



## Ms. Benita Smith

March 21, 1971 - January 2, 2023

Benita Smith was suddenly called home to be with the Lord on Monday, January 2, 2023 at Covenant Medical Center-Harrison at the age of 51 years. Benita, the daughter of Etta B. Smith and Franklin Smith, Sr. was born on March 21, 1971 in Saginaw, Michigan.

Benita's life may have seemed too short to some, but those of us who were fortunate enough to be a part of it understand that her presence and the imprint she left on our hearts outweighed the time she was here.

Benita was a phenomenal woman indeed, with a beautiful smile that immediately lit up any room and a heart of gold to match; leaving a positive impression everywhere she went. A self-proclaimed selfie queen who enjoyed shopping, making crafts, taking pictures, cooking delicious food, and spending quality time with family especially her favorite sidekick, her grandson Amier Scott, as well as her friends who became family.

As a God-fearing queen, Benita loved listening to gospel music and attending church with her mother Etta and daughter Tiera. With style and grace, Benita was truly heaven sent extending her hand to anyone who was in need. She was a solid shoulder to lean on. Even during the mist of her own storm, Benita remained a positive force and held on to the word of God until her last breath. She was incredibly in love with her children and grandchildren-her entire family as a whole. The love was mutual, and she was adored by many.

Benita will be desperately missed by all those that she leaves behind. Our hearts are so broken by this loss. She was one of a kind, and to be loved by her was to be truly blessed.

Her beautiful life will forever be cherished by her daughter, Tiera Scott (Demetris); two sons, Quinttrevious McDonald and Dequantus McDonald-Weaver; two grandchildren, Amir and Amia Scott; siblings, Franklin Smith, Jr., Shiela Little and Anthony Howard; two god-children, Kaiesha Sutton and Sanaii Liles; god-sister, Marlo Cooperwood (Andrew); a host of nephews, cousins, loving aunts and uncles, extended family and friends, Takeisha and Quentila Howard as well as her sister friend, Sonya Cameron who assisted her with love and care in her final days. Benita will be remembered by every person she touched. And although our hearts will never be the same, we are blessed to have known an amazing woman who is truly in a class of her own.

Benita was greeted in glory by her grandmother, Zeola McDonald; aunts, Beulah Jones, Clara Howard, Karen Moore; uncles, Lovon Little, Alexander Smith and Alvin Childs; cousins, Melvin and Gardner Howard and a god-brother, Joseph Redeener II.

Family hour 10:30 AM Friday, January 13, 2023, at Prince Of Peace Baptist Church, 725 N. 24th St., Saginaw, Michigan 48601 with the funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM. Pastor Robert Corley officiate. Interment will take place in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington, Saginaw, MI 48601. Visitation will take place from 9:00 AM until time of service.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 13. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Prince of Peace Baptist Church  
725 North 24th Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

## Family Hour

JAN 13. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Prince of Peace Baptist Church  
725 North 24th Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

## Funeral Service

JAN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Prince of Peace Baptist Church  
725 North 24th Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601



# Tribute Wall

FB

“ *Heartbroken forever* 💔



**Felice Bond** - January 25, 2023 at 08:09 PM

RV

“ *Rose Scott, Link And Veda lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**Rose Scott, Link and Veda** - January 17, 2023 at 10:06 AM

RR

“ *Ricardo Reyes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**Ricardo Reyes** - January 14, 2023 at 09:05 AM

LH

“ *Nita I Love you* 💜 *I will miss you forever*



**Linda Hardin** - January 13, 2023 at 10:48 PM

TL

“ I am so sorry to hear the passing of Benita, she was such a sweet soul and always kind to me.

TASHA LARRY - January 13, 2023 at 03:56 PM

SB

“ Shontella Bates Barnes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Shontella Bates Barnes - January 13, 2023 at 01:25 PM

GW

“ Gogi West lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Gogi West - January 13, 2023 at 12:36 PM

FB

“ My love, my rock... I'm so heartbroken forever 💔



Felice Bond - January 13, 2023 at 11:35 AM

MP

“ Mrs. Ann M. (McKether) Patrick lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Mrs. Ann M. (McKether) Patrick - January 13, 2023 at 09:53 AM

PE

“ Benita you will be truly missed you was a loving person with a beautiful heart and soul



Pershone - January 13, 2023 at 02:12 AM

MH

“ GOD'S PLAN IS ALWAYS GREATER DEN OUR'S REST N HEAVEN BENITA



Marilyn Favorite Harrit - January 12, 2023 at 10:19 PM

CH

“ Charles/Mary Helton sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Charles/Mary Helton - January 12, 2023 at 07:44 PM

BL

“ *Barbara Hollis Lawson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Barbara Hollis Lawson** - January 12, 2023 at 07:44 PM

LB

“ *Lynne Blakely lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Lynne Blakely** - January 12, 2023 at 04:21 PM

LT

“ *Linda( Arnett ) Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Linda( Arnett ) Taylor** - January 12, 2023 at 03:59 PM



“ *Pink & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Benita Smith.*



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January 12, 2023 at 03:00 PM

MB

“ *Michelle Baker sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Michelle Baker** - January 12, 2023 at 02:07 PM

AW

“ *Ada Weems sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Ada Weems** - January 12, 2023 at 02:06 PM

EP

“ *Erica Poe lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Erica Poe** - January 12, 2023 at 09:02 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ms. Benita Smith.*



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January 12, 2023 at 09:01 AM

KB

“ Karen A Browne Betts sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Karen A Browne Betts - January 12, 2023 at 05:38 AM

JW

“ Joycelyn Williams lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Joycelyn Williams - January 12, 2023 at 12:24 AM



“ Sending my love prayers and condolences to Benita family she truly will be missed she was one beautiful person Rest in paradise beautiful queen 💜💜💜



Katrina Warren - January 11, 2023 at 11:03 PM

JM

“ Condolences and prayers to the Family and friends may God Bless and strengthen you all



Jeannie Castell Morris - January 11, 2023 at 10:27 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White* was purchased for the family of Ms. Benita Smith.



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January 11, 2023 at 05:59 PM



“ *I send my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Ms. Benita Smith. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Hold on to God's unchanging hands, He will never leave you nor forsake you. Stay strong, keep the faith and know that God will get you through this difficult time like only He can.*



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**Linda Freeman** - January 11, 2023 at 12:41 PM



“ *Melissa Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Melissa Taylor** - January 11, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ *Cathie Stephens lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Cathie Stephens** - January 11, 2023 at 07:47 AM

LC

“ *LuChrica Caldwell sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**LuChrica Caldwell** - January 10, 2023 at 10:15 PM

LR

“ *Lowana Ruth lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Lowana Ruth** - January 10, 2023 at 09:09 PM

MJ

“ *Marilyn R JohnsonWoodhouse lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Marilyn R JohnsonWoodhouse** - January 10, 2023 at 07:01 PM

IF

“ *Ida Helton & Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Ida Helton & Family** - January 10, 2023 at 06:27 PM



“ *Pink & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Benita Smith.*



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January 10, 2023 at 04:46 PM



“ *To the family of Ms. Benita Smith, my deepest condolences goes out to you all during this time. I went to school with Benita and she was such a sweet, kind, loving person, with the most beautiful smile. Her presence could light up any room she is within. To know her was to love her. I spoke with her prior to her move to California and we had such a beautiful conversation. She told me to always put God first and keep my faith. Her message to me is still instilled in me and I am truly blessed to have known her and been considered a friend to her. I pray that you all continue to find comfort during this time.*

*Tasha Brown #BV4LIFE C/O '91*

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**Tasha Brown** - January 10, 2023 at 12:48 PM



“ *Deborah Champion lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Deborah Champion** - January 10, 2023 at 12:33 PM

MM

“ *Miranda Macon sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Miranda Macon** - January 10, 2023 at 11:51 AM

ER

“ *With my deepest sympathy, I give my sincere condolences to the family of Benita Smith.*



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**Eva Rush** - January 10, 2023 at 11:44 AM

CJ

“ *Chris Jernigan-Snow sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Chris Jernigan-Snow** - January 10, 2023 at 10:01 AM

DR

“ *Debbie Rogers lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Debbie Rogers** - January 10, 2023 at 05:45 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ms. Benita Smith.*



January 10, 2023 at 12:34 AM



“ *Beverly Hardison lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**Beverly Hardison** - January 09, 2023 at 10:08 PM



*Sending condolences to the family*

**Beverly Hardison** - January 09, 2023 at 10:13 PM



“ *Sheverna Burt lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**sheverna Burt** - January 09, 2023 at 07:08 PM

EM

“ *Ernestine Martin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Ernestine Martin - January 09, 2023 at 04:57 PM



“ *Sending me condolences & prayers to the Smith Family...I had the pleasure of meeting Benita in Columbus, OH...Her smile never changed & her energy was always positives. R.I.P. Benita!*



Dene' (Sissae) Young-Ivey - January 09, 2023 at 02:14 AM

MS

“ *Mrs Margaret Stuckett lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Mrs Margaret stuckett - January 08, 2023 at 09:23 PM

TB

“ *Sending my prayers and condolences Benita's family. To my classmate Franklin, Benita's parents, children, siblings and other loved ones... She was truly a sweet, kind person. I know she will be deeply missed. I pray that God comforts and strengthens you, like only He can.*



Tania Baston - January 08, 2023 at 07:12 PM

TR

“ TRACY lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



TRACY - January 08, 2023 at 06:55 PM

LP

“ Lakeisha Pelt lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Lakeisha Pelt - January 08, 2023 at 02:38 PM

ML

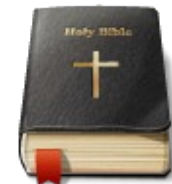
“ Mr And Mrs. Ray Luarck lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Mr and Mrs. Ray Luarck - January 08, 2023 at 01:23 PM

SS

“ So sorry for the loss of your mother Benita, find comfort in knowing absent from the body means she present with the Lord- She's found her amazing grace.



SOPHIA STAPLES - January 08, 2023 at 04:52 AM

WF

“ *Wright Williams Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Wright Williams Family** - January 07, 2023 at 09:48 PM

SP

“ *Dec. Charles and Share' Patrick*



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**Share' Patrick** - January 07, 2023 at 09:24 PM

CF

“ *Caldwell Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Caldwell family** - January 07, 2023 at 08:53 PM

HW

“ *Helen Wright lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Helen Wright** - January 07, 2023 at 08:26 PM

VR

“ *Veronica Roby lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Veronica Roby - January 07, 2023 at 05:32 PM

NC

“ *Benita was so sweet she will be missed such a kind soul always had a beautiful smile*



Nikia Coleman - January 07, 2023 at 03:56 PM

JH

“ *Jacqueline Hill-Hollins sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Jacqueline Hill-Hollins - January 07, 2023 at 01:56 PM

MB

“ *Michelle Blair sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Michelle Blair - January 07, 2023 at 01:32 PM

FT

“ *Felicia Thomas lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Felicia Thomas - January 07, 2023 at 12:52 AM

CD

“ *Cynthia Parham Daison lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Cynthia Parham Daison - January 06, 2023 at 07:30 PM

CN

“ *I miss you Benita, more than words can describe. I'm so thankful for being able to be part of your life for 38 years first becoming best friends in the 7th grade at North Middle School. The love & bond that we built over the years made you my sister in Christ. You were such a beautiful person inside/out that melt hearts with your smile & genuine heart. It's hard to let you go but you will forever live in my heart with so many great memories. Rest up sis & know that you will always be love until we see each other again 🙏❤️*



Cynthia Nickleberry - January 06, 2023 at 05:01 PM

AJ

“ *My Deepest Condolences to the Family!*



Archia Jackson - January 06, 2023 at 04:20 PM

WD

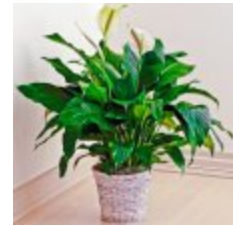
“ *Wonzella Doyal lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Wonzella Doyal - January 06, 2023 at 02:33 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ms. Benita Smith.*



January 06, 2023 at 02:23 PM

JS

“ *Janie Surles-Cork sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Janie Surles-Cork - January 06, 2023 at 02:08 PM

LW

“ *Louis Weems sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Louis Weems** - January 06, 2023 at 02:05 PM

  
Shonda  
Stewart-  
Myles

“ *Shonda Stewart-Myles sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Shonda Stewart-Myles** - January 06, 2023 at 10:44 AM

NJ

“ *Natasha Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Natasha Jones** - January 06, 2023 at 09:54 AM

DT

“ *Doris Essex Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Doris Essex Taylor** - January 06, 2023 at 09:38 AM

LJ

“ *Lakisha Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Lakisha Johnson** - January 05, 2023 at 09:30 PM

SC

“ *Schandra Coates lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Schandra Coates** - January 05, 2023 at 09:11 PM

NL

“ *Nola Levelston lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Nola Levelston** - January 05, 2023 at 06:46 PM

MR

“ *My Condolences To The Smith Family... Marie Robinson & Family 🙏❤️*



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**Marie D Robinson** - January 05, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Josephine Parks lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Josephine Parks** - January 05, 2023 at 06:23 PM



“ *One of the coolest, kind hearted, Sweetest women I've ever had the honor of knowing. Thank you God for loaning us your Angel. Rest up sis.*



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**Larry Canty** - January 05, 2023 at 06:06 PM



“ *Dinatria Rainey lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Dinatria Rainey** - January 05, 2023 at 05:44 PM



“ *Venita Gaines Tippins sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Venita Gaines Tippins** - January 05, 2023 at 05:31 PM

VS

“ Vicky & Michael Smith lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Vicky & Michael Smith - January 05, 2023 at 04:14 PM

DF

“ Denise Wilburn @ Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Denise wilburn @ family - January 05, 2023 at 03:41 PM

JA

“ JJ AKINS sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



JJ AKINS - January 05, 2023 at 01:58 PM

KM

“ Kenneth Morris lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Kenneth morris - January 05, 2023 at 01:32 PM

LV

“ My love and heartfelt sympathy are with you Etta, Gladys,, Cortez,, and other family members. My heart aches for you. Love Linda



Linda McClain Veasley - January 05, 2023 at 11:27 AM

CW

“ Carolyn Washington lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Carolyn Washington - January 05, 2023 at 10:51 AM

LM

“ LaShonda McGill sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



LaShonda McGill - January 05, 2023 at 08:26 AM

LY

“ Lynn lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Lynn - January 04, 2023 at 11:25 PM

TH

“ Had the pleasure of caring for this young lady in her last days.  
Prayers for the family.

Terria Hill - January 04, 2023 at 09:55 PM

SF

“ Sherry Alston Feltson lit a candle in memory  
of Ms. Benita Smith



Sherry Alston Feltson - January 04, 2023 at 09:08 PM

TG

“ Tarsha Grissom lit a candle in memory of Ms.  
Benita Smith



Tarsha Grissom - January 04, 2023 at 08:59 PM

VS

“ Vivian Spiller lit a candle in memory of Ms.  
Benita Smith



Vivian Spiller - January 04, 2023 at 06:31 PM

DR

“ Dorothy Redeemer sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Dorothy Redeemer - January 04, 2023 at 05:53 PM

YC

“ Yvonne Corley sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Yvonne Corley - January 04, 2023 at 04:46 PM

TB

“ Tyretha Baston sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Tyretha Baston - January 04, 2023 at 01:08 PM

HF

“ Sorry for your loss, my condolences and prayers to the family, may God be of comfort to your families doing this time of sadness.



Herbert Flournoy - January 04, 2023 at 12:17 PM



“ *Velissa Batts lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Velissa Batts** - January 04, 2023 at 11:11 AM



“ *Beautiful classmate always 🌹🌹🌹 inside and out. Said a prayer for the family. Beverly (Brodnex) Culpepper*



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**Beverly Culpepper** - January 04, 2023 at 10:53 AM

LS

“ *May God Continue to Bless You Family!! Love Louise Simpson and Still Family!!*



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**Louise Simpson** - January 04, 2023 at 07:40 AM

LS

“ *My Family and I are Sorry for the lost of your Love one!! May God give you strength and Blessing that is Needed !! Love You!! Louise Simpson and Still Family*



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**Louise Simpson** - January 04, 2023 at 07:26 AM

JW

“ *Jeanette Williams lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**Jeanette Williams** - January 04, 2023 at 06:12 AM

DP

“ *Dorothy Price-Omar lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**Dorothy Price-Omar** - January 04, 2023 at 01:48 AM

DP

“ *Dorothy Price-Omar sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**Dorothy Price-Omar** - January 04, 2023 at 01:47 AM

BH

“ *Bertha Hale-Omar sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



**Bertha Hale-Omar** - January 04, 2023 at 01:24 AM

KR

“ Kenneth/Tyraunda Reed sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Kenneth/Tyraunda Reed - January 03, 2023 at 11:22 PM

KC

“ Kimberly Curry lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Kimberly Curry - January 03, 2023 at 11:11 PM

MO

“ Ms.Harriet Oliver lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith



Ms.Harriet Oliver - January 03, 2023 at 10:25 PM

AF

“ Etta and family, we are very saddened by the loss of your precious jewel, Benita. We're praying that God will give you strength to endure the pain and suffering you're going through.



Athen and Margery Flournoy - January 03, 2023 at 10:02 PM

AF

“ *Athen And Margery Fournoy sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Athen and Margery Fournoy** - January 03, 2023 at 09:52 PM

LF

“ *Lisa F sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Lisa F** - January 03, 2023 at 08:03 PM

LF

“ *L.D. Frierson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**L.D. Frierson** - January 03, 2023 at 06:30 PM

IM

“ *Rest Easy Benita..*



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**Irma Mitchell** - January 03, 2023 at 05:05 PM

FB

“ *Condolences to the family and friends of Benita Smith.* 🙏🙏



faye burt - January 03, 2023 at 03:51 PM

GR

“ *Glen Rush lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



Glen Rush - January 03, 2023 at 03:11 PM

MT

“ *To Etta, Frank Sr. and Frank Jr. Sending My 🌸  
Condolences, Prayers, Love ❤️ and Hugs Your  
Way. So Sorry for your loss 🙏*



Mary Hannibal, Fort Worth, Texas - January 03, 2023 at 02:19 PM

JN

“ *My sister and a sweet soul, I love you and will miss you dearly.  
Don't worry I got your girl, you were her very best friend and life  
won't be the same without you.* ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

Jody Nunn - January 03, 2023 at 12:09 PM

CW

“ *Connie Whittington lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Connie Whittington** - January 03, 2023 at 11:56 AM

GS

“ *Gloria Shaw lit a candle in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Gloria Shaw** - January 03, 2023 at 11:40 AM

SF

“ *Stephanie Ford sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Stephanie Ford** - January 03, 2023 at 11:24 AM

MH

“ *Sending love to rhe family*



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**Mary A Hubbert** - January 03, 2023 at 09:46 AM

TW

“ *Traci (Clemons) Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Benita Smith*



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**Traci (Clemons) Williams** - January 03, 2023 at 09:33 AM