

Acknowledgements

There is such a great comfort in knowing that we are not alone at 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." Please know that we are grateful for your many prayers to our heavenly Father on our behalf. The English language fails to offer words that can sufficiently express our appreciation for the many calls, visits, cards, warm wishes and other acts of kindness. We are reminded of the words of the poet:

*"Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair;
Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that we saw sitting there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much for whatever part."*

Your incredible display of unselfish love has been a source of strength for us as we celebrate John's life. Though a void is certain, one thing is equally sure, through the guidance of the Lord and the comfort of the Holy Spirit, we will endure! Our prayer for all of you is that God's matchless grace and blessings will fall richly upon all of you.

*Love you,
Gilda Smith & Family*

Special Thanks

Special thanks to Mount Hebron Church Family for all your love and support.

Active Pallbearers

Christopher Brown
Ken Brown, Jr.

Herb Buford
Mark Johnson

Chaun Lucius
Pastor Michael Turner

Honorary Pallbearers

Wayne Grant

Arnold Harris

George Hudspeth

Olyn Hudspeth

Resting Until He Returns

Carver Cemetery - Ferris, Texas

Repast

Mount Hebron Baptist Church

Arrangements by

Evergreen Funeral Home
6449 University Hills Blvd. - Dallas, TX 75241

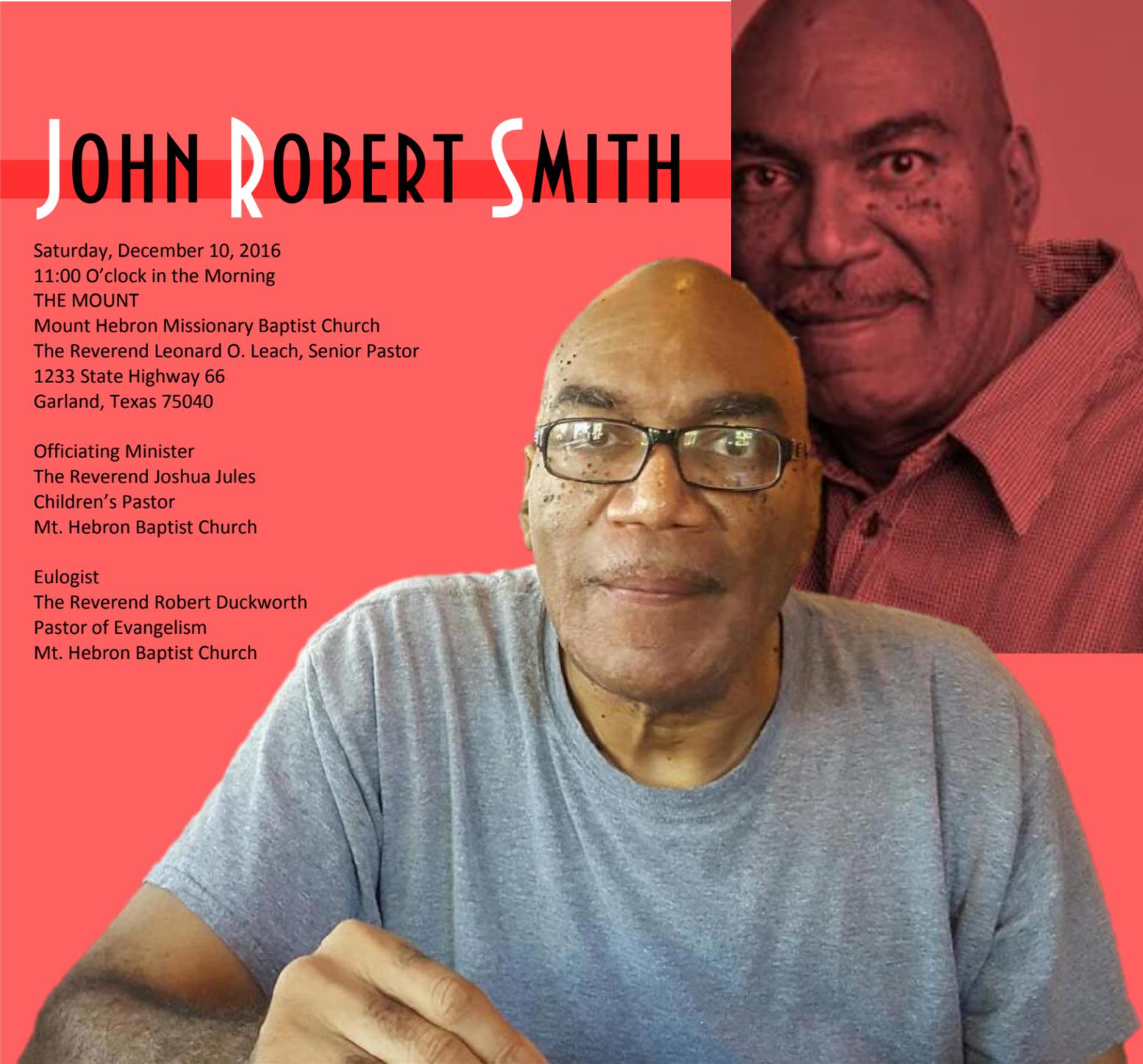


JOHN ROBERT SMITH

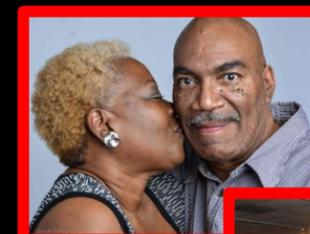
Saturday, December 10, 2016
11:00 O'clock in the Morning
THE MOUNT
Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church
The Reverend Leonard O. Leach, Senior Pastor
1233 State Highway 66
Garland, Texas 75040

Officiating Minister
The Reverend Joshua Jules
Children's Pastor
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

Eulogist
The Reverend Robert Duckworth
Pastor of Evangelism
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church



Musician
Practical Joker
Husband
Father



The Worship Experience



PROCESSIONAL

A GLIMPSE 'TIL GLORY

MUSICAL SELECTION

Tiffany Hurst

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURAL READING

The Reverend George Hudspeth
San Francisco Temple
St. Louis, Missouri

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURAL READING

The Reverend Dwayne Pano
Youth Pastor
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

A TALK WITH GOD

The Reverend Kevin Bullard
Administrator
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

MINISTRY THROUGH MUSIC

Mt. Hebron Choir

RESOLUTIONS

Herb Buford, Shepherd Ministry

REMARKS

Please limit remarks to two minutes.

SPECIAL REMARKS

Ken Brown, AV Ministry
The Reverend Michael Turner, Family
The Reverend George Hudspeth, Family

VIDEO PRESENTATION

MINISTRY THROUGH MUSIC

Mt. Hebron Choir

THE SPOKEN WORD

The Reverend Robert Duckworth
Pastor of Evangelism
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

RECESSIONAL



Highlights of Life

On Thursday, March 27, 1958 Olyn Hudspeth and Mary Davis-Lee announced the birth of their baby boy, John Robert. John was a quiet child who grew up and enjoyed playing with his siblings, listening to music and enjoying life. He was a proud graduate of Beaumont High School in St. Louis, Missouri.

John was a true musician to his heart. He played the bass guitar and enjoyed gigging with his band for many years. He loved music... any kind of music, he LOVED it! Not only did he love and enjoy playing and performing, he also enjoyed listening to music. As a result, he had thousands of CDs and would often make copies of music for friends and family.

If John was not listening to or enjoying music, you could often find him watching TV. He could watch The Discovery Channel or movies 24 hours a day if given the opportunity. The only thing that could make his day even brighter than listening to music and watching TV was eating. He relished the opportunity to eat! It didn't matter what type of food or the time of day, as long as there was plenty then he was a happy man. He would often say, "A big man is supposed to eat a lot!" And that he did, he ate and enjoyed eating. Another thing that John was known for was being a practical joker. His sense of humor was refreshing. He could joke and pull off a practical joke with the best of them. He would keep you smiling and guessing.

On Saturday, May 16, 1992 John was blessed to continue his journey in life with his new bride, Gilda Ann. God blessed them to co-parent a blended family. It was a large family but they made their *Brady Bunch* work for them.

In 2007 John relocated to Dallas with his wife, Gilda to accept positions in the Dallas area. John accepted a position with Dart as a driver after having worked for Charter Communications in St. Louis, Missouri for years.

John was actively involved in ministry. At his home church, Prince of Peace Missionary Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri and later at Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church in Garland. John used his God-given gifts and talents at The Mount working in the Audio / Visual Ministry.

In 2012 John was faced with one of his largest health challenges of his life after suffering a major stroke. However, John's determination and faith helped him to overcome the odds. After staying in rehabilitation for months, he learned to walk and to talk again. His health challenge was even more devastating because the doctors had the nerve to place him on a more restrictive diet. Imagine that... now that was a problem for a man who loved to eat and was supposed to eat a lot. John was a trooper, he managed to follow the doctor's orders, and still enjoy eating. After regaining normalcy in his life, John's faith and determination was unmatched as he continued to use his God-given giftedness as a faithful member of the A/V Ministry Team at The Mount.

On December 3, 2016 our lives changed forever as John was called from labor to his eternal rest totally unexpectedly. He was a loving father, a dear husband, a trusted friend, a faithful church member and a caring and quiet person who will be greatly missed.

Those who will reflect on these and other precious memories include his:

Loving Wife Gilda Ann Smith
Children Chaun Lucius of Dallas, Justin Smith of St. Louis, MO, Stacey Watts of Dallas, Jermel Brown of St. Louis, MO, Jennifer (Wilbert) Gilcrease of Atlanta, GA;
Siblings Olyn (Brenda) Hudspeth of Belleville, IL, Elder George (Derotha) Hudspeth, Shelia (Lou) Thimes, Roland (Felicia) Lee and Carolyn Jackson all of St. Louis, MO.

He hopes to be reunited around God's throne with his siblings, Linda Smith, Charles Smith, Barry Hudspeth, Michael Hudspeth and Andrew Jackson. *In that great getting up morning, fair ye well, fair ye well.*