



## Mrs. Earmon Smith

July 24, 1924 - May 22, 2021

Earmon Jerrotha Smith departed this life on Saturday, May 22, 2021, at her home in Saginaw, Michigan. God blessed this wonderful woman, wife, mother, grandmother, aunt and friend with 96 years of life. We pray that God will continue to bless her with a beautiful life in the hereafter. Earmon was born in Attala County, Mississippi on July 11, 1924 to the late LaSalle Cross and Peggy Gladney Cross. Her mother passed away when she was very young and she was raised by her late step mother, Lula Nash Cross.

She accepted Christ into her life at an early age at Little Hill Baptist Church. Earmon placed a great value on education. In order to attend high school, she moved away from her country home to live with an Uncle in the city of Kosciusko, Mississippi. She proudly packed the five new dresses that were gifted to her by her oldest brother, Leon Cross. Earmon attended Attala County High Training School, and graduated from Central Mississippi College. She received a teaching certificate and taught at Brooks School, New Garden, Mississippi. She married her childhood sweetheart, J.D. Smith, on June 8, 1944. After J.D. was discharged from the Army, they farmed on land purchased from the Smith family and opened what is believed to be the first Black owned general store in Mississippi.

The family moved to Saginaw, Michigan in 1950. She joined the Mount Olive Institutional Missionary Baptist Church. Maintaining her interest in education, she became a Sunday school teacher at Mount Olive. She joined the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) at Martha Longstreet Elementary School—where her children attended school. Earmon eventually became President of the PTA. Mrs. Smith learned to cook at a very early age. Too short to reach the table top, she stood on a flour bin and helped cook homemade biscuits and peach cobbles for her brothers and sisters. She continued her love of cooking after moving to Saginaw, where she was employed at the local YMCA. On December 6, 1982 Earmon was promoted to Food Service Director at the Saginaw YMCA, a position she held until she retired in 1987. Earmon loved her family and friends. The family opened their home and hearts to other family members looking to relocate from the south in search of a better life. She and J.D. built their dream home in 1967. Earmon

continued to live in the home after the loss of her husband.

She leaves to cherish her memory, three children, Larry (Sherilyn) Smith of Farmington Hills, MI, Cozy (Emma) Smith of Saginaw and Shirley (Hakeem) Holmes of Missouri City, TX; ten grandchildren, Reginald Smith of Oklahoma, Brenda Coburn of Virginia Beach, VA, Sheri (Clarence) Smith-Davis, Oklahoma Darryl (Wendi) Smith of Fishers, IN, Christopher Smith, Oklahoma, Angela Ellis of Greencastle, PA, Shantel (Joel) Hawkins of Pearland, TX, Aaron Smith of Saginaw, MI, Domonique Smith of Saginaw, MI and Anthony Smith of Dallas, TX; 25 great-grandchildren; 16 great-great-grandchildren; two brothers, Nevor (Ruby) Cross and L.A. (Dorothy) Cross; two sisters, Jannie (Jesse) Hines and Annie Chestnut-Ward, all of Milwaukee, WI; three sisters-in-law, Ruth Cross and Carmen Cross of Milwaukee, WI, and Effie Cross of Olympia, WA; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Earmon J. Smith was preceded in death by her loving husband of 63 years, J.D. Smith; two sons, Odell Smith and Jules Tyrone Smith; one sister, Isolona Cross; six brothers, Leon Cross, Sherman Cross, Earnest Cross, Amos Cross, Noble Cross and Freddie Cross.

Visitation will take place from 2:00-6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 North Jefferson Avenue, Saginaw, Michigan 48607. The family has elected to have a private ceremony on Wednesday, June 2, 2021. Please join the webcast at 10:50 a.m. Dr. Marvin T. Smith officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 South Washington Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48601.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 1. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 North Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607

# Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Browne's Mortuary** - June 02, 2021 at 10:37 AM

DM

“ *Derrell Martin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Derrell Martin** - June 03, 2021 at 03:27 PM

SD

“ *Hello Family, I wish I could attend everything looks so beautiful family you all did a great job Grandmother Earmon will be missed. love yu*



**SHERI DENES DAVIS** - June 02, 2021 at 03:13 PM

EF

“ *Effie Cross, Fremon, & Kathy Cross Reece Family purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.*



**Effie Cross, Fremon, & Kathy Cross Reece Family** - June 02, 2021 at 03:12 PM

DC

“ A warmhearted kind and loving person who exemplified stoic humbleness despite her great strength and intelligence. I was unaware that Aunt Earmon attended college or taught! She never bragged or talked about her accomplishments. Now that I am older i cannot imagine, and only hold in wonder, how she and uncle JD (with the children), made the long rode trips from Saginaw to Kosciusko during the late 1950's and early sixties when discrimination and segregation was out in the open! Aunt Earmon you are a Giant and a role model for all of us descendants. I love you and I will miss you...respectfully, dennis.

dennis cross - June 02, 2021 at 12:44 PM

LC

“ LaSalle Cross lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



LaSalle Cross - June 02, 2021 at 12:25 PM

JH

“ My Dearest Aunt Earmon, you will be missed. She was such a special lady. To our cousins, We are praying for you all during this difficult time. Love you all!  
Jasmine and Jordan Harper



Jasmine Harper - June 02, 2021 at 12:16 PM

RF

“ Ralph & Lynette Ford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Ralph & Lynette Ford - June 02, 2021 at 11:59 AM

KJ

“ One Beautiful Soul..She Served My Food When I Lived at The YMCA..My Mother Loved Her Also..She Will Be Missed ❤️

Kevin Jordan - June 02, 2021 at 09:16 AM

KJ

“ Kevin Jordan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Kevin Jordan - June 02, 2021 at 09:12 AM



“ Margie Baty Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Margie Baty Lawrence - June 02, 2021 at 07:47 AM

KS

“ Kathy Shaw lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Kathy Shaw - June 02, 2021 at 12:03 AM



“ Multicolor Bright Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.



June 01, 2021 at 07:28 PM

DC

“ Dr Lawrence and Winnie Crawford purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.



Dr Lawrence and Winnie Crawford - June 01, 2021 at 07:29 AM

MJ

“ Love and Peace. From George Steward.



Mattie Johnson - May 31, 2021 at 09:07 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.



May 31, 2021 at 04:42 PM

Denise Steele

“ Denise Steele lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Denise Steele - May 31, 2021 at 01:10 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.



May 31, 2021 at 12:52 PM

MJ

“ Mattie Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Mattie Johnson - May 31, 2021 at 09:50 AM

TB

“ We send our deepest condolences and prayers to the family of this wonderful woman who represent our rich history . To the family your written obituroy of her will educate many who did not have the pleasure to have met her, down through many generations. Well done family and God bless and keep you all. With love Terrance and Yolanda Baker of Buckeye Arizona.

Terrance & Yolanda Baker - May 30, 2021 at 02:16 PM



“ Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.



May 29, 2021 at 07:58 PM

LO

“ Leah O'Daniels lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Leah O'Daniels - May 29, 2021 at 06:02 PM

DM

“ Sincere Sympathy to Dominique and the entire Smith family.



Deborah Morris-Williams - May 29, 2021 at 05:26 PM

MH

“ My condolences to the Smith family.I'm so sorry.didn't know she was here in saginaw  
My name, mary Burnside-Harvey.my patent were J.T & Eula Mae Burnside.my mother was a beautician.If I can remember correctly, my mother did her hair before coming to saginaw.may the lord bless & keep all of you.

Mary harvey - May 29, 2021 at 04:00 PM

MG

“ Milton Goss lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Milton Goss - May 29, 2021 at 02:15 PM

SW

“ So sorry for your loss. My mother, Dorothy Bow, worked with this beautiful lady at the YMCA. I also worked there while I was in high school. She was a wonderful lady and we had many good times. God blessed her with a long life and a good family. My husband lived at the Y and he thought highly of her also. I am sad at her passing.

Sherry Bow Wielinski

Sherry Bow Wielinski - May 28, 2021 at 11:15 PM



“ Joyce Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Joyce Smith - May 28, 2021 at 06:28 PM



“ She was always the best person I know. Always the same sweetie pie over the years she has always been there, we're going to miss her but heaven was waiting on there smiling angel!! We will always remember and love you. Joyce Smith and Children.

Joyce Smith - May 28, 2021 at 06:28 PM

PF

“ With sympathy to the Smith family, .Praying that you will be surrounded by his comforting love and filled with the peace that only He can give.

paul foster - May 28, 2021 at 12:43 PM

DA

“ *Dona Austin-Bigby lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Dona Austin-Bigby** - May 28, 2021 at 12:31 PM



“ *White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.*



May 28, 2021 at 11:07 AM

SS

“ *Sue Surles-McDole sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Sue Surles-McDole** - May 28, 2021 at 08:24 AM

LV

“ *Liz Vance sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Liz Vance** - May 28, 2021 at 03:16 AM



“ *Mrs. Smith we love you. We miss you. Take your rest. Condolences to the Smith Family.*

*Mary and Dollie Lawrence*



**Mary Lawrence** - May 28, 2021 at 12:35 AM

OW

“ Oscar&Alice Rainey Wilson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Oscar&Alice Rainey Wilson - May 27, 2021 at 07:59 PM

LV

“ Linda McClain Vealsey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Linda McClain Vealsey - May 27, 2021 at 06:12 PM

SJ

“ Sam And Truthia Jones lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Sam and truthia jones - May 27, 2021 at 05:01 PM

AP

“ My condolences to the Smith Family.



Ann M. Patrick - May 27, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ Red & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.



May 26, 2021 at 08:13 PM

SM

“ *Our family is going to miss such a loving & caring Auntie. Sending love, hugs & prayers to the rest of the family.*



Sandra & Floyd McFadden - May 26, 2021 at 07:34 PM

WR

“ *Wanda Faye Reynolds & ReynoldsFamily lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



Wanda Faye Reynolds & ReynoldsFamily - May 26, 2021 at 07:19 PM

GL

“ *Glendorah Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



Glendorah Lawrence - May 26, 2021 at 05:05 PM

RD

“ *Dear Shantel*

*My thoughts are with you and your family.  
May your memories bring you comfort at this difficult time.*

*Regards  
Raj Dhanda*



Rajkamal Dhanda - May 26, 2021 at 03:46 PM

JS

“ *Janie Surles-Cork sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



Janie Surles-Cork - May 26, 2021 at 02:20 PM

BW

“ Sending love, prayers, hugs and condolences ❤️😭🙏



---

**Bernice Williams** - May 26, 2021 at 08:09 AM

JO

“ JoyReeves sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



---

**JoyReeves** - May 26, 2021 at 06:25 AM

MS

“ My love and prayers are with all of you.  
Love Maudell

---

**Maudell Smith** - May 25, 2021 at 09:12 PM

BL

“ Barbara Land-Jones lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



---

**Barbara Land-Jones** - May 25, 2021 at 06:35 PM

BC

“ Brandy Cross lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



---

**Brandy Cross** - May 25, 2021 at 06:01 PM

BC

“ Rest in peace Aunt Earmon. Aunt Earmon was my grandfather's oldest sister and she will be missed by the children and grandchildren of Mr. Sherman Cross

---

**Brandy Cross** - May 25, 2021 at 05:59 PM



“ *Joanie Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



Joanie Williams - May 25, 2021 at 05:46 PM



“ *White (Large) Sympathy Vase Arrangement was purchased for the family of Mrs. Earmon Smith.*



May 25, 2021 at 05:22 PM



“ *Going to miss you MAMA SMITH neighbors for 50 years . Praying! My prayers goes out to the Smith family the family*



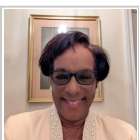
Dawn Ann Hughey - May 25, 2021 at 04:59 PM



“ *Rochelle Brewer lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



rochelle brewer - May 25, 2021 at 04:41 PM



“ *Mrs. Smith was a beautiful lady who will truly be missed. Condolences and prayers to the family and friends.*



Charline Bodiford - May 25, 2021 at 03:35 PM

CW

“ *Carolle Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Carolle Walker** - May 25, 2021 at 02:11 PM

TD

“ *Terrie Davis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Terrie Davis** - May 25, 2021 at 12:10 PM

VH

“ *Vanessa HumesJohnson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Vanessa HumesJohnson** - May 25, 2021 at 12:08 PM

VF

“ *Valerie Foster-Baker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



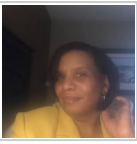
**Valerie Foster-Baker** - May 25, 2021 at 12:01 PM

DP

“ *Dennis And Gail Porter sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



**Dennis and Gail Porter** - May 25, 2021 at 10:02 AM



“ Cheryl Walker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Cheryl Walker - May 25, 2021 at 09:45 AM



“ Larry Polk sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Larry Polk - May 25, 2021 at 09:33 AM



“ Mr&Mrs W.H. Doxie lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Mr&Mrs W.H. Doxie - May 25, 2021 at 09:02 AM



“ Chris, Wayne Jernigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



Chris, Wayne Jernigan - May 25, 2021 at 12:22 AM



“ The Jarrett Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith



The Jarrett Family - May 24, 2021 at 10:29 PM



“ *Lorraine Bond-Riley sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



---

**Lorraine Bond-Riley** - May 24, 2021 at 09:22 PM

BM

“ *Barbara McMillan-Hargrow sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



---

**Barbara McMillan-Hargrow** - May 24, 2021 at 08:37 PM

CH

“ *Charlotte McMillan- Harper lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



---

**Charlotte McMillan- Harper** - May 24, 2021 at 08:03 PM

JK

“ *Janice Kemp-Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



---

**Janice Kemp-Anderson** - May 24, 2021 at 03:26 PM

WB

“ *Walsezetta Bennett sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Earmon Smith*



---

**Walsezetta Bennett** - May 23, 2021 at 11:36 AM

LR

“ LLOYD AND CAROLYN RILEY lit a candle in memory of  
Mrs. Earmon Smith



---

LLOYD AND CAROLYN RILEY - May 22, 2021 at 02:40 PM