



Ethel Lee Smith

August 31, 1925 - January 17, 2017

Ethel L. Smith entered into eternal rest, from her labor to her reward, on January 17, 2017. She was born August 31, 1925 in Norfolk County, VA. Ethel graduated from Churchland High School. She was employed as School Secretary for Southwestern Elementary School in Chesapeake, VA 1960 - 1968 and I.C. Norcom High School in Portsmouth, VA 1968 - 1970.

Ethel gave her life to Christ at any early age. She joined Grove Baptist Church in 1938 and remained a faithful member until her health began to decline. She served as the first Church Secretary from 1966 to 1983 under the pastorates of Reverend Ralph Reavis and Reverend Freeman Rhodes.

Ethel Smith was a living history book. She had a quick wit and was hilarious at times. She could have you laughing to tears. Ethel was a hard worker and had an entrepreneurial spirit. She was the neighborhood "Avon Lady" for twelve years. Ethel loved to socialize and sponsor various shopping trips. Her most popular shopping trips were to Reading Pennsylvania and Cowtown, New Jersey. Ethel loved to read, shop, sew and crochet. Her most recent interest was researching her genealogy on the computer.

Ethel was predeceased by her husband Walter L. Smith; her sons, Walter L. Smith, Jr. and Stephen Smith, Sr. and grandson, Willie Brown, Jr.; her parents; Viola and Frank Drewry, and her brothers, Frank Drewry, Jr. and James Drewry.

Ethel leaves to cherish her memory her daughter, Gloria Brown of Annapolis, MD; grandchildren, Stephanie Williams (Carroll) of Clinton, MD; Linda Myrick, Stephen Smith, Jr. (Toinella), and Michael Murphy, all of Portsmouth, VA; twelve great-grandchildren, fifteen great-great grandchildren; sister, Magdelene Jones of Catonsville, MD; goddaughter, Juanita Ebron of Portsmouth, VA; a devoted cousin, Margaret Person of Portsmouth, VA; a special cousin, Hazel McCollister of Richmond, VA; and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Cemetery Details

Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens

4569 Shoulders Hill Road
Suffolk, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 25. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Grove Church
5910 West Norfolk Road
Portsmouth, VA

Service

JAN 25. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grove Church
5910 West Norfolk Road
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - January 24, 2017 at 02:17 PM

AH

“ ANGELA MITCHELL HILL lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



ANGELA MITCHELL HILL - January 25, 2017 at 09:33 AM

JE

“ Juanita Ebron lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Juanita Ebron - January 24, 2017 at 12:17 PM



“ 30 files added to the album LifeTributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - January 24, 2017 at 09:46 AM

BW

“ Betty Wyatt lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Betty wyatt - January 24, 2017 at 08:39 AM

VH

“ Vincent L. Harris lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Vincent L. Harris - January 23, 2017 at 08:59 PM

VH

My prayers go out to the family!!

Vincent L. Harris - January 23, 2017 at 09:00 PM

BC

“ Betty Cox lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Betty Cox - January 23, 2017 at 08:16 PM

MM

“ Jeanie I loved your mother ! Fluff was like a mother to me. Fluff taught me so much such as cooking, how to sale Avon, make church bulletinsay and to become a Notary. Fluff had a lot of widsom ! To God be the Glory for the things he hav done. Michelle Murphy

Michelle Murphy - January 23, 2017 at 08:01 PM

ST

“ My condolences



Sandra Tynes - January 23, 2017 at 06:16 PM

AL

“ *Ann Elliott Lewis lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith*



Ann Elliott Lewis - January 23, 2017 at 12:35 PM

TT

“ *Thelma Tolliver lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith*



Thelma Tolliver - January 22, 2017 at 03:49 PM

JT

“ *Joyce Thomas lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith*



Joyce Thomas - January 21, 2017 at 06:08 PM

LH

“ *Laverne Howard lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith*



Laverne Howard - January 21, 2017 at 03:00 PM

LH

Mrs. Ethel was one of my mother's (Fannie Howard) Best Friends. I send my sincere condolences to the family.

Laverne Howard - January 21, 2017 at 03:03 PM

BP

“ Pastor Gloria,

Please accept our deepest sympathy on the passing of your mother, Ethel Lee Smith.

We understand that no expression of sympathy, no matter how deeply felt, can help much right now, but we had to let you know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family. Remember these words from 2 Timothy 4:6-7 "For I am ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." We believe that this was the feeling of your mother, and we can assure you that she was ready to be with the Lord. This should be our primary goal also.

Faith In Action Ministries

Bishop Rebeccafrances Powell, Alyiah and Khairi

Bishop Rebeccafrance Powell - January 21, 2017 at 05:34 AM

BP

“ Bishop Rebeccafrance Powell lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Bishop Rebeccafrance Powell - January 21, 2017 at 05:02 AM

DT

“ DeAnn Trotter lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



DeAnn Trotter - January 20, 2017 at 04:03 PM

MW

“ Marilyn Thomas Wahl lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Marilyn Thomas Wahl - January 19, 2017 at 08:07 PM

JC

“ James @ Gloria Copeland sent a virtual gift in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



James @ Gloria copeland - January 19, 2017 at 02:36 PM

EC

“ Emma Copeland lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Emma Copeland - January 19, 2017 at 02:32 PM

LJ

“ LORENZO & VINETTA JONES lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



LORENZO & VINETTA JONES - January 19, 2017 at 01:58 PM

AP

“ Antionette E. Parker lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Antionette E. Parker - January 19, 2017 at 01:29 PM

AP

“ Antionette E. Parker lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith



Antionette E. Parker - January 19, 2017 at 01:28 PM

AP

“ *Antionette E. Parker lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith*



Antionette E. Parker - January 19, 2017 at 01:10 PM

AP

“ *Antionette E. Parker lit a candle in memory of Ethel Lee Smith*



Antionette E. Parker - January 19, 2017 at 01:05 PM