

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

There is such a great comfort in knowing that we are not alone during this time. This assurance is manifested by the many warm and sincere expressions of care and concern. Each kind deed brings to fruition the promise of our Savior... "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." We are grateful for family, friends and neighbors who displayed love, care, and kind words to our father. Our prayers for all of you is that God will continue to show you mercy and grace. Continue to remember us in your prayers as we remember you in our prayers.

SPECIAL THANKS

Bay City Regional Dialysis Center | Palacios Community Medical Center

ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

D'Angelo Franklin
Harry Gunner
Rayfield Roberson
Christian Saucedo

Mike Smith, IV
James Smith, Jr.
James Smith, III
Myron Wiggins

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Larry Bankston
Frank Franklin
Jessie Jett, Jr.
Garland Johnson, Sr.
Robert Johnson, Jr.

Edward Smith, Jr.
Mike Smith, III
Nicholas Smith
Tom Ward

INTERMENT

Eastview Cemetery

500 Live Oak Ave | Bay City, TX 77414

FINAL CARE

Lakeside Memorial Funeral Home & Chapel

703 N. Brooks St – Brazoria, TX | 3318 Ave D – Bay City, TX
www.LakesideMFH.com | 979.798.5253

REFLECTIONS

We will always remember and miss the phone calls that you start off quoting a verse from a song or rap and the hilarious voicemails along with coming to Houston to share Thanksgiving and Christmas with your grandchildren. I am thankful for the many lessons and talks which has molded me into the person that I am for my family. We are saddened however humbly grateful that you are no longer in pain. Rest well Dad and we love you!

-James Smith, Jr. and Shaquana Smith

Just one more time, I wish I could hear your voice. Unfortunately, life hasn't given us that choice. We all feel dazed in our memories as we seek comfort. Daddy your hugs, kisses, and the laughs we shared will forever be our happy place. Get your rest Daddy, we will love you forever!!

- Krystal, Nicholas, Demetra

You fought hard Dad and I am so proud of you. I will miss your selfless demeanor, your humor as well as our conversations about music, sports, politics, and life in general. As you would say when we departed, "catch you on the flip side". I love you Chief!

- Latoyya Smith



www.LifesStories.net | info@LifesStories.net | 972.767.9480



JAMES HAROLD SMITH, SR.

Saturday, May 7, 2022 | Eleven O'clock in the Morning

Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

1208 Avenue C | Bay City, Texas 77414

Pastor L. C. Cunningham, Jr.

Officiant/Eulogist

ORDER OF SERVICE

Parting View

Old & New Testament Scriptural Reading Rev. Gilbert Franklin
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

Prayer Rev. L. C. Cunningham, Jr.
Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Solo Paula Jones
I Won't Complain

Resolutions Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Remarks *Limit Two Minutes*

Reflections from the Family

Solo William Jones

WORD of Comfort Rev. L. C. Cunningham, Jr.
Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Recessional *On My Way Home*

REFLECTIONS

I know that no matter what, you will always be with us. When life separates us, we know it is only your soul saying goodbye to your body, but your spirit will be with us always. Take your rest Paw Paw, for you no longer have to fight!

- Love Ebony, Brittney, James III and Jacey

A Poem for My PaPa

Roses are Red, Violets are Blue, I loved my papa, And he loved me too.

-Janiya

HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE



On Thursday, November 29, 1951, William Bill Smith, Sr. and Willie Mae Perry Smith welcomed their baby boy, James Harold into the world. James along with his older brothers grew up and enjoyed one another often playing some type of sports together.

James graduated from Bay City High School in 1970 where he was the quarterback for the Bay City Wildcat Football team. Following graduation, he became an exemplary master electrician and worked throughout his years for DOW Chemical, STP and Smith Electric. He liked electrical work and would often take one of his kids along with him when he went to service residential accounts. He relished in showing them some of the basics like changing out lights. They were great helpers – passing him tools as needed.

James enjoyed his children. As they were growing up it was commonplace to find them on the little league field with James coaching them. He was a fun coach. Like most coaches he enjoyed winning, however James was a lot more interested in the kids learning and enjoying the game. Not only did he care for his sons, but he was that community 'dad' who would pick up other kids to take them to practice. He also took his children to professional games including the Houston Astros, the Houston Rockets, as well as the Globetrotters. Now, as adults he looked forward to spending time with them as well as his grandchildren, especially on holidays.

James was a philanthropist and Civil Rights activist in Bay City. He was also very active in the local and state political arena. A staunch supporter, he campaigned effortlessly during President Obama's two bids for office, traveling from state to state to assist on the front line to help ensure President Obama's election and reelection.

Not only was he active in his community but he was very active in church. James loved the Lord and made sure that his children grew up knowing God. He believed that you didn't send your kids to church, but you took them with you to church. Now that he has grandchildren, he is just as passionate that they know who God is and they spend time together in service. Not only do you serve God in the 'church building' but he also believed in helping those who he could help and reaching out to others with love and care. As a result, he played an instrumental role in the life of many.



James was full of life. Part of that excitement for life could be heard loud and proud as he loudly played his music. He really loved artists like Earth, Wind and Fire, Frankie Beverly and Maze, as well as James Brown and others. A relaxing day for him would include eating some good home cooked foods like ox tails, baked chicken, candied yams, dressing, and pecan or sweet potato pie while either listening to music or watching sports, especially if Serena Williams was playing or just watching a western like Gunsmoke.

So many great memories including those great backrubs he would give his children when they were little and yes, he gave great backrubs!!! What a moment that was shared with his daughter a few ago while he was sick in Galveston, and she was able to just simply rub his back and reflect on the love and many things they shared... precious memories. On Wednesday, April 27, 2022, James was called from labor to reward. There are numerous things that will be missed about James including his insanely funny humor that would brighten the gloomiest day. Hearing his voice on phone calls, conversations about politics, sports, and the doings of his kids and grandkids will also be missed. He was loved and will be remembered as a witty father who loved his children, did what he could to help them and others; a community leader who was politically astute and a kind-hearted gentleman.

Those who will often reflect on these and other memories include his children: James (Shaquana) Smith, Jr. of Houston, TX, Latoyya Smith of Baytown, TX, Krystal Polk of Houston, TX, Nicholas Smith of Pearland, TX, and Demetra Smith of Houston, TX; brother: William Bill Smith, Jr. of Las Vegas, Nevada; grandchildren: Ebony Smith; Brittney Smith; James Smith III; Jacey Smith; and Janiya Grier; as well as his nieces, nephews, family, friends and loved ones and community connections. Those who transitioned before James include his wife, Joyce Black, his parents, brothers Edward Smith Sr. and Nelson Smith, and sister Grace Thompson.

