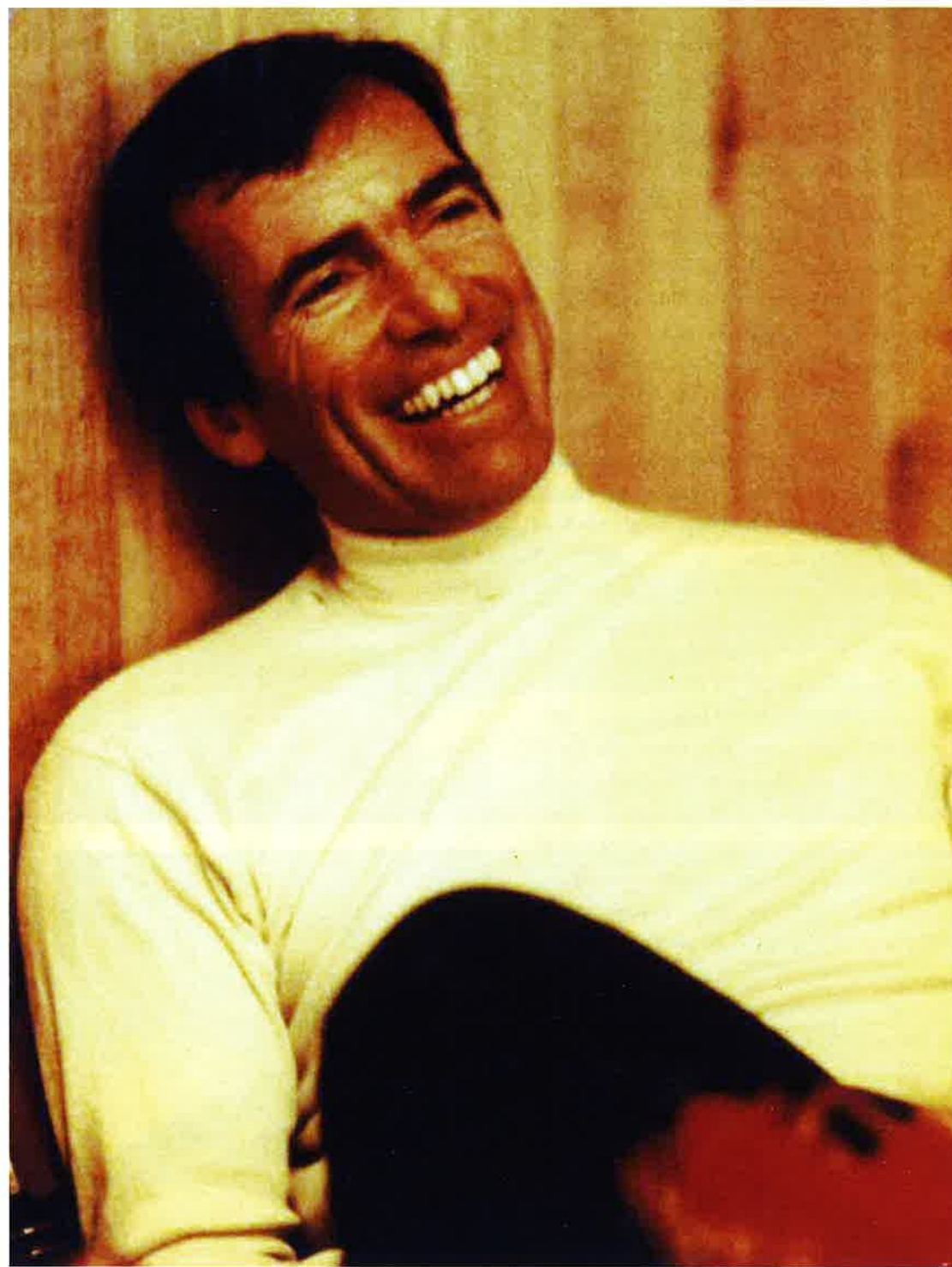


DR. ROBERT SMITH

Dr. Robert Smith, dentist turned goggle inventor who changed the face of skiing in the 1960s when he developed a thermal lens goggle that did not fog and founded his eyewear company, Smith Optics.



A passionate powder skier and dentist, Bob Smith had problems with his goggles in the late 1950s. They would fog up, or snow would come through the goggle air vents on the side and through the face. Bob solved these problems. He did this by inventing the thermal lens goggle and inventing a new foam that kept the snow out and let air in the goggles from the side. He also developed a face foam that kept the snow from coming in through the nose area. Finally he created a new strap that held the goggles tighter against the face.

He filed a patent for these features in 1966 and in 1968 received the approval for

U.S. Patent 3,377,626. It gave birth to goggles that are enjoyed world-wide by skiers and snowboarders.

He founded Smith Optics in Sun Valley, Idaho that has served as an inspiration for snow sport industry dreamers and builders. Within three years it was the largest goggle manufacturing company in the United States. Today it has annual worldwide sales exceeding \$60 million and continues to improve the skiing experience as evidenced by the fact that thermal lenses are used on nearly all performance goggles today.

Famous ski film producer Warren Miller once wrote: "Bob Smith changed skiing..."



Dr. Robert Smith

Born May 12, 1933
Died April 18, 2012

Resided in Idaho

Career Awards & Highlights

1968

Receives Patent 3,377,626

1970

Smith Optics becomes the largest ski goggle manufacturer in the United States

1981

With Charles Ferries and Richard Sudgen purchases Scott USA

2013

Elected to the Sun Valley Ski Hall of Fame and the Inter Mountain Hall of Fame