

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

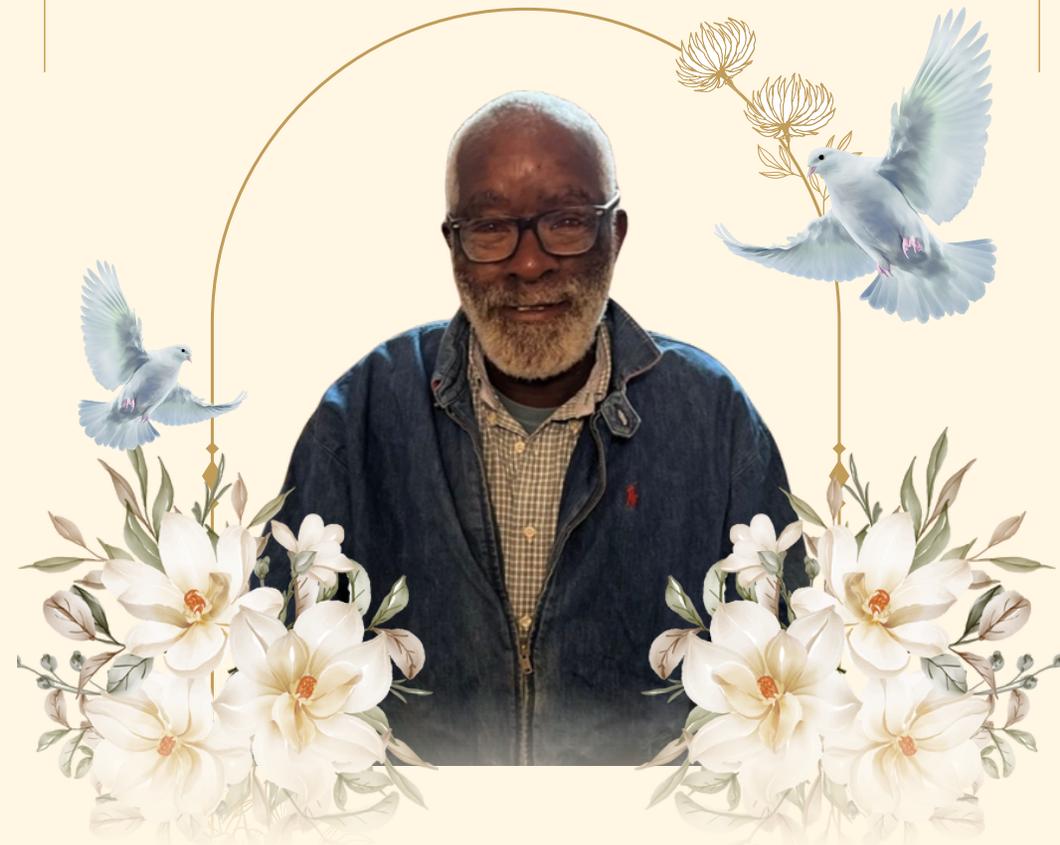
The family of Herman Earl Smith would like to extend our deepest gratitude for the many expressions of love, prayers, visits, calls, and support shown during this time of loss. Your kindness has brought us great comfort and peace, and we are truly thankful for each act of care that has reminded us of how deeply Herman was loved.

We would like to give special thanks to the Upchurch family for embracing Herman as one of their own throughout the years. The bond he shared with you was one of true friendship, laughter, and love. Your care and support meant the world to him and now mean the world to us.

To our extended family, friends, and neighbors—thank you for standing by us, offering helping hands, and sharing your memories of Herman. Each story, smile, and kind word has been a blessing. May God continue to bless each of you for the love and compassion you have shown.

“And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” — Philippians 4:7

## In Loving Memory



# Herman Smith

January 28, 1959–November 3, 2025

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Sanders Funeral Home Chapel



**Sanders Funeral Home**  
806 E Market St • Smithfield, NC 27577  
Phone: (919) 934-8416

# OBITUARY

Herman Earl Smith, 66, passed away on Monday, November 3, 2025, at his home in Zebulon. He was born on January 28, 1959, in Harnett County to the late Willis “Sam” Smith and Martha Smith. He was one of five children.

In his early years, Herman worked for Ricky Anderson Masonry and Creech Enterprises, but his true calling was farming. Over the years, he worked with many local farmers and even traveled to Tennessee to work in the Burley Tobacco market. Eventually, he found his farm home with Upchurch Farms in Zebulon, where he dedicated more than 37 years of hard work. During that time, Herman became like family to the Upchurches. He loved to tease the Upchurch girls when they were young and kept the tradition going with the grandkids, always ready to hand out a Moon Pie.

Herman had a love for growing squash and tomatoes, often sharing his harvest with friends and family. He enjoyed fishing, usually at nearby ponds but sometimes at the beach, and especially loved eating the fish he caught. Whenever snow fell in winter, you could count on finding him riding a car hood or playing with the kids outside.

Herman never met a stranger. Many mornings, he could be found sitting on the windowsill outside the Shop-N-Go, chatting with friends. He spent most of his days at the farm on a tractor, gator, mini-bike, or four-wheeler, always finding a way to get around. If someone was working on something, Herman was quick to offer his advice and “two cents.” A true friend to many, he was kind, helpful, and always looking out for those he cared about. If he hadn’t seen his “knuckleheads” in a few days, he’d call to check in. He will be deeply missed around the farm every day and loved forever.

Herman was preceded in death by his parents, Willis “Sam” and Martha Smith; his sister, Delores Smith; his brother, Willie Smith; and long-time family friend, James “Pops” Upchurch.

## A GENTLE REST

Your work on earth is finished,  
Your days of toil are done.  
The fields you loved lie quiet now,  
Beneath the setting sun.

You gave with hands both strong and kind,  
And shared your heart so true.  
The lives you touched with laughter,  
Will always honor you.

Though we may weep in sorrow,  
And miss your steady way,  
We know you’ve found a gentle rest,  
Where peace and light will stay.

So sleep in heavenly comfort,  
Free from care and pain,  
Until we meet once more someday,  
Where love and joy remain.