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Rod's Donut founder Rod Smith remembered



Rod Smith, shown behind the counter at Rod's Donut Shop on Feb. 11, 2021, started his business at 22. He died Friday after a short cancer battle. PROVIDED BY CARISSA CLEVELAND

'He was just so kind-hearted,' says daughter

Nancy Molnar
The Times-Reporter | USA TODAY NETWORK

UHRICHSVILLE – Rod Smith, the man who started Rod's Donut Shop at age 22, devoted nearly 50 years to his baking skills and making sweet creations for the Tuscarawas County community and beyond.

Smith died Friday at age 69 after a three-month battle with cancer.

The owner of the shop that was named Business of the Year in 2016 by the Twin City Chamber of Commerce was remembered days before his passing for his generosity, kindness and perfectionism.

Knowing that his time was growing short, his wife, Linda Smith, and daughter, Carissa Cleveland, spoke on Wednesday about the man who worked every afternoon and evening so his customers could enjoy freshness ev-

ery morning.

"He put his heart and soul into it," said Cleveland, adding that her dad grew up "dirt poor" with an alcoholic father and inconsistent housing.

Linda Smith said her husband's experience with poverty was a big reason he was so generous toward others, from safety forces, to the chamber of

See SMITH, Page 3A

MISSISSIPPI STORMS



The remains of crushed houses and cars are seen in Rolling Fork, Miss., on Saturday, after a tornado hit the area. CHANDAN KHANNA/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Daunting recovery underway

Michael Goldberg and Emily Wagster Pettus
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROLLING FORK, Miss. – Help began pouring into one of the poorest regions of the U.S. after a deadly tornado wrought a path of destruction in the Mississippi Delta, even as furious new storms Sunday struck Georgia, where two tigers briefly escaped their badly damaged safari park.

At least 25 people were killed and dozens of others were injured in Mississippi as the massive storm ripped through several towns on its hourlong, 170-mile path late Friday. A man was also killed in Alabama after his trailer home flipped over several times.

Search and recovery crews resumed the daunting

See WEATHER, Page 6A

History: President Harding's mistress had roots in Tuscarawas County

Jon Baker
The Times-Reporter | USA TODAY NETWORK

Nan Britton gained instant notoriety in 1927 with the publication of her book, "The President's Daughter," about her affair with President Warren G. Harding.

Britton never lived in New Philadelphia, but she was undoubtedly known here. Her mother, Mary Williams Britton, had been principal of West Elementary School, and her grandfather, Chauncey C. Williams, was a lifelong resident and a Civil War veteran, enlisting in the 51st Ohio Volunteer Infantry at age 16. He was long active in New Philadelphia's Memorial Day programs.

Her mother's family had lived in Tuscarawas County for generations. The gravestones of Nan's great-grandfather, Napoleon Williams, and her

See HISTORY, Page 4A

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