

Order of Service

Processional Clergy and Family

Song of Praise

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Pastor Vincent Hartsfield

New Testament Minister Charketta Gorman

Resolution Greater Providence Baptist Church

Special Remarks Booker T. Washington
Class of 1970
Charles Trotter
The Smith Family

Song of Praise

Words of Comfort Pastor F. A. Green Sr.
Greater Providence Baptist Church

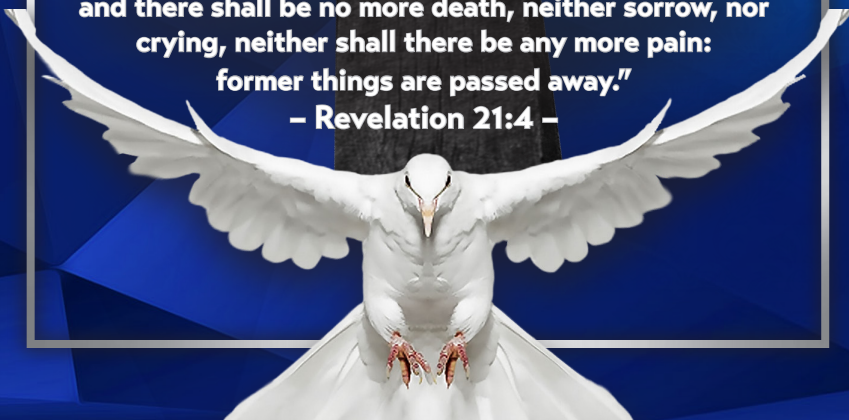
Prayer

Recessional



"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes
and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor
crying, neither shall there be any more pain:
former things are passed away."

— Revelation 21:4 —



Acknowledgment

What a mighty God we serve. To God be the glory!
There is such comfort in knowing we are not alone. God is
with us, and the assurance of His blessings are manifested
in the warm and sincere expressions of sympathy shown
to us by family and friends! Your personal visits, emails,
texts, calls, floral and food offerings, and other special
gestures during this time have truly touched our hearts.
We are especially appreciative for the prayers whispered
in our behalf. May God continue to bless and keep you.

— THE SMITH FAMILY

Active Pallbearers

Charles Trotter | Chad Blansit | Hulen Hill, Sr.
Andre' Maxwell | Antonio Cheeves | Brandon Richardson
Marcus Davis | Christopher Sather

Honorary Pallbearers

Bobby Armstead | Larrie Johnson | James Charles Ratliff
Jessie Armstead | Broderick Lowe Sr. | Charles Washington
Reginald Davis | Nathaniel McGowan | Darrell Washington
Gerald Johnson | Raymond McGowan | Melvin Washington
James Williams | Leroy Williams, Jr.

Arrangements especially for the Smith family by

Robertson Funeral & Cremation
338 Commerce Street | Marlin, Texas 76661
www.robertsonfh.com

CELEBRATING THE LIFE

— of —

Edward Lee
"SAM" SMITH



JUNE 3, 1952 – OCTOBER 20, 2020

Graveside Service

Saturday, October 31, 2020 | 11:00 a.m.

HILLCREST CEMETERY

Marlin, Texas

Rev. F. A. Green Sr., Officiant & Eulogist
Greater Providence Baptist Church | Marlin, Texas

An Epitome of Life

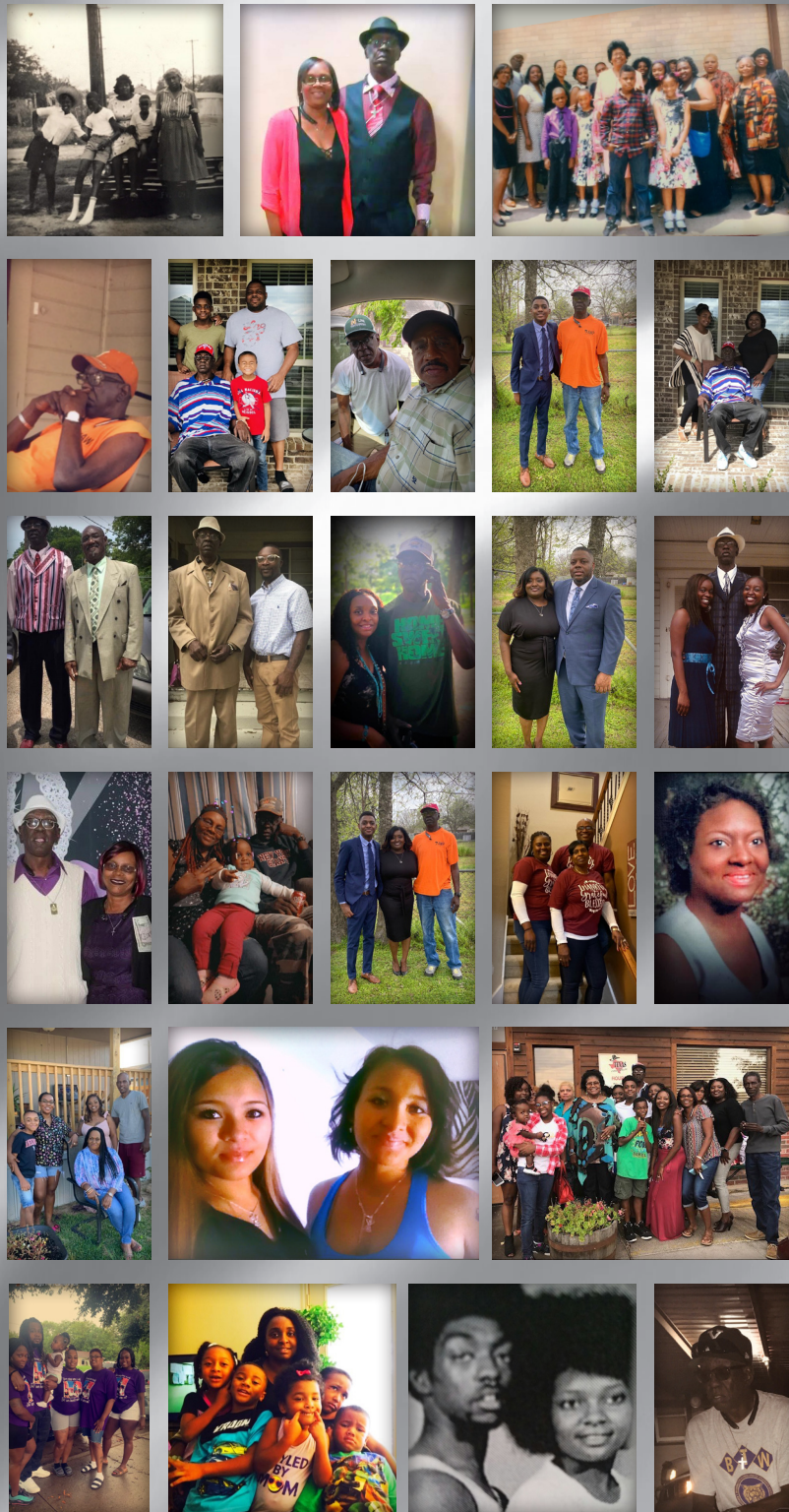
"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted"

~ Ecclesiastes 3: 1-2

On Tuesday, October 20, 2020, Edward "Sam" Smith, peacefully crossed over from this world to a place of eternal living. Edward Lee "Sam" Smith was born on June 3, 1952 in Marlin, Falls County, Texas. His mother, Annie Faye Smith and father, T. C. Ratliff, preceded him in death. Sam, as he was affectionately called, accepted, and received hope and faith in Christ at an early age under the pastorage of the late Rev. R. J. Lewis at the Greater Providence Baptist Church in Marlin. He remained a faithful member at Greater Providence serving in many capacities under the leadership of Pastor F. A. Green, Sr. Some of his roles included singing in the choir, maintenance, and landscaper.

Sam started his educational pathway at the Booker T. Washington Schools and was a class of 1970 graduate of Marlin High School. He attended Paul Quinn College in Waco only to transfer and graduate from Texas College in Tyler, TX on a baseball scholarship. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. Soon after graduation, Sam united in holy matrimony with the love of his life, Cathy Gorman Smith, who preceded him in death. To this union, two wonderful daughters, Charketta and Tyesha, made the family complete.

Sam was awarded many job opportunities to include a Falls County probation officer, short-term teacher and was employed at the Mexia State School. Upon his demise, Sam was employed for eighteen years by Area Wide Protective Traffic Control (AWP). Sam was a member of the Hopeful Masonic Lodge #78 F & AM P.H.A. of Marlin.



Sam loved the Lord, lived well, laughed often, and loved much. He enjoyed the world of sports especially basketball and baseball as he played on the local Black Cat Baseball Team. Win, lose, or tie, Sam was an avid Cowboy fan. He took pride in his landscape services and was often requested for handyman jobs. Sam was willing to help anyone the best he could but for those who knew him, Sam was only going to be there for a minute! Looking sharp is not about putting on an illusion, it is about the mindset! Sam was a sharp, well-dressed man coordinating from head to toe, and known for his many fashionable hats.

The bond that links the true family is not one of blood, but of respect and joy in each other's life. Sam cherished his loving relationship of many years with Marilyn Freeman. They were like "Two peas in a pod". He also had a close relationship with his late Aunt Alberta Smith and cousins in Dallas and his Uncle Willie "Big Bill" Smith of Marlin.

Angels standing to welcome Sam home preceding him in death include his wife Cathy Gorman Smith, stepson, Thaddeus Freeman II, special cousin Rita Smith and numerous grands, great-grands, and other family members.

In his life, Sam touched so many, but in his death, many lives were changed. His loving memory will never be forgotten by those who continue to love and remember his life best: Daughters, Shenique Sanders of Marlin, TX; Charketta Gorman of Lawton, Oklahoma; Tyesha Smith Lowe (Broderick Sr.) of Glenn Heights, TX, Markeeta Cheeves of Houston, TX and ShaNae Freeman of Marlin, TX; one half-brother, James Charles Ratliff of Marlin, TX. He was blessed with 12 grandchildren: Courtnee Cooper (Treyvon), Jaismine Sather, Broderick "Deuce" Lowe II, Alexis Thompson (Ronnie), Christopher Sanders, Shaquilla and Latrice Harris, Alexzasha, Jaykayla and Jadarrion Cheeves, Thaddeus Freeman III, Skye Simmons and 17 great-grandchildren; Two devoted cousins, Esther Johnson, and Elizabeth Richardson; Best friends, Charles Trotter and Hulen Hill Sr. and a host of relatives and friends.