



*Celebrating The Life of*

# *Eddie Smith*

*Sunrise*  
*July 21, 1943*

*Sunset*  
*August 14, 2014*

*Service*  
*Friday, August 22, 2014 - 12:00 Noon*

**ST. LUKE'S A.M.E. CHURCH**  
146-156 Clinton Avenue • Newark, New Jersey 07114  
*Rev. James E. Deas, Sr., Officiating*

## Obituary

**Eddie Smith** was born on July 21, 1943 to the late Willie Bill Smith and the late Lizzie Mae Davis-Smith, in Wrightsville, Georgia and was soon after raised in Cuthbert, Georgia. Eddie peacefully departed this life August 14, 2014 at his home in Avenel, New Jersey.

Eddie received his formal education in Cuthbert, GA in the Cuthbert Public School System. He was later drafted into the Army in 1964 and served in the Vietnam War, The Big Red One Infantry. After serving in the United States Army, he worked for Drakes in New Brunswick and retired after thirty years of service.

Eddie entered into Matrimony with Josephine Hawkins on October 5, 1968, whom he loved dearly and spent the majority of his time. They renewed their marital vows on June 28, 2014, celebrating forty-six years of a strong and loving marriage, “a true love story”, according to family and friends. Their union was blessed with three children.

Brother Smith accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and personal savior. He was baptized and joined St. Luke A.M.E. Church in Newark, New Jersey under the leadership of Reverend John G. Ragin, Reverend Howard L. Grant, and currently, Reverend Dr. James E. Deas, Sr. Brother Smith recently received an honorary plaque of appreciation for fourteen years of dedicated service and leadership as President of the Male chorus. He also received many other awards and accolades, including the Missionary Award in recognition of his service to GOD and others. He was also an active member of the NAACP as well as an active member of the Veterans Administration. Specialist 4<sup>th</sup> class Eddie Smith was honored with a Service Medal at the NJ Vietnam War Memorial on May 7, 2010 presented by former Governor Christine Todd Whitman.

Eddie, affectionately known as “Ed or Eddie” by his family and close friends, was a strong, warm, fun and loving person who loved to have his family and friends together. As an only child, Eddie was embraced and loved as a brother by his in-laws, (Loretta, Walter, Larry, Gloria, Lewis, and Shelby) and a son by his mother-in-law (Aldara Hawkins) and father-in-law (Nim Hawkins). Brother Smith touched the lives and hearts of everyone that knew him. He loved people and was loved by so many people and made a positive impact on many lives. He enjoyed the outdoors, fishing, and was an avid “GIANTS” fan. He loved his Westerns, ball games, movies, military documentaries and listening to BLUES and GOSPEL music. His family, however, was his pride and joy.

Leaving to cherish precious memories of a rich and full life are his children, Tonya Smith-McGill (Kenneth), Tara Josette Yeadon (Terrell) and Trevor Rashad Smith (Corrine); eight grandchildren, (Asia, Zionna, Nicolas, Treven, Justin, Joseph, Madison and Joshua); one Godchild/nephew, Ryan; sister-in-law, Shelby (Keith); brothers-in-law, Walter (Dolores) and Lawrence (Mildred), a host of nieces and nephews, cousins, and special friends.

# Order of Service

- Organ Prelude ..... Bro. Gregory Deppe
- Processional
- Hymn of Assurance #390 ..... “I Am On The Battlefield For My LORD”
- Invocation ..... Rev. Dr. Grace Haislip
- Scripture Lessons ..... Sis. Diana Bracy  
Old Testament - Psalm 24:1-10  
New Testament - John 17: 20-26
- Choir Selection ..... St. Luke Men’s Chorus  
and the St. Luke Young People’s Choir
- Acknowledgements/Resolutions ..... Sis. Mildred Murphy
- Words of Comfort (Two Minutes)
- Family Tribute ..... Ms. Fatimah James
- Selection/Solo ..... Brother Willie Ross  
Sister Clara Ross
- Obituary (Read Silently)
- Choir Selection ..... St. Luke Men’s Chorus  
and the St. Luke Young People’s Choir
- Eulogy ..... Pastor James E. Deas, Sr.
- Prayer of Comfort
- Honor Guards ..... Military Presentation of the Flag and Taps
- Recessional ..... Clergy and Family

## **Interment**

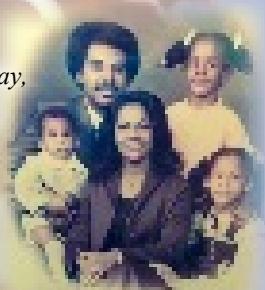
Evergreen Cemetery  
Hillside, New Jersey

*The Family will meet for the repast at  
The Centre, Inc.  
23-35 Elizabeth Ave.  
Newark, NJ 07108*



## *To Those I Love*

*To those I love and those that love me,  
When I am gone, release me, let me go  
I have so many things to see and do  
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears  
Be happy that we had so many years.  
I gave you my love, you can only guess  
How much you gave me in happiness  
I thank you for the love you each have shown  
But now it's time I travel alone  
So grieve for a while for me if you must  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.  
It's only for a while that we must part  
So bless the memories within your heart  
I won't be far away, for life goes on  
So if you need me, call and I will come  
Though you can't see me or touch me,  
I'll be near  
And if you listen with your heart you'll hear  
All my love around you so soft and clear  
And then, when you must  
come this way alone  
I'll greet you with a smile and say,  
"Welcome Home."  
-Author unknown*



### *Acknowledgement*

*The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation  
for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was  
shown to them during this time of bereavement.*

Professional Services by:  
**Whigham Funeral Home**

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Newark, New Jersey 07102  
973-622-6872

*Carolyn Whigham, Director*

