



Mr. James Smith

February 2, 1946 - February 13, 2025

James Louis Smith affectionately known as “Buddy/Mr. Buddy”, son of the late Reverend George Allen and Mother Donnie Ann Smith was born February 02, 1946. He was the epitome of humbleness, servitude, and never met a stranger because he was genuinely kind to everyone. During the early morning hours of February 13, 2025 God called his servant son to transition from his earthly home to his heavenly home.

Buddy attended Martin County Schools before joining the Army and ranking Sergeant. During his time in the Army, he fought in the Vietnam war and received several awards including the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

As a child, Buddy joined and served at Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church. He joined Cornerstone Junior choir and would sing “His Eyes on the Sparrow.” Buddy rededicated his life back to God and served his church faithfully until his final days.

Buddy was truly the face for the term “jack of all trades.” He loved spending time making grills and selling them. You could catch him throwing a fishing rod or aiming his rifle for deer hunting in his spare time. He would often serve as a repairman for his family and friends. Buddy was an avid coin collector and had a great love for antique collectible items. In his pastime, he would go to yard

sales seeking collectible items or tools. There wasn't a yard sale that he went to that he couldn't convince the seller to lower their price through skilled bargaining. Mr. Buddy truly enjoyed cooking on the grill for his family and frying fish caught on fishing expeditions as part of the big breakfast on Christmas Day.

Buddy's work history included working in agriculture farming with C.L. Keel and Alton White. He worked for many years at Westpointe in Hamilton NC and Rubbermaid in Robersonville NC. As a plumber, he worked with Bob Brown Plumbing for years. More recently, he served as transport driver for Mr. Oselby Mercer ensuring clients received the care they needed. He will definitely be missed, and his impact will be great. The conversations about fishing, hunting, tent set-ups, and the grills he so skillfully built will be missed by those near and far.

Buddy was preceded in death by four brothers, Randolph, Jesse, Adrow, and Walter Smith and unfortunately, he was the last surviving brother; one grandson, Zylon Bowers and friend of many years, Gloria Bowers.

Buddy leaves to cherish and love his precious memories five daughters, Lashonda Speller (Jimmie), Lawanda Bowers Bond, Shemeka Bowers, Amie Bland, and Jamie Bland; two sons, James Bowers and Marnicus Bland; his two sisters, Dianne Alston-Peele (Curtis) and Mary Boyd (Talmon); sisters-in-law, Faye Smith, Dora Smith, and Mary Ann Smith; a special friend, Alice Rodgers; seventeen grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Smith Memorial Gardens

219 Faulk Street
Williamston, NC 27892

Previous Events

Viewing/Visitation

FEB **22**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Congleton Funeral Home and Cremations Chapel
304 West Liberty Street
Williamston, NC 27892

Celebration of Life Service

FEB **23**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church
713 Warren Street
Williamston, NC 27892

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Congleton Memorial Mortuary - February 24, 2025 at 03:12 PM

BR

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the family.
Praying for your strength and peace in the
Lord. Amen*



Barbara Riddick - February 23, 2025 at 12:46 PM

EL

“ *Condolences to the family! I love you Amie!!!*



Elrica - February 20, 2025 at 08:57 PM

VK

“ *My condolences to Mr Smith family aka buddy*



Varnett King - February 20, 2025 at 04:42 PM

CP

“Charlotte Privott lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith



Charlotte Privott - February 18, 2025 at 07:55 PM

CS

“Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith



Cecily Sene - February 18, 2025 at 04:09 PM

DR

“Diana Roberts lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith



Diana Roberts - February 18, 2025 at 01:43 PM

GB

“ MY MOST HEARTFELT SYMPATHY &
CONDOLENCES



MAY GOD WRAP YOU ALL IN HIS LOVING
ARMS



I AM PRAYING FOR PEACE, STRENGTH, GUIDANCE &
UNDERSTANDING DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME



GWEN BLAND

Gwenda Bland - February 18, 2025 at 01:33 PM



KS

“ *Keishawnia Speller lit a candle in memory of
Mr. James Smith*



Keishawnia Speller - February 18, 2025 at 12:40 PM

DL

“ *Demetrice Leary lit a candle in memory of Mr.
James Smith*



Demetrice Leary - February 18, 2025 at 10:58 AM

SB

“ Shirley Bland lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith



Shirley Bland - February 18, 2025 at 10:05 AM

MS

“ Mary Ann Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith



Mary Ann Smith - February 17, 2025 at 02:29 PM

C-

“ Clorette Harris -Mason sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Smith



Clorette Harris -Mason - February 17, 2025 at 02:25 PM

SS

“ Shelia Stokes lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith



Shelia Stokes - February 16, 2025 at 02:16 PM

SS

“ *Shelia Stokes lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith*



Shelia Stokes - February 15, 2025 at 11:49 PM

VW

“ *Vivian Whitfield-Daniels lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Smith*



Vivian Whitfield-Daniels - February 14, 2025 at 08:08 PM

VW

Rest in Peace my friend “Buddy”! I truly enjoyed walking and talking with you as we walked home from left Hayes School. We always had something to tell each other about our day at school that we could laugh about! It could be as simple as “Ma Gather” gave so and so a demerit today” or “Mr. Outerbridge got eyes in the back of his head ‘cause he saw so and so talking as he wrote on the board”! Keep smiling, Buddy until we meet again!

Vivian Whitfield-Daniels - February 18, 2025 at 10:34 AM

EH

“ *My Condolences And Prayers Are With The Family*



Evangelist Gwen Hudson - February 14, 2025 at 01:56 PM

CS

“ Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.



Congleton Funeral Home and Staff - February 13, 2025 at 07:10 PM

SB

Such a heartbreaking moment to hear of your passing. Tears. We will always hold your memories dear to our hearts. Robert Smith said he will remember you sharing cinnamon buns with him in school. Until we meet on that peaceful shore rest easy my brother. Family we are with you if you need anything

Shirley Bell - February 14, 2025 at 01:28 PM