

CELEBRATING THE LIFE & LEGACY OF

*Helene "G. Ma" Smith*

OCTOBER 5, 1959 - JANUARY 11, 2022



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2022**

**VIEWING: 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

**HOMEGOING SERVICE: 12:00 P.M.**

**THE FERGUSON-RAYAM FUNERAL HOME**

**80 MIDLAND AVENUE • WALLINGTON, NJ 07057**

## *Order of Service*

Processional

Prayer of Comfort ..... Pastor Ron Burgess of Newark Bible Fellowship

Musical Selection ..... Rhenotha Whitaker

Scripture Readings ..... Nicole Jones  
Deuteronomy 31:6-8 • John 16: 22,33 • James 1:2-3

Praise Dance ..... Victoria Crenshaw

Reading of the Obituary ..... Towanda McEachern

Musical Selection ..... Jahee Hunter

Reflections (2 minutes)

Poem ..... Latrice Smith

Musical Selection ..... Jahee Hunter

Eulogy ..... Pastor Ron Burgess of Newark Bible Fellowship

Final Viewing

Recessional

### *Interment*

Fairmount Cemetery  
Newark, New Jersey

### *Repast*

29 Clinton Place  
Newark, New Jersey 07108

## *Life Reflections*

**Helene Smith** was born on October 5th, 1959, to Marie (Johnson) Smith and Cleavon Smith Sr. Marie and Cleavon migrated from Scotland Neck, North Carolina to Newark, New Jersey, to raise their family.

Helene, the second daughter and fifth of seven children, lost her mother at three years old. Her Uncle Cephas and Aunt Dorothy Reynolds raised her and her siblings.

Helene attended Newark Public Schools. She worked several jobs throughout her life but stayed gainfully employed at Raylor & Company until she became ill. However, she still maintained a close relationship with her former boss Ray until this very day.

Helene was a faithful member of Newark Bible Fellowship under the ministry of Pastor Bert Baker and Pastor Ron Burgess.

Helene enjoyed being a mother and taught her children life lessons through simulated games. Although she worked day and night as a single parent, she was very active in her children's lives. Helene loved to cook. She would have cook-outs and invite the whole neighborhood. She would cook Sunday dinners just to feed the entire block. She was known for her famous fried chicken, potato salad, and three-layer cakes. She was a nurturer by nature, without always being able to provide. However, that never stopped her from helping others; the doors to her home were always open. She enjoyed talking to people and gossiping. She found solace in listening to her gospel music, praying, and writing to God. She loved playing cards and watching Family Feud, Judge Judy, Divorce Court, and her Stories. But most of all, she loved spending quality time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Helene appreciated the true meaning of family; she understood that family is not always about blood as it is about love.

Helene lost her battle to Colon Cancer and departed this life on January 11, 2022, with her children by her side. She leaves to cherish her memories one sister, Martha Jones, three brothers, Jerome Smith, Larry Smith, and Edward Smith: eight children, Ikia Reynolds, Latrice Smith, Lamont Smith, Cassandra Smith, her son-in-law Eshon Hayes, Terrell Brownridge, Arnisa Williams, Rasheema Williams, and Arthur Blount. She also leaves 21 grandchildren to cherish her memories and 12 great-grandchildren, her Godmother Joan Ward, Godsister Paulette Ward, Godson Charles Ward III, her best friend Josie Alexander, a host of nieces, nephews, family members, and friends.

Helene leaves a legacy of Perseverance, Strength, and Unconditional Love. She demonstrated these traits in everything she endured and overcame. She made sacrifices without any regrets. She loved wholeheartedly regardless of how she was treated. She loved to serve her family and community. Most importantly she created a family of love that would cherish her memories forever.

Helene Smith was preceded in death by her mother Marie Smith, her father Cleavon Smith Sr., her uncle Cephas Reynolds Sr., her aunt Dorothy Reynolds, her brothers Cleavon (Clay) Smith, Norman (Smitty) Smith, her grandson Kharey (Bucky) Reynolds, her cousins Dorothy Mae Johnson, Cephas Reynolds Jr., and her son Ronald (Bernie) Williams.





## *Acknowledgements*

*The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!*



## THE FERGUSON-RAYAM FUNERAL HOME

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Emmanuel D. Rayam  
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*Full*