



Deshawn E. Smith

September 6, 1979 - June 26, 2021

Deshawn Smith was born on September 6, 1979, in Brooklyn, NY, to the late Iris Smith and Edward Baker. On June 26, 2021, he earned his wings and went from labor to reward. Deshawn's giving spirit radiated to everyone he met, and he will be sorely missed.

Affectionately known as Brooklyn Brawler, Deshawn was a loving husband, devoted family member, and loyal friend. He was a kind-hearted, selfless, and genuine person who always had an encouraging word to share with anyone who crossed his path. He was deeply rooted in his morals, values, and beliefs. A true man of unparalleled integrity, Deshawn displayed an undeniable commitment to his wife, family, and friends.

Deshawn was educated in the New York City Public School System. In 1997, he graduated from East New York High School of Transit Technology. A beloved and respected Trojan, Deshawn attended Virginia State University, where he received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology. While at Virginia State University, Deshawn was initiated on April 4, 2001, into the Alpha Phi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. He loved his frat brothers (especially his LBs ~ The Testifying Ten) and took great pride in his fraternity. He continued on to receive his Master's Degree in Business Administration from Averett University.

Deshawn began his career working at Infineon as a Process Engineer. However, one year later he transitioned to the Newport News Shipyard where he became a Senior Project Engineer. After thirteen years of employment, Deshawn moved to Washington D.C to continue his line of work as a Project Manager with the Department of Defense. He understood the value of hard work and ensured to always go above and beyond the call of duty.

Deshawn met the love of his life Athena Smith through a mutual friend, Leah Davy. After a whirlwind romance, they were married on August 23, 2008, at the Founder's Inn in Virginia Beach surrounded by family and friends. Deshawn and Athena enjoyed spending quality time with each other and savored every moment they had together. From vacations, to wine tastings, to the simple pleasures in life, their unbreakable bond stood the test of time and will continue to sustain Athena in the days to come.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Juanita Baker; his grandfather Edward Baker; his mother, Iris Smith; and his cousin, Kahliq Francis, who was like a brother.

Deshawn leaves to cherish his memory his devoted wife, Athena Smith; his father, Edward Baker, Jr of Brooklyn, NY; his spiritual mother & aunt, Jeanette Washington of Long Island, NY; four brothers, Coren Washington (Jocelyn), Amir Williams, Amare Williams and Shaquan Perry of Brooklyn, NY; one sister, Nakiya Baker of Brooklyn, NY; one uncle, George Washington of Brooklyn, NY; parents-in-laws Phillip Sr. and Brenda Smith of Newport News, VA; brother-in-law Phillip Smith Jr. (Kaira) of Suffolk, VA and a loving host of godchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, cherished family, Fraternity brothers, VSU Alumni, co-workers, and friends. He brought joy and a smile to everyone

in his life. His legacy will live on with those who loved him

Cemetery Details

Hampton Memorial Gardens

155 Bultler Farm Road
Hampton, VA

Previous Events

Wake Service

JUL 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services Chapel
1248 N. George Washington Hwy
Chesapeake, VA

Service

JUL 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grove Church
5910 W Norfolk Rd
Portsmouth, VA 23703
(757) 484-4149

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of
Deshawn E. Smith

**CLICK HERE TO
VIEW SERVICE**

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - July 05, 2021 at 05:23 PM

MJ

*My fellow cousin you were an amazing man you will truly be miss love
you always*

Marcella jones - July 06, 2021 at 09:01 PM

NB

“ Nakiya Baker lit a candle in memory of
Deshawn E. Smith



Nakiya Baker - July 06, 2021 at 07:36 PM

LH

“ Lavesa Hopkins lit a candle in memory of
Deshawn E. Smith



Lavesa Hopkins - July 06, 2021 at 07:22 PM

RL

“ So sorry for your loss. I worked with Deshawn at SUPSHIP and he was a really great guy. I will be praying that God will provide peace and comfort during this very difficult time.

Reggie Layden

Reginald Layden - July 05, 2021 at 07:51 PM



“ Dey words cannot express the sadness and the heartbreak we feel with your passing. Life brought many obstacles your way but you overcame each one of them. From the moment we met on the campus of VSU in the engineer lab you were family. Brooklyn was definitely represented in the fashion game between you and Miller in the department. Young HOV and Half (is what you called Miller). Life became busy but you didn't forget my birthday and Vice versa. You were one of a kind. A person with a heart of gold but will defend all those that he loved and hold dear to his heart. Athena our prayers are with you - Deshawn loved you beyond words and everyone knew. You were the missing piece that filled his heart and nothing in this world he would not do for you. We do not understand ABBA's timing as we wish we could turn back the hands of time to stop this from occurring. May ABBA's love surrounds you in next days and weeks to come. If you need anything Miller and I are a call away.

With Love

Miller & Daphne Harrison

Daphne Harrison - July 05, 2021 at 06:42 PM

AJ

“ Aaron Johnson co worker at SOSNN and basketball teammate of Deshawn Smith great guy. We won the Virginia beach league and the top Williamsburg league Championships. May God Bless your family and RIP my bro.

Aaron Johnson - July 05, 2021 at 06:42 PM

KS

“ Sending love and condolences to Deshawn's family. Deshawn was a friend and classmate of mine at Virginia State University. May God bring peace and understanding to the family. Deshawn will be missed.



Kristin Stancil - July 05, 2021 at 06:31 PM

CJ

“ 🙏🙏 Deshawn was an excellent co-worker and great person to be around. Gone too soon. May God place his love if arms of comfort around the family 🙏🙏

Calvin Watson Jr. - July 05, 2021 at 05:00 PM

TC

“ Deshawn and I worked together at Supship NN and he attended my retirement party in 2015. Both my family members and I appreciated his kind words as he spoke on that occasion. Deshawn will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Tom Cahoon

Tom Cahoon - July 05, 2021 at 11:45 AM



“ 25 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - July 01, 2021 at 04:48 PM