



Mrs Elsie Marie Smith

May 30, 1931 - May 29, 2021

Elsie Smith lived a life of service, compassion and dedication, in the church as well as in her nursing career. She was a member of multiple churches throughout her lifetime and served in a board member, Superintendent, choir member, choir director, assistant Pastor, church mother, missionary and Evangelist. She was an example to young women in the church teaching life skills and modeling the "work/life balance" before it was thing! She worked tirelessly week in and week out preparing and serving meals in church, working in the church daycare, with the youth ministry for years, served as a teacher for youth and adult classes, and in any other capacity requested by church leadership.

In her nursing career, she worked at Columbia Hospital Women with premature and term newborns, did home health for many families and at several nursing homes throughout the Washington Metropolitan area. Her passion was for "babies and geriatrics." The love with which she spoke about her patients was an inspiration to her family members who currently work in healthcare. She never came home and complained about work; it was always a joy! She was a star pupil, often tutoring her classmates and assisting the teacher. She retired to care for her husband until his death in 1983, but returned to nursing until she was physically unable to work any longer in the mid-1990s. Her desire to help others extended beyond the workplace, gifting a special incoming student with the left over tuition monies to help them get started in their career. Her love for children and her desire to help others led

her to foster care. As a foster mom she cared for 8 children, from infant to teens, for over 10 years!

Her family was her pride and joy! She was a dedicated wife until her husband passed away and a dedicated mother, grandmother, and great grandmother until she passed away. She cared for grandchildren every summer, she never allowed name calling, hitting or fighting of any kind. In her later life, she cared for her great grandchildren. She celebrated every accomplishment, every new birth, and every graduation! She often bragged her grandsons and their military service. She raised 3 children with her husband of 30 years, supporting him while he served in 3 wars. They welcomed 3 grandchildren before his death and added several more branches to their bountiful family tree whose deep roots all come back to her! She was preceded in death by her loving husband, John F Smith Sr., 2 sisters, Bernice Pitts, and Willie Beatrice Underwood, 4 brothers, Herman, Charles, Luther, and Timothy Norphard, 2 daughters-in-law, Joannette Smith and Celeste Smith, her son John F. Smith, Jr., and granddaughter Kenji Bigby. Her profound impact on this world is immeasurable! She touched so many lives; patients, neighbors, friends, family, extended and church family and even beyond. She was truly one in a million and we are better people for knowing her and being loved by her!

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Ave
ARLINGTON, VA 22211

Previous Events

Public Viewing

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

Pope Funeral Home Forestville Chapel
5538 MARLBORO PIKE
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Funeral Service

JUN 10. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pope Funeral Home Forestville Chapel
5538 MARLBORO PIKE
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Tribute Wall



“ *Pope Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Mrs Elsie Marie Smith*



Pope Funeral Homes - June 10, 2021 at 08:31 AM

RL

*Rest in PARADISE
Love you forever* ❤️

Ric Lansky - June 11, 2021 at 10:06 AM



“ *Mrs Elsie Marie Smith*

January 28, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Mrs Elsie Marie Smith*

January 28, 2023 at 10:26 AM

NS

“ Liz, I remember when I first met your mom. It was before you started seriously working on your second book. She was one lively customer! Four of us were having lunch at Panera, or The Olive Garden or some place equivalent. I felt as if I knew her a little better than a casual acquaintance because I'd read so much about her in the pages you'd submitted in our fiction-writing class. I am so grateful that I got to meet her personally.

I know how much you loved your mother, and I know how much she must have appreciated what a wonderful daughter you were to her. From my heart, you have my deepest condolences, Liz. God bless you and your family.

Natasha Small - June 05, 2021 at 10:29 PM

CW

“ Liz:
*You and the whole family are in my prayers.
May God comfort and care for you in this time
of sorrow.*
Carole



CWC - June 05, 2021 at 07:41 PM