised in Los Angeles, Smith earned his undergraduate and PharmD degrees at USC, graduating as a Doctor of Pharmacy in 1965.

After graduation, he began working as a pharmacist at a Thrifty's Drugstore on Figueroa and Vernon in Los Angeles. Hudson and his business partner (also a pharmacist) established Parkview Pharmacy in 1966 as a community business in every sense of the true meaning of the word community. He emphasized respectful and compassionate customer care, using traditional, tried-and-true remedies while providing countless people a trusted source for health care, support and advice. Young members of the community earned their first jobs at the pharmacy and their greatest mentor in the kind and supportive Hudson Smith.

Until a few months before his passing, Smith still worked at Parkview, greeting patients with a friendly smile and genuine kindness. From the mural of African-American icons on the outer walls to the meticulously kept shelves and personal attention customers experienced when they entered, the building on 95th and Main (and the many lives it continues to touch) is a testament to Smith's life of service and responsibility to others.

