



Wilbert Smith

January 12, 1917 - October 31, 2008

SMITH, Mr. Wilbert, Sr. - Age 91, passed away Friday, October 31, 2008 at Avalon Hospice. Family hour 1:30PM Thursday, November 6, 2008 from the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., with funeral service commencing at 2PM. Interment River Rest Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the funeral home 1:30PM Thursday. Mr. Smith will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, and may be viewed from 1-8PM Wednesday. Mr. Wilbert Smith, Sr., was born January 12, 1917 in Tutwiler, Mississippi, to the union of Patrick and Aslee Smith. Wilbert served in the United States Army during WWII under the Command of General Douglas McArthur and was a member of the 100th Coast Artillery (AA) Battery B from 1941-1945 receiving numerous medals. He was the first African American in Flint to be hired as a Skilled Trade Welder at General Motors Fisher Body-Grand Blanc where he retired October of 1986 after 36 years and was a member of UAW Local #1292. On January 8, 1938 he was united in Holy Matrimony to Otye Leatha Verner to this union 13 children were born 9 sons and 4 daughters. Mr. Smith was a former member of Pilgrim Temple C.O.G.I.C under the late Eld. Leo Jackson, now known as Jackson Memorial C.O.G.I.C. Mr. Wilbert Smith, Sr. leaves to cherish his memory; 4 daughters, Jean (Earnest) Gonder-Carr of Flint, Diane Smith Cosse of Santa Clara, CA, Aslee Hall of Copperas Cove, TX, Vincenthia Smith of Round Rock, TX; 8 sons, Col. Wilbert (Lilli-Ann) Smith, Jr., Ret. USAF, of Houston, TX, Eddie (Angelean) Smith, Emmanuel

(Barbara) Smith, Eugene (Beverlyn) Smith, all of Flint, Lorenzo (Jacquelyn) Smith of Southfield, MI, Nathaniel (Syble) Smith of Grand Blanc, MI, Calvin (Althea) Smith of Sugarland, TX, Alphonso (Cenina) Smith of Saline, MI; 26 grandchildren, Jennifer, Mishari, Shicara, Linnea, Tracee, Paris, Jerell, Jazz, Ryan, Taylor, Christopher, Gregory, Malicia Smith, Rhonda Hyatt, Jasonica Crawford, Eric and Cynthia Cosse, Shannon Kleckley, Nathaniel Smith, Jr., Eugene Smith, Jr., Rodney Hall, Jr., Chantel and Cyrice Hall, Keenan and Erik Lawler, E'lecia Robinson; 13 great-grandchildren; 2 great great-grandchild; brother, Allen (Revanele) Smith of Gary, IN; a host of other relatives and friends. Mr. Wilbert Smith, Sr. was preceded death by her wife, Otye L. Smith; son, Clarence Smith; grandchildren, Isaac Milton Cosse, Jr., Charles L. Gonder, II, Kevin, Kathy, Kassandra and Keith Smith; parents, Patrick and Aslee Smith; 2 brothers, Eddie and Lorenzo Smith and sister, Lee Bertha Woodall. The family wishes to extend special thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Charles Strong, Mr. & Mrs. Ocie Johnson, his caregivers, Maggie, Donna, Sue and the staffs of Avalon Hospice and McLaren Homewood Village.

Tribute Wall



“ *Wilbert Smith*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *I had the great honor of knowing Mr. Smith the last 27yrs. He was a quiet, kind man. Whom I grew to love. I respected him for the way he provided for his family, never complaining.*

God blessed him with long life, and an active mind. He can now go on to be by the side of the women who's life he shared over 67yrs. Again Wilbert and Otye are together once again.

Although I will miss hearing your voice. Your time of rest is well deserved. Love You, Syble

Syble Smith - October 31, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mr. Smith had to be very proud of having a son like Eddie. While he may be in heaven, he has to be smiling with pride still.*

Tim Srock - October 31, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Eddie,*

So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. If there is anything you need please let me know.

Carissa

Carissa Haring - October 31, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Nate and Syl, you and all of your family have my sympathy in the loss of your father, family head, friend and companion. At this time of your loss, particularly, know that in this year of hope and change there is also upon us a greater hope and change in the horizon-- when in the Bible it says at Revelation Chapter 21, verse 4 and verse 5, "death will be no more" and "Write, because these words are faithful and true." God says, "Look! I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5) May you each find comfort in the reassuring word of God. His word cannot fail.

Thelma Morris - October 31, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ TO The Smith Families

Our Prayers are with you during the loss of your father.

Curtis & Linda Gilleylen - October 31, 2008 at 12:00 AM