Celebration of Life for Sonja Lanee Loriann Smith-Arrington

Sunrise: July 7, 1961 - Sunset: January 12, 2015



BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

587 North Fourth Street Newark, New Jersey (973) 482-3692 Reverend Toney E. Jackson, Sr. Pastor

<u>Obiluary</u>

Sonja Smith-Arrington daughter of Dobie Bess Smith and the late Willie Smith was born July 7, 1961 in Newark, NJ and passed from labor to reward on January 12, 2015

Sonja attended the East Orange School District for her elementary through high school education. After High School she attended Trenton State College, attended and graduated from Business Administration School and graduated from Wilfred Academy for cosmetology which she ultimately chose as her Career

Sonja met her adoring husband, Eric Arrington, in 1980 and after a long courtship they were married on September 16, 1989. From that union they raised two loving children, Sanche and Eric 2nd, and were blessed with two grandchildren, Darius & Skye Lanee.

Sonja was very diverse, talented, and always excelled in whatever position she held. But she was always searching for her nitch. Therefore, she held many positions in her search. The most fulfilling was as a buyer/store manager for NJPAC, Shift manager for EJE retail, she found her nitch as counter manager at Clinque at Lord and Taylor, where she used her awesome talent as a cosmetologist. She was saute after for her beauty and talent. So was able to use her talent to beautify many many women for weddings, graduations, fashion shows and plays.

Sonja was smart, fun loving, super silly, artistic, creative, loved to write poetry, beautiful singing voice, giving, and an excellent cook. She was well read, we could always turn to her to answer medical questions & provide remedies. She was beautiful and love to make others beautiful. Needless to say she was multifaceted. But, the most outstanding trait of Sonja was her courage which she received from her love and trust in God which manifested it's self in her battle with cancer. She was awe inspiring and a testament to others.

She leaves to cherish her memory her mother Dobie Smith, her husband Eric, her daughter Sanche Smith, her Son Eric 2nd, her grandchildren Darius, and Skye Lanee, 4 brothers, Rev. Bobby L. of Columbia, SC, Samuel of Linden, NJ, Michael and Tony of East Orange, NJ, 3 sisters, Bertha Roe, and Mickey Sutton of East Orange, NJ, Shirley Sullivan, of Brick, NJ, 3 Sisters-in-law, Carol, Columbia, SC, Vanessa & Yolanda of East Orange, and a host of other nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, relatives and friends who loved and adored her!

Order of Service

PROCESSIONAL	Clergy and Family
OPENING HYMN	Congregation
PRAYER OF COMFORT	Rev. Malcolm Smith
SOLO	Sis. Candice Reaves
SCRIPTURE Old Testament New Testament	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
SOLO	Sis. Alacie Bennett
WORDS OF COMFORT	Bro. Anthony Smith Donna Black-Tolifero
RESOLUTIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS Deaconess Fran Bradman	
OBITUARY	Sis. Alexis Smith
SOLO	Sis. Antonique Smith
EULOGY	Rev Bobby L Smith, Sr. Pastor, Zion Canaan BC, Columbia, SC

Interment

RECESSIONAL

Fairmount Cemetery Newark, New Jersey

Repast served after interment here at Bethlehem

Do not Stand at my Grave and Weep: Do not stand at my grave & weep. I am not there, I do not sleep. I'm a thousand winds that blow. I am the diamond glint on snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain. I am the gentle Autumn rain. When you wake in the morning hush, I am the swift uplifting rush, of quiet birds in circling flight. I am the soft starlight at night. Do not stand at my grave and weep, I am not there, I do not sleep. Do not stand at my grave and cry. I am not there I did not die!

To my Darling Wife, you were so strong and so ahead of your time. Your smile was so bright it would light up the night in an instant. So private so beautiful, God gave me the opportunity to love you for thirty-five years. They say we marry for better or worse. In the worse of time you would ask me "are you sorry you married me?" and I answered "no baby, I would do it all over again." I thank God for you and the time we had together. I love You!!!

To Mommy, we love you and your memories will forever live on through us. You are a women of great beauty and strength. You taught us how to be brave, stand strong, and take care of ourselves. We will always be grateful for your tough love, and huge heart...till we meet again. With love Sanche and EJ.

Acknowledgement

The Family of *Sonja Smith-Arrington* wishes to thank everyone for the prayers, love, & sympathy shown to us during our time of sorrow. May the Peace of God which passes all understanding abide with you all. We Love you and God's Blessings Always!!!

Professional Services Provided By

Clarence B Wright Funeral Home, Inc.

579 Grove St, Irvington, NJ 07111 Phone: (973) 374-7058 www.honoryou.com

