

CELEBRATING THE LEGENDARY



JAMES NATHAN SMITH

SUNRISE: JUNE 28, 1925 | SUNSET: JANUARY 30, 2025

Friday, February 14, 2025

Visitation: 10:00 AM | **Celebration of Life:** 11:00 AM

Seaton Memorial AME Church
5507 Lincoln Ave Lanham, MD 20706



Saturday, February 15, 2025
St. Mary's Baptist Church
187 Indian Creek Rd. Lowesville, Virginia



Pastor Troy Anderson, Eulogist
Minister Sandra Smith, Officiating

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Seaton Memorial AME Church
5507 Lincoln Ave Lanham, MD 20706

Presiding, Pastor Ronald A. Boykin

Opening Statements

Invocation

Selection

Reflections

(Please be respectful of 2 min each)

Military Honors

Acknowledgement

Benediction



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187 Indian Creek Rd. Lowesville, Virginia

Pastor Troy Anderson, Eulogist

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Prelude

Processional

Invocation

Selection

Scripture:

Old Testament-Psalm 37:23

New Testament- Luke 6:45

Prayer of Comfort

Acknowledgements

Reflections (2 mins. Please)

Obituary (Read Silently)

Selection

Eulogy

Recessional



C E L E B R A T I N G A L I F E W E L L L I V E D

REMEMBERING JAMES

On Thursday, January 30, 2025 at Doctors Hospital, God called home a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, James Nathan Smith. He was affectionately known as "Pop Pop", "Unc", "Jimmy" and his favorite, "the Mayor of Woodlawn Drive".

James was born on June 28, 1925, as the ninth child of Nathan and Pearl Smith. He spent his early years working on the family farm before bravely serving his country in the United States Navy during World War II. After completing his military service, he moved to Washington, D.C., to live with relatives, where he began a long and fulfilling career in construction. James dedicated 45 years as a foreman at SMC Construction and, in addition, pursued his passion as an entrepreneur. He successfully operated his own trash hauling and moving business for many years. It was also understood that if he worked everyone worked...so his nephews can attest to that.

In 1948, James married the love of his life, Faustina, and from their union came their cherished daughter, Stephanie. James and Faustina were a power couple during their day; her with her hair & make up to the "T", outfits styled by Bloomingdales and him in his three piece suits cruising in the newest model Cadillac every year...Michelle and Barack you unfortunately were not the first. They were always on the go in DC arm in arm to functions as well as up and down the highway visiting family in Virginia. Unfortunately he experienced the loss of Faustina after 46 wonderful years of marriage but whenever he spoke of her you could hear the love. Stephanie stepped in and continued caring for her father with unwavering dedication. She never missed a beat. She made sure "daddy" as she called him had his bacon, milk, apples, clothes, numbers played, medicine, whatever it was ...There was absolutely nothing that he could ask that she wouldn't do; oftentimes calling for her to complete the task early morning before she even went to work.

As a devoted New York Yankees baseball fan, James spent many evenings cheering on his team, celebrating their victories and lamenting their losses. It was nothing for him to stay up till the wee hours watching game after game after game. If you know James you know he LOVED "scorching hot" weather, often soaking up the sun in his yard. When he heard someone say "it's too hot out here", you immediately heard him say "ohhh I love it". More than anything, James cherished time with his daughter, granddaughters and great-granddaughters....yes all girls but that didn't stop him from calling them "his boys". In addition to "his boys", James loved his dogs, extended family and neighbors. It was nothing for him to make sure that the kids in the neighborhood got off the bus safely, watched the neighbors house when they were out of town or just to stand outside and be present.

Even after retiring, James never stopped working. When asked why, he would quickly say "why can't I, my arms work don't they, my legs work don't they, what I want to sit home for". So for the last 18 years, he found pure fulfillment working with his niece at the Pridgen Funeral Home. Getting up every morning and putting on his suit, making sure his hair was cut, shoes shined and serving families gave "Unc" unspeakable joy. His funeral buddies held a special

place in his heart as he treated them like sons and daughters. The reverence and love that they showed him gave him more purpose than they will ever know. Unc touched the lives of so many, and his kindness, laughter, and unwavering work ethic will be remembered always.

He leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion. He is survived by: daughter, Stephanie; granddaughters, Shaunta and Dr. LaFaye Marshall; great-grandchildren, Taylor and Lauren, brother, Harold Smith, special nieces and nephews, Godchildren, neighbors, church friends, and lifelong friends, cherished colleagues at Pridgen Funeral Home and his dear friends at Briscoe Tonic Funeral Home. We find comfort in knowing that he has found eternal peace and is reunited with his loving parents Nathan and Pearl; his devoted wife, Violet Faustina Brown Smith; his brothers, Russell, Roosevelt, David, and Fred Smith; and sisters, Frances, Mildred, Ora, Geraldine, Mamie, and Stella.

His infectious sense of humor and joyful spirit brightened the lives of all who knew him....For he never met a stranger.

May his soul rest in God's everlasting love. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

– Matthew 25:23







THERE LIVED A MAN

There lived a man of gentle heart and soul,
Who lead a life of modest wants and cares.

There seemed to be a commonality
With all of human kind but, deep beneath

That unity there lay a virtue that
Would constitute his character; a man

Of principle, a gentleman, a man
With tender core that set him far apart

From those of generality. Candid,

And unsuspecting, he possessed a clean
And unpretentious frankness of a pure

And humble nature; wisdom deeper than
It seemed; so simple, practical and clear,

As to its relevance which, bore the fruits

Of his integrity. Reliable

As husband, father, and provider,

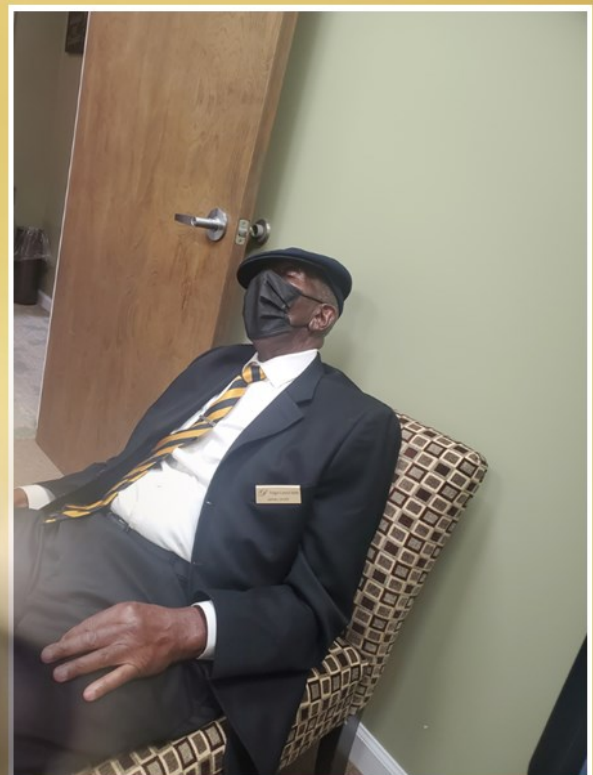
Who gave to us, and life, his very best.

Well may posterity be grateful for

His memory; as he left a legacy,

An inheritance, of goodness, insight

And judgment, for all of us to emulate.





"It never cost me anything to be kind"
- The Mayor

PALLBEARERS

The Nephews

FLORAL BEARERS

Family and Friends



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are most grateful for the gift of friends like you who have been so kind and thoughtful during our time of sorrow. Your prayers, visits, calls, flowers and every act of kindness has given us strength and inspiration for the facing of this hour.

May God bless each of you.

The Family

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:

Pridgen Funeral Home, P.A.
9455 Lanham Severn Rd.
Lanham, Maryland 20706
(301) 577.9455

Programs By Twanitta (240) 606.6876

