



Homegoing Celebration for



Willie "Smitty" Smith

Sunrise

February 12, 1928

Sunset

June 20, 2013

Sunday, June 23, 2013 - 5:00 p.m.

NORTH STELTON A.M.E. CHURCH

123 Craig Avenue • Piscataway, NJ

Rev. Kenneth L. Saunders, Officiating

Precious Memories



Reflections of Life

Willie Smith was born to the late Walter Henry and Cora Lee Smith on February 12, 1928 in Rowland, NC. He was educated in the Robeson County school system. At an early age, he accepted Christ as his personal savior.

In 1951, he relocated to Newark NJ to seek a better opportunity for him and his two children. He started his career in the wire industry at Hatfield Wire & Cable and was employed there for seventeen years. In 1968, he joined Brazill Bros & Assoc. He remained at Brazill Bros for twenty-five years and retired as the warehouse manager in 1993.

In 1972, he married the love of his life Lula M. Singer. Willie and Lula relocated to Metuchen, NJ in 1972 and later to Piscataway in 1978. To this union, one daughter was born. Together, the family joined North Stelton A.M.E. Church in Piscataway, NJ in May 1978. At North Stelton, Willie was instrumental with assisting with the original building construction. He was also the 2nd Steward appointed to the church where he served faithfully as treasurer for several years. He was an original member of the Inspirational Male Choir, member of the Finance Committee, and a member of the former NSAME bowling league. He remained a loyal member of North Stelton until his health failed.

After his official retirement, Willie decided to return to the workforce by working part time as a school bus aide for Ryder Transportation. He enjoyed sharing his wisdom with the kids and often had a joke to share. Willie was also active in the Piscataway community and served as an election poll worker for over fifteen years.

In 2012, Willie joined the COPSA Day Program in Piscataway. He enjoyed the fellowship with the other participants and kept the group entertained with stories from his younger years.

Willie, affectionately known as “Bud” to his family and “Smitty” to his friends enjoyed his life to the fullest. He will always be remembered for being “a consummate gentleman”. He enjoyed time shared with family and friends. His favorite past times were traveling, bowling, watching sports (especially the L.A. Dodgers), and tending to his lawn and garden. He also enjoyed shopping as demonstrated in the pride he took in looking his best.

Willie was called home to be with the Lord on June 20, 2013 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, NJ. He assured his family before his passing that he lived a happy and blessed life and was ready when the Lord returned for him.

Willie was a dedicated family man and leaves to cherish his memory: wife of forty-one years, Lula M. Smith; one son, Willie Charles Smith (Hattie) of Rowland, NC; two daughters, Ruby Parker (Ron) of Newark, NJ and Stephanie Evans (Greg) of Somerset, NJ; two granddaughters, Lander McClure (Tony) of Silver Springs, MD and Lakeisha Parker of Newark, NJ; two great granddaughters, Jade Reyna of Silver Springs, MD and Ajayla Parker of Newark, NJ; One brother Evans Smith (Inez) of Newark, NJ; one brother-in law, Millard Redding (Diane) of Hillside, NJ; one sister-in-law, Ruth Redding, of Newark, NJ; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Fannie Lee Page; and brother, Monroe Smith.

Order of Service

MUSICAL PRELUDE.....Bro. Michael Westbrooks

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF COMFORTNorth Stelton Ministerial Staff

SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Psalm 23.....Rev. Mozelle Fleming

New Testament John 14:1-4, 27..... Rev. Tracey Odum

MUSICAL SELECTIONNorth Stelton A.M.E. Choir

TRIBUTES and REFLECTIONS..... (Two Minutes Please)

As a co-worker – Burt Brazill

As a man - Dr. Beverly Murdock

As a Friend - Bea Williams read by Keisha Walker

As a Friend & Church Member - Curtis Bynes

As a NSAME Steward – Mike Griffith

As a Family Member – Millard Redding & Member of the Smith
Family

RESOLUTION and ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Stelton Ministerial Staff

OBITUARY.....Sis. Nancy Cain

MUSICAL SELECTIONSis. Warleen Allston,
Soloist

EULOGY.....Rev. Dr. Iola E. Williams

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL “When We All Get To Heaven”

Interment

Lake Nelson Memorial Park

Piscataway, New Jersey

Repast

repast will be held following the interment at
North Stelton A.M.E. Church.

Pallbearers

Keon McNeil, Nephew Tyree Hopson, Nephew
Lamont Page, Nephew George Smith, Nephew
Jimmy Smith, Nephew Joseph Smith, Nephew

Honorary Pallbearers:

Curtis Bynes, Friend
Clyde Jackson, Friend
Oliver Wainwright, Friend

Flower Attendants – Family

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I am not here to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me,
I know how much you love me as much as I love you,
And each time you think of me I know you'll miss me too.
But when tomorrow starts without me please try to understand,
That Jesus came and called my name and took me by the hand.
He said my place is ready in heaven far above,
And that I have to leave behind all those I dearly love.
But as I turned to walk away a tear fell from my eye
I thought of you and when I did my heart was filled with sorrow.
But when I walked through Heaven's gate and felt so much at home,
As God looked down and smiled at me from his great golden throne.
He said "This is eternity, And all I've promised you,
Today your life on earth is past, but here it starts anew."
"I promise no tomorrow but today will always last,
And since each day's the same here there's no longing for the past."
So when tomorrow starts without me don't think we're far apart,
For every time you think of me I'm right here in your heart.*

Acknowledgements

*We, the family of **Willie Smith**, wish to sincerely express our most earnest appreciation toward you for the love and generosity that you have shown this family during his illness and time of transition.*

Professional Services Provided By

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