

*A Celebration of Life for
James William Smith*



Sunrise
August 13, 1924

Sunset
October 19, 2011

Funeral Service:
Saturday, October 29, 2011
9:00 a.m.

St. Augustine Presbyterian Church

838 East 165th Street
Bronx, New York 10459

Order of Service

The Processional

The Final Viewing

The Opening Hymn “Blessed Assurance”

The Scripture

Old Testament – Psalm 23

New Testament – John 14:1-6

The Prayer of Comfort Reverend

The Solo

The Acknowledgement of Condolences

The Tribute Abe White (Grandson)

The Resolutions

The Obituary Robert J. Smith (Grandson)

The Eulogy Reverend

Moments of Meditation

The Committal

The Benediction

The Recessional

The Interment Maple Grove Cemetery • Kew Gardens, NY

Repast will immediately follow interment at St. Augustine’s

Obituary for James William Smith

James William Smith was born on August 13, 1924 in Norfolk, Virginia. He was the second to last child of twelve born to the late Ernest and Susan Smith. Nine of his siblings preceded him in death.

James graduated from High School in New York City. He grew up in Jamaica, Queens attending church at Allen African Methodist Episcopal. He joined the US Army in 1943 and was released with an Honorable Discharge in 1947. While enlisted, he served in World War II, specialized in defense and spent most of his military career stationed in Japan. In 1949, he joined the Ford Motor Company where he worked as an Assembler. He retired from Ford Motor Company after thirty years of successful service.

In 1948, he married Esther Mitchell. This union was blessed with four children, Mary Ann Smith-Miller, Mildred Jane Smith-Miller, Robert Smith and Michael Smith. Three of James' four children (Mildred, Robert, and Michael) preceded him in death. Esther also preceded James in death.

In 1978, James married Mildred Newbold. This union was brought about a grandson, Abe White, whom he raised and treasured. Mildred preceded James' in death in 2009.

In the early 1970's, James joined St. Augustine Presbyterian Church in the Bronx, New York. James was baptized in the Holy Spirit in 1977 and made St. Augustine his church home. He faithfully served the church well in the capacity of Deacon, Elder and two time President of the Usher Board for several years. James was also a proud, lifetime member of the NAACP and has shown the organization tremendous support.

James was a lovable, easy-going, dependable and steadfast individual. Affectionately known as "Smitty", James will be remembered for his patience as well as perseverance. James loved the arts especially music and drawing. He loved the sounds of Motown and had a very fond appreciation for jazz. As the art of drawing freehand was a God given gift to him, he influenced many of his relative children to draw and develop their artistic abilities. He will also be remembered for his funny jokes, wonderful smile and great ability to dance!

James departed this life on Wednesday, October 19, 2011, at Parker Jewish Rehabilitation Center in New Hyde Park, New York. He was a loving and devoted husband and father. He leaves to cherish his memory: his loving daughter, Mary Ann Smith-Miller (Charlotte, North Carolina); two sisters, Odelia Liberty (Tampa, Florida) and Susan Williams (Hempstead, NY); five grandsons, Abe White, Frankie Miller, Robert Jovan Smith (Ohio), Michael Smith (Asheville, NC) and David Smith (Asheville, NC); five granddaughters, Samantha Miller-Lynn, Barbara Miller, Esther Miller-Withers, Crystal Miller-Barnes, and Michelle Miller (all of Charlotte, North Carolina); five great-grandsons, Robert Jeremiah Smith, Max and Bruce Barnes, Mason and Merrick Miller; five great granddaughters, Amiyah Smith, Tyonia Smith, Abigail Lynn, Olivia Withers and Marlie Miller; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In My Father's House....

A Poem for Grand Uncle James written by

Tyliece Miller

My eyes were getting heavy - and my body needed rest I decided to follow Jesus because my Savior knows what's best He told me of a place - where the streets are made of gold And if it weren't true, He would not have told me so So I put my trust in Jesus and decided to go home So please do not cry, because I was not alone When I got to heaven All I could do was smile Because there were so many faces that I have not seen in quite a while No longer am I tired My body is full of rest Remember to trust in the Lord My Savior knows what's best.

To My Brother, James...

James, I thank God you were my brother. As you know, you were one of my favorite brothers. I know you will continue to do the good works of our Father, God. I know we will meet again in His kingdom. In the meantime, I miss you.

*In Jesus' Name,
Your Sister, Suzie*

Acknowledgement

The family of **Brother James Smith** acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By

HERBERT T. MCCALL FUNERAL HOME

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