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Funeral, Smith, 2002-08-08

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

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~ PALLBEARERS ~

Friends, Family & Co-Workers

I'M FREE

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free. I'm following the path God laid for me.

I took his hand when I heard Him call, I went with Him and left it all.

I could not stay another day, to laugh, to love, to work, or play.

Tasks left undone must stay that way. I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void, then fill it with remembered joy.

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss. Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with time of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I have cherished so much.

Family, relatives' and friends' lives I have touched.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, don't lengthen it now with undue grief.

Lift up your heart and share with me,

God Wanted Me Now - He Has Set Me Free.

To Those I Love and Those Who Love Me

When I am gone, release me, let me go. I have so many things to see and do.

You must not tie yourself to me with tears; be happy we had this many years

I gave you love & you can only guess how much you gave me in happiness.

I thank you for the love each of you has shown; but now it is time I traveled alone.

So, grieve a while for me, if grieve 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.

And then, when you must come this way alone, I'll greet you with a smile and wave,

"Welcome Home"

~ACKNOWLEDGEMENT~

The family of James Smith wishes to express our sincere appreciation for each act of kindness, support, prayer extended during our time of bereavement. Your compassion has made the grief easier to bear.

Thank you and may God bless and keep you.

HOME GOING CELEBRATION

JAMES SMITH

Sunrise: August 8, 1938

Sunset: August 8, 2002



Wednesday, August 14, 2002

Wake Service: 11:00am

Homegoing Service: 12 Noon

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

402 Clinton Street

Buffalo, New York 14204

Dr. William S. Wilson, Jr., Officiating

~OBITUARY~

JAMES SMITH was born on August 8, 1938 in Memphis, Tennessee to the loving union of the late Simon and Elice Brown Smith. On August 8, 2002, exactly 64 years after his birth, the Lord guided James home for eternal rest.

James grew up in Chicago, Illinois with his father, Simon, and his stepmother, Lillian Bea. He attended Henry Horner Elementary and Jean Baptiste Point Du Sable High School. After receiving his high school diploma he enlisted in the United States Air Force. After his tour of duty James relocated to Buffalo, New York. In 1975, James received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

For forty three years, until his departure, James was a dedicated employee of General Motors, most recently working at American Axle Manufacturing, Buffalo Plant.

Those who knew James will remember his lively mind, fighting spirit, beautiful smile, contagious laugh and resounding voice, which he portrayed until the moment of his homegoing. He was a very loving man who demonstrated symbols of strength, honor, wisdom, and courage. He enjoyed reading, watching plays and movies and spending quality time with family and friends.

James was an active member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. He demonstrated his love in his daily walk with Christ. He was a dedicated father and loved his family unconditionally. James touched the lives of everyone who knew him.

Preceding James in death were his parents, Simon and Elice Smith and his brother, Willie James Smith. He leaves to cherish his memories, his stepmother, Lillian Bea of Chicago, IL; his children, Jamie Deanette and James Simon Jamill of Buffalo, NY; a brother, Burnell Wardell of Chicago, IL; three sisters, Lucille Kaiglar (Lonnie) of Blue Island, IL, Hersey M. Deans of Itta Bena, MS, & Mary Ella Smith (Gene) of Chicago, IL; two uncles, Purvis Smith of Alton, IL and Benjamin Walls of Chicago, IL; three aunts, Octavia Campbell of Alton, IL, Weary Bounds of Springfield, IL, and Arsula Martin of Duarte, CA; four stepchildren Angela R. Stewart (Charles), Sheila Perry (Clarence), Danitra McDade, & Dwayne Lewis (Shandra) all of Buffalo, NY; & a host of grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, & friends who loved him very much!

INTERMENT:
Forest Lawn Cemetery

AUSPICES:
Thomas T. Edwards Funeral Home
995 Genesee Street
Buffalo, NY 14211

~ORDER OF SERVICE~

PERIOD OF VISITATION

PROCESSIONAL

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Old Testament- Psalms 27: 1 & 2
New Testament- 1 John 3: 1-3

PRAYER OF COMFORT

SOLO: Angela R. Stewart

OBITUARY: Please Read Silently

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Mary L. Frazier

SELECTION

REMARKS: Please limit remarks to 1-2 minutes

SOLO: Roberta Marsh

EULOGY: Dr. William S. Wilson Jr.

RECESSIONAL

Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared
to the glory HE will give us later.

ROMANS 8:18