

Honorary Pallbearers

Gary Bernard Bradley

Donald Irving, Jr.

Wendell Bradley

Andrew Johnson

Bruce Irving

Demetrius Smith

Acknowledgement

*Mr. and Mrs. Alfonso (Mary) Smith
and Mr. and Mrs. David (Cheryl) Smith
are appreciative and grateful to the many
Friendship Baptist members, friends, neighbors, family
and love ones who have shared words of comfort
during this time of bereavement.*

God bless each of you.

*Please keep the entire Smith family
in your prayers.*

**Arrangements Entrusted to the
Hall, Ferguson, Hewitt Mortuary, P.A.
1900 NW 54th Street
Miami, FL 33142**

Celebrating the Life of Helen Smith

1929 - 2023



Saturday, February 18, 2023

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

**740 NW 58th Street
Miami, Florida**

10:00 AM

Officiating

Rev. Dr. Gaston E. Smith Sr., Senior Pastor

Award of Recognition

Helen's Heart



*"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not
unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways
acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."*

Proverbs 3:5-6

David Millard Smith (Cheryl)

Grandson _____ *Demetrius Smith*

Grandson _____ *Sirron Anderson*

Great Grandson *O'Shea Anderson*

Grandson _____ *David Miller-Smith (Shajmil)*

Great Grandson *Jordan Smith*

Great Granddaughter *Lauren Smith*

Granddaughter _____ *Octavia Gallon (Cleophus)*

Great Granddaughter *Latavia Young*

Great Grandson *Logan Gallon*

Granddaughter _____ *Tanesh Foster (Brandon)*

Great Granddaughters *Saniyah Foster*

Taylor Foster

Ivy Foster

Granddaughter _____ *Tifinie Smith*

*Cherishing Helen's memory are: two (2) sons; eight (8)
grandchildren; fifteen (15) great grandchildren; four (4) great,
great grandchildren, a host of relatives, and friends.*

Helen's Heart

Columbus Smith, Jr. (deceased)

Grandson *Ronald Smith (deceased)*

Great Grandson.....*Roniah Smith*

Chief Master Sgt. Alfonso Smith, USAF (Retired)

Mrs. Mary Smith

Granddaughter *Lacritia Smith*

Great Grandson.....*Jairus Levy*

Great, Great Grandson.....*Jarius Levy, Jr.*

Great Grandson.....*Tamar Jordan*

Great, Great Granddaughters*Jamariah Jordan*
Jamya Jordan

Great Grandson.....*Shelton Ballard*

Great Granddaughter.....*Sheltonae Ballard*

Great, Great Grandson.....*Tybyis Thrasher*

Granddaughter *Tamara Smith-Johnson (Andrew)*

Great Granddaughters.....*Simone Johnson*

Camille Johnson

*You don't chose your family. They are God's gift to you,
as you are to them. - Bishop Desmond Tutu*

Order of Service

Rev. Dr. Gaston E. Smith, Officiating

Musical Interlude

Processional

Final Viewing

Selection.....Voices of Friendship

Invocation.....Minister

Scripture Reading

Old Testament.....Sister Sharon Davis

New Testament.....Deaconess Chauncett Riley

Reflections (3 Minutes)

From a Deacon.....Deacon Milton DeVoe

From a Neighbor.....Mary and Ivan Yancey

Musical Selection.....Sharion Davis

Family Reflections (3 Minutes)

From Grandchildren.....Tamara Smith Johnson

Tanesh Foster

From a Cousin.....Marilyn Stephens

Acknowledgements.....Hall, Ferguson, Hewitt Mortuary, P.A.

Words of Comfort.....Pastor Gaston E. Smith

Recessional

Repast

After the service, in the church's Fellowship Hall

Celebrating Helen: A Life Well Lived



Ninety-three (93) years of wearing different hats: Daughter. Granddaughter. Cousin. Friend. Wife. Mother. Technician. Staffer. Caregiver. Confidant. Active Church Member. Soul Food Cook Extraordinaire. Referee. Comedian.

Well Lived Life from the Beginning...

In Crawfordville, Georgia, on Tuesday, December 31, 1929, Miller Alexander and Ella Stephens welcomed their first and only child, Helen. Historical records show that 20,983 baby Helens were born on the last day of that year. In 1929, the name "Helen" was the nation's third most popular baby girl name. She often talked about how her father doted on her. He was a "girl dad" indeed. Although, Helen was an only child, she grew up in a closely-knit family filled with grandparents, an aunt, an uncle, and lots of cousins on a family farm. It was during these years that she learned the importance of and developed life skills in building inner strength, steadfastness, and being secure in your own skin.



Well Lived Life as a Young Adult...

Helen met and later married Columbus Smith (deceased). Their union produced three sons: Columbus, Jr. (deceased); Alfonso, and David. The doting mother was excited that her sons would grow up having siblings, unlike her. With the help of her mother and grandmother, she was able to navigate

through the growing pains and the overwhelming joys of having a young family.

Well Lived Life Continued...

After separating from her home and later divorcing, she moved to Miami where a number of family members, from her childhood, had settled. She raised her sons in the Bronzeville community, affectionately referred to as "Brown Sub," back in the day. When Helen and her Cousin Fannie were hired as technicians, in the hematology lab at Mount Sinai Hospital on Miami Beach, they learned new skills and excelled at their jobs. She retired from Mount Sinai, after decades of dedicated service. Not one to rest on her laurels, she worked part-time for a few years at Henry D. Middle School in Miramar.



Helen felt that joining Friendship Missionary Baptist of Miami was one of the best decisions of her life. She loved Pastor Smith and worked to be an active, devoted, and supportive member...and she was. Her dedication was evidenced by her membership in the Pastoral Care auxiliary, as well as the Seniors on the Ship group. A few days before she passed, Deacon DeVoe visited her in the hospital, prayed with her, and ministered to her.

Truly, a life well lived... for more than nine (9) decades.