

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF OUR

M A T R I A R C H & R E M A R K A B L E W O M A N



MARIE PAULETTE SMITH

SUNRISE: JULY 29, 1945 | SUNSET: AUGUST 8, 2026

Friday, August 21, 2026

Viewing: 9:00 am | Celebration of Life: 10:00 am

The Lighthouse on the Pike

5904 Marlboro Pike | District Heights, MD 20747

The New Macedonia Baptist Church

4115 Alabama Avenue, Southeast | Washington, DC 20019

Reverend Dr. Patrick J. Walker, Senior Pastor

ORDER OF SERVICE

Musical Prelude

Hymn of Praise
Sister Tameria Bradley

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayers of Comfort

Musical Selection
Sister Tameria Bradley

Acknowledgements & Obituary Reading
Deaconess Arjetta D. White, Church Clerk

Reflections
Pamela Campbell

Musical Selection
Sister Tameria Bradley

Eulogy
Reverend Dr. Patrick J. Walker
Senior Pastor

Recessional





F O R E V E R I N O U R H E A R T S

REMEMBERING MARIE

Our last living maternal Aunt Marie Paulette Smith transitioned peacefully August 8, 2026, at the home she shared with her niece, Pamela Campbell.

Marie's birth on Sunday July 29, 1945, at Gallinger Municipal Hospital graced the lives of everyone in her family, especially her parents, the late Charles Alphonso Thompson, and Elizabeth Bealle Smith and five siblings.

Marie was baptized September 9, 1945, at St Vincent De Paul Catholic Church by Reverend Charles J Hanks, SSJ. Her godparents were her maternal uncle Louis Bealle and

wife Mary. Marie received her First Communion on May 9, 1954, at the age of nine. She continued her Christian journey and was Confirmed May 18, 1960, at the age of 15 at St Benedict The Moor Church by Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle. She loved God and was raised Catholic. Early in her Christian walk Marie wanted to become a Nun. As an adult she found the Baptist religion was a better fit for her. She joined Mt. Horeb Baptist Church and sang for many years with the Chancel Choir. When pastoral leadership changed she left. She joined the Pennsylvania Baptist Church January 28, 1990. Aunt Marie told me that when she joined The New Macedonia Baptist Church on June 1, 2008, she knew her search for a church home had ended. When we talked on Sundays she excitedly shared sermons, songs the choir sang, and how she always felt welcomed as a member.

Marie attended William Syphax Elementary and Bowen Elementary schools where she graduated from sixth grade. She attended Hine Jr High School for a time but graduated from ninth grade in 1961 from Jefferson Jr. High School. Marie was 1 of 466 students who graduated from Eastern High School in 1964. In 1972, Marie graduated from Federal City College majoring in Sociology. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Marie was not satisfied with just a bachelor's degree. She applied to the MBA programs at the University of District of Columbia and Howard University. Both applications were denied. Marie held onto her faith and confidence and did not dwell on the denials. She applied and was accepted at Trinity College where she graduated in 1978 with a Master of Arts in Teaching degree. Marie believed in herself and never allowed anyone or anything to stop her pursuit of obtaining more educational opportunities. Unknown to many, Marie fluently spoke Spanish, German, French, and Mandarin (Chinese) languages.

In 1964 after graduation, Marie was hired as Receptionist at Federal City College where she earned 60% of her total college expenses. She worked three years as a Clerk Typist and Receptionist at the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind. She worked for two years as an Elevator Operator at George Washington University Hospital operating passenger elevators and teaching new hires standard elevator operation and procedures.

In a special work study program at Federal City College, she served two years as the liaison for student inmates from the Lorton Penitentiary. Marie worked at the college as a Student Aide in the Department of Experimental Programs. She worked for five years as an Educational Aide for DC Public Schools. She worked for three years as a Library Assistant at the Martin Luther King Library, where she taught braille to underprivileged children and adults. Briefly, she worked as a Clerk for DC's DMV in the Vehicle Control Division handling registration renewals.

Marie worked for 25 years for the Internal Revenue Service in many positions and departments. In 2002, she retired as a Management Assistant in the Information Technology Service Department. Her total government service was 28 years, 10 months, 4 days and 238 Annual Leave and 120 Sick Leave hours. She received 5 Performance awards from 1996-1998.

Marie had immeasurable energy and countless interests. She loved the arts especially all genres of music and dance including Modern, Cha-Cha, Zumba, Waltz, Hand, and Line dances. Marie was an avid wrestling fan. Her early favorites were Andre the Giant and Bruno San Martino. Later she became a die-hard Hulk Hogan fan. She loved to sing and participated in a few church choirs. For years, she was a member of DC Blind Bowling League 8506 on the Sunshine Girls bowling team. She received Highest Score awards in 2004 and 2005. Other interests included traveling, swimming, reading poetry, and nonfiction novels, learning and teaching children, stage plays, westerns, and cartoons. She was excited training with her beloved service dog she renamed "Little One."

Marie was never married and had no children, but four of her seven siblings and their offspring produced a total of 240 children. Her large family consists of six siblings, six nephews, twenty nieces, twenty-seven great nephews, thirty-one great nieces, sixty-one great, great nephews, fifty-eight great, great nieces, seventeen great, great, great nephews, and twenty great, great, great nieces.

Marie was known for having an independent, confident, strong-willed, and determined spirit. She inspired and touched many people in her lifetime. Everyone knew when you crossed paths with Marie she would ask, "Are you behaving?" or tell you to "Behave". Other sayings, "Is it against the law?" or to children she would say, "Behave yourself, it's good for you". Another favorite saying was, "Don't handicap the handicapped" when anyone tried to help her do something she could do for herself; and if you assisted her walking she always instructed you on how to position your arm.

Many may not know but in 1971 Marie purchased a 1965 Buick Skylark for \$900 and hired a driver because she was working two part-time jobs and going to school full time.

Family preceding Marie are parents, Charles and Elizabeth; maternal grandparents, James and Lottie Brooks Bealle; paternal grandparents, Charles Frank and Mary Nannie Hawkins Thompson; godparents uncle James and wife Mary Bealle; sisters, Mary Elise Smith, Dorothy Smith Lyles (James), Elizabeth Ann Smith Combs (Rodney), and Evelyn Theresa Smith; brothers, Ernest Nathaniel and Charles Anthony Smith (Delores); and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Miss Marie Paulette Smith's earthly presence will be missed by her family, friends, classmates, and all who had an opportunity to make her acquaintance.



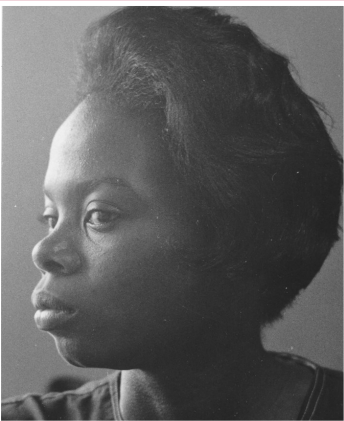


I THOUGHT OF YOU WITH LOVE TODAY

I thought of you with love today
but that is nothing new
I thought about you yesterday
and days before that too,

I think of you in silence
I often speak your name
All I have are memories
and your picture in a frame.

Author Unknown







PALLBEARERS

Nephew John Lyles
Nephew Marcus Smith
Great Nephew Kiemon Combs
Great Nephew Joseph Wells, Jr.
Great Nephew Ronald Fussell, Sr.
Great, Great Nephew Ronald Fussell, Jr.



HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Nephew Gerald Smith
Great, Great Nephew Darryl Samuel

FLOWER BEARERS

Family and Friends

SINCERE THANKS

The family of Miss Marie Paulette Smith thank you for your calls, visits, cards, continuous prayers, and words of encouragement.

Special Thanks

Paternal First Cousin Miss Ellen Smith whose constant, unwavering love, care, and support will never be matched. Mr. Charles Smith, an exceptionally good and trustworthy friend who always made sure her monthly expenses were paid timely. The New Macedonia Baptist Church, Pastor Patrick J. Walker, Reverend Ronald Harrison, Deacon Yorkshire, Mrs. Gravely, and the entire New Macedonia Church family. Fairfax Village Community, Ms. Loretta Brawner, Mr. Lemuel Walker and all the supportive and caring neighbors. Eastern High School Alumni classmates for their continued support and concern, especially Ms. Mauryce Johnson, Mr. Joseph Johnson, Ms. Jerri Minor, and Mr. Lewis. Washington Seniors Wellness Center (Alabama Avenue) staff and friends. Mt Horeb Baptist Church, dear friend Mrs. Carolyn Woods who called often to speak with Auntie. Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church family, Bible Study and Sunday School Teachers Deacon Martha Stagg-Thomas and Deacon Barbara Collins; Ms. Remona Doggett and Ms. Barbara Stewart. Calmos Street Neighbors for their constant support, care, and concern.

INTERMENT

Maryland National Memorial Cemetery
13300 Baltimore Avenue | Laurel, Maryland 20707

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:

Fayson Firm of Professional Morticians, P.A.
18 Irongate Drive Suite 10 | Waldorf, MD 20602
(202) 850 - 0550

Programs By Twanitta

