



Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith

May 8, 1929 - May 31, 2025

On Saturday, May 31, 2025, the heavens resounded with the words, “Well done, my good and faithful servant,” as Missionary Vertis P. Smith peacefully entered into eternal rest.

Vertis Mae Hunter was born on May 8, 1929, in Georgetown, Georgia, to the late William and Hattie Hunter. She was the youngest of eleven children, raised in a family that was rich in faith, resilience, and love.

In the 1960s, she relocated to Saginaw, Michigan, where she would build a lasting legacy for her family and community. Vertis dedicated much of her life to service—in both healthcare and ministry. She pursued her passion for caregiving by becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse, faithfully serving at Saginaw Osteopathic Hospital for 20 years. Vertis followed a vision and founded PIP Rentals, establishing herself as a successful entrepreneur, a respected real estate investor and as a woman of color, she was a pace setter.

Missionary Smith was devoted to her church having the longest membership than anyone in the congregation. She served at Coleman Temple C.O.G.I.C. under the leadership of Pastor Hurley J. Coleman, Sr. and proudly served at World Outreach Campus with Bishop Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. A woman of unwavering faith, Vertis, alongside her beloved son Xavier Pippins, earned a

Certificate in Christian Training from The American Baptist Theological Seminary in Saginaw Township in 1987. Her Christian education laid the foundation for a life marked by leadership, devotion, and compassionate servanthood. She touched countless lives through her ministry and acts of kindness, leaving an indelible impact on all who knew her.

Vertis P. Smith leaves to cherish her memory: one loving daughter, Linda Baker of Saginaw, MI; two devoted sons, Virgil (Theresa) Pippins of Conyers, GA, and Donald Pippins of Saginaw, MI; a dear daughter-in-law, Elaine Pippins of Oxen Hills, Maryland; and one beloved sister, Geneva Alcindor of Morris, GA. She leaves to cherish her memory, 15 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren, a host of nieces, and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Harvey Pippins Jr. and Xavier Pippins and her siblings, Lawrence, Woodrow, Valma, Bessie, Mary, Hattie, Willie, M.L., Alice, and Milledge

Family hour will take place at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at World Outreach Campus, 2405 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48602 with funeral service commencing at 11:00 a.m. Bishop Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. will officiate. Entombment will take place in Oakwood Memorial Mausoleum, 5950 Gratiot Rd., Saginaw, MI 48638. Visitation will take place Tuesday at the funeral home from 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Memorial Mausoleum

5950 Gratiot Road
Saginaw, MI 48638

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **10**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home
441 N. Jefferson Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
(989) 754-0481
evansbrownes@gmail.com
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

Family Hour

JUN **11**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

World Outreach Campus
2405 Bay Road
Saginaw, MI 48602

Funeral Service

JUN 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

World Outreach Campus
2405 Bay Road
Saginaw, MI

Tribute Wall

SB

“ Sheri Butterfield lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Sheri Butterfield - June 23, 2025 at 04:40 AM

KV

“ Keisha Voltz lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Keisha Voltz - June 17, 2025 at 10:16 PM

MT

“ Ms. Michelle Tatum lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Ms. Michelle Tatum - June 15, 2025 at 01:16 AM

PC

“ Pamela Clark lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Pamela Clark - June 14, 2025 at 11:17 PM

DM

“ *Derrell Martin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Derrell Martin - June 14, 2025 at 11:38 AM

LB

“ *Lynne Blakely lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Lynne Blakely - June 11, 2025 at 03:36 PM

PC

“ *Priscilla Craig sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Priscilla Craig - June 11, 2025 at 01:48 PM

PC

My Heart and Prayers are with the Family. Love you guys ❤️.

Priscilla Craig - June 11, 2025 at 01:55 PM



“ *My prayers and condolences to the Pippins and Smith Family. Mrs. Smith was a very sweet woman and always shown love.*



Catherine Hicks - June 11, 2025 at 11:04 AM

TB

“ *Toni Brooks lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Toni Brooks - June 11, 2025 at 12:42 AM

CP

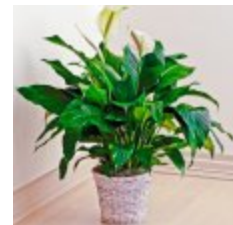
“ *Charlotte Perkins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Charlotte Perkins - June 10, 2025 at 04:30 PM

MS

“ *Mr. And Mrs. Salcedo-Mims. purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.*



Mr. And Mrs. Salcedo-Mims. - June 10, 2025 at 02:07 PM

EH

“ *My condolences to your family*



Evelyn Hardy-Garrett - June 10, 2025 at 01:51 PM

BJ

“ *Barbara J. purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.*



Barbara J. - June 10, 2025 at 01:43 PM

BJ

“ *Barbara J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.*

Barbara J. - June 10, 2025 at 01:43 PM

SC

“ *Shavonya Charlton lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Shavonya charlton - June 10, 2025 at 11:35 AM

VH

“ Vanette Hardy-Millen lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Vanette Hardy-Millen - June 10, 2025 at 09:02 AM

OK

“ We love you and going to miss you dearly granny . Thank you for loving on me an my sibilings . We knew it was genuine & from the heart . Baby Kenny said he wishes he can be free see you one last time

Olivia , Alma , Baby kenny & kendria - June 09, 2025 at 06:38 PM

HA

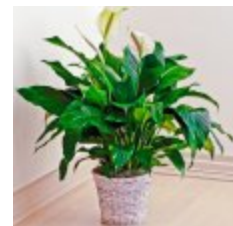
“ Her sister, Geneva Alcindor purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.



Her sister, Geneva Alcindor - June 09, 2025 at 02:57 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.



June 09, 2025 at 02:03 PM



“ Shirley Hughes 🙏 sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Shirley Hughes 🙏 - June 09, 2025 at 01:05 PM



“ Bobbie Turner sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Bobbie Turner - June 09, 2025 at 11:03 AM



“ Willie & Josephine Mims sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Willie & Josephine Mims - June 09, 2025 at 09:34 AM



“ Vanessa HumesJohnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Vanessa HumesJohnson - June 09, 2025 at 09:06 AM



“ *White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.*



June 09, 2025 at 06:10 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.

June 09, 2025 at 06:10 AM



“ *Jean Willis lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Jean Willis - June 08, 2025 at 07:02 PM



“ *Walter And Cora Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



walter and Cora Jones - June 08, 2025 at 02:10 PM

ST

“ Swamp and Terressa purchased the Pink & White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.



Swamp and Terressa - June 08, 2025 at 12:41 PM

AF

“ Prayers and Condolences to the Families of Mother



Adele Johnson and Family - June 08, 2025 at 11:31 AM

DC

“ Sending my condolences to the Smith and Pippins family. Donald and Elaine you are both in my prayers.



Denise Campbell - June 08, 2025 at 11:01 AM

CH

“ Charles & Mary Helton lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Charles & Mary Helton - June 08, 2025 at 08:39 AM

CC

“ Clifford Carter lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Clifford Carter - June 07, 2025 at 10:01 PM

SH

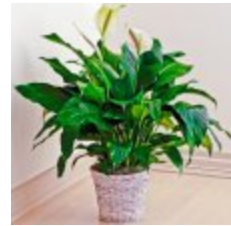
“ I'm sending my prayers, love and hugs to the Pippins and Smith family and friends.



Stephanie Terry Hardy - June 07, 2025 at 08:31 PM

PA

“ Pat, Geroge, Carolyn, Mickey, Justen, Jayson purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.



Pat, Geroge, Carolyn, Mickey, Justen, Jayson - June 07, 2025 at 09:24 AM

WF

“ Wanda Faye Reynolds And The Reynolds Fam lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Wanda Faye Reynolds and the Reynolds fam - June 07, 2025 at 05:02 AM

BM

“ Linda and family I am so sorry for your lost. She was also like a mother to me when we were growing up on 2nd Street. I love this family like it was my own.

Barbara frierson Morris - June 06, 2025 at 03:55 PM

DB

My family grew up near 2nd Street and we all played together, she truly was like a mother to us. Doris Battle

Doris Battle - June 09, 2025 at 02:47 PM

LH

“ Leslie B Henton lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Leslie B Henton - June 06, 2025 at 12:26 AM

LH

“ Sending my deepest condolences to the family. I remember her from Coleman Temple COGIC. She was such a sweet woman.

Leslie B Henton - June 06, 2025 at 12:26 AM

CS

“ Cathie Stephen lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Cathie Stephen - June 05, 2025 at 11:04 PM

EB

“ Great Aunt Vertis was so sweet and loving to me and my brother when she would come and visit her sister Red (my grandma) in El Paso.

Aunt Vertis will be missed. I know that she is celebrating and praising God in his presence! Rest in power, Great Aunt Vertis

Erica Berry-Lozano - June 05, 2025 at 09:53 PM

EL

“ Erica, Brian, and Elizabeth Lozano purchased the Lavender & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.



Erica, Brian, and Elizabeth Lozano - June 05, 2025 at 09:36 PM

FM

“ Family Of Silvia Martinez McClain lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Family of Silvia Martinez McClain - June 05, 2025 at 05:51 PM

JM

“ Jamie McCall lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Jamie McCall - June 05, 2025 at 04:32 PM

MS

“ *My condolence to the family my prayers are with you all*



MargieSchnell Shakespeare - June 05, 2025 at 02:54 PM

TF

“ *I loved seeing her at church she always gave me a big hug and a kiss and asked me about me life. Such a beautiful spirit Rest in peace*



The Martin Family - June 05, 2025 at 09:15 AM

FP

“ 🌸 *Sending my heartfelt condolences to the entire family. Asking God to give you the comfort and strength that you will need at this time and in the future.*



Fphlisia Pittman - June 05, 2025 at 04:34 AM

GF

“ *Gina Ford-Copeland lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Gina Ford-Copeland - June 05, 2025 at 03:37 AM

DH

“ *Delta Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Delta Hawkins - June 05, 2025 at 02:15 AM

CW

“ *Cassandra Walker lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Cassandra Walker - June 05, 2025 at 12:48 AM

JL

“ *James L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.*

James L. - June 05, 2025 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *James L. purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith.*



James L. - June 05, 2025 at 12:00 AM

T&

“ *The Troutmon family*



The Troutmons, Linda,Carlton &Tommie - June 04, 2025 at 05:04 PM

TT

“ *The Troutmons, Linda, Carlton & Tommie sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



The Troutmons, Linda, Carlton & Tommie - June 04, 2025 at 05:02 PM

SD

“ *Sandra Dillard lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Sandra Dillard - June 04, 2025 at 03:25 PM

TC

“ *Theresa A Carter lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith*



Theresa A Carter - June 04, 2025 at 12:16 PM

AN

“ Alicia Nelson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Alicia Nelson - June 04, 2025 at 09:21 AM

SS

“ Donald & Elaine
We send our Condolences to you and your family that God Strengthen, Comfort and bring Peace through this time of bereavement. Praying for the family.

Love
Tennessee Family
Stephanie (Terry)
Sheena, Jasmine, Maurice, Cynthia

Stephanie Sanders-Patrick - June 04, 2025 at 09:16 AM

AL

“ Such a beautiful person. She encouraged me to go to nursing school. I am so thankful to her for that encouragement. Absolutely beautiful. Always encouraging, kind and caring. She will definitely be missed.

Andrea Laury - June 03, 2025 at 07:28 PM

JS

She had such a beautiful personality. Very calm, caring and hospitable.

Juanita Smith - June 04, 2025 at 10:46 AM

MS

“ Mrs Stuckett lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Mrs stuckett - June 03, 2025 at 07:01 PM

DB

“ Donnie,Linda and rest of family my sympathy and prayers that God will comfort, strengthen and uphold your family at the homegoing of mrs. Pitman Rosa Garrett Dorothy Burch and Burch family



Dorothy Burch - June 03, 2025 at 02:18 PM

RC

“ To Donnie and family I am sorry to hear of the passing of your wonderful mother, I met her several years back, she was a joy to talk to so full of wisdom, may God give you and your family comfort and peace through this time of bereavement, I know how close you and your mother were.



Rose Coleman - June 03, 2025 at 01:52 PM

TF

“ Theotis & Teresa Wilcoxon / Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Theotis & Teresa Wilcoxon / Family - June 03, 2025 at 01:43 PM

DU

“ To my friend Linda God has called another angle home she is in a better please now no more pain she was a beautiful mother to all that new her. Rest on

Dock & Debra Williams Underwood - June 03, 2025 at 08:47 AM

RF

“ To Donnie Pippins and Family sorry to hear of the passing of your mother she was a beautiful person. God will not put more on u than u can bear. Praying 🙏 for u and your family



Renee Kaiser and Family - June 02, 2025 at 10:16 PM

DM

“ Deacon Moore & Missionaey Moore lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Deacon Moore & Missionaey Moore - June 02, 2025 at 09:41 PM



“ A Saint has gained her heavenly home ❤️



Phyllis Thorne - June 02, 2025 at 08:13 PM



“ Regina Grady sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Regina Grady - June 02, 2025 at 06:05 PM



“ Our prayers thoughts and condolences 🌸 are extended to Donnie Pippens (Elaine) and the entire family and extended families on the loss of your loved one (Mrs Smith) May the grace of God comfort you as you celebrate her life. Long lived the Queen!
Larry/Linda Adams



Larry Adams - June 02, 2025 at 06:04 PM



“ Wright & Williams Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Wright & Williams Family - June 02, 2025 at 04:04 PM



“ Shonda Myles sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Shonda Myles - June 02, 2025 at 11:48 AM

DH

“ Deidre Hunter sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Deidre Hunter - June 02, 2025 at 11:03 AM

PS

“ To The Smith & PIPPEN's Family I'm Praying for Ya'll in your darks Days She was a Beautiful Woman she will be missed



Phyllis Scarbrough - June 02, 2025 at 10:52 AM

LR

“ Linda Reid lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Linda Reid - June 02, 2025 at 10:36 AM

EM

“ Ernestine Martin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Vertis Pippins-Smith



Ernestine Martin - June 02, 2025 at 10:16 AM