

## *Pallbearers*

Napoleon Daniely, Jr.      Frankie Smith  
Mandus Daniely      Jerome Smith  
Damian Smith      Ivan Johnson  
Kenneth Smith      Napoleon Smith  
Willie Paul Smith

## *Flower Attendants*

Nieces & Family Friends

## *Acknowledgements*

Our family extends its heartfelt appreciation for the prayers, phone calls, visits and many acts of kindness shown. You will never know how much you have helped us during our time of bereavement. We ask that you continue to lift us up in your prayers.

THE FAMILY

*Services and Arrangements Entrusted to:*



Edwards Small Mortuary  
*"Committed to Excellence"*  
1011 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Fort Valley, GA 31030  
(478) 825-8700

# Celebration of Life

**SUNRISE**  
July 28, 1941

**SUNSET**  
May 8, 2023

*Loretta Daniely Smith*

Saturday, May 13th, 2023  
AT 11:00 AM  
Usher's Temple CME Church  
411 Railroad Street  
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030

**Rev. Richard A. Smith, Eulogist**  
**Rev. Raymond F. Hampton, Officiant**

# Summary of Life

*"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:10 NKJV*

**Loretta Daniely Smith** was born on July 28, 1941, to Mr. James and Loretta Daniely Smith. She was born on July 28, 1941, to Mr. James and Mrs. Esme Lee Daniely.

She attended and graduated from Hunt High School where she was crowned Miss Hunt High during her senior year. She went on to further her studies and graduated from Fort Valley State College, now Fort Valley State University, in 1978. She touched many young lives as a teacher in the Sumter County School System. After leaving Sumter County, she decided to return home to Peach County where she taught at Hunt Elementary School until she retired. She was known for her loving and nurturing spirit which she exhibited throughout her teaching career.

Loretta accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age, and joined the Usher's Temple C.M.E. Church in Fort Valley, Georgia. After getting married, she felt that she and her husband should worship together. Therefore, she decided to join the African Methodist Episcopal where her husband was already a member of the Saint Peter A.M.E. Church. She became a very active member by serving in various positions including: the Steward Board, the Trustee Board, and the Stewardess Board. She also served as a Sunday School teacher and taught Vacation Bible School for many years. She was one of two women who worked for years with the Junior Stewards to train and inspire these young men to become leaders in the church and the community. In her later years she joined the Shiloh Baptist Church of Fort Valley, GA.

Loretta had a great love for her children and would often open her home to many other children who lived in the neighborhood. She was a great cook and loved inviting the family to come together for holidays and special events. She was especially proud of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and loved spending time with them. She was a great storyteller and would often share stories from her childhood about her grandparents, parents, siblings, and extended family as well as stories about her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was also an avid lover of crossword puzzles and enjoyed watching football, Matlock, the Neighborhood, and game shows such as Jeopardy in her Golden Years.





# Family



*like branches on a tree,  
we all grow in different directions  
yet our roots remain as one.*

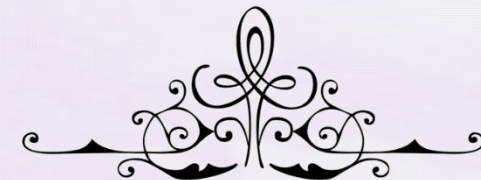
## Life story continued...

However, most of all she was a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. She raised her children to believe in Christ and instilled in them the importance of faith as she modeled it before them daily. Quite often she could be found on her knees in prayer or sitting reading the Bible. Not only did Loretta read the Bible, her giving, kind and thoughtful ways showed she was a follower of Jesus Christ. She had a loving and generous spirit and would give her last if needed. She sacrificed

However, most of all she was a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. She raised her children to believe in Christ and instilled in them the importance of faith as she modeled it before them daily. Quite often she could be found on her knees in prayer or sitting reading the Bible. Not only did Loretta read the Bible, her giving, kind and thoughtful ways showed she was a follower of Jesus Christ. She had a loving and generous spirit and would give her last if needed. She sacrificed so much to ensure that those around her would have all that they needed to survive. She was well loved by her family and will be greatly missed.

Loretta was preceded in death by a daughter, Avice Dione Smith and a son, Mark Anthony Smith, Sr. She was also preceded in death by two sisters, Ruby Pearl Daniely and Rose Marie Hunter as well as four brothers: Amos Alexander Daniely, Franklin Roosevelt Daniely, William Cliett Daniely, and James Phillip Daniely.

She leaves to cherish her memory two daughters, Audrey (Michael) Diamond of Newnan, GA and Sonja Smith of McDonough, GA; two sons, Elijah Smith, Jr. of Fort Valley, GA and Rev. Richard (Valencia) Smith of Augusta, GA.; six granddaughters: Christina (Richard) Murray, Lashone T. Smith, Avice J. Smith, Eliyah D. Smith, Delandrea Mojica, and Mica (James) Nastasi; three grandsons: Maurice Diamond, Quintin Smith, and Mark Smith, Jr.; four great-granddaughters: Serenity Smith, Trinity Smith, Charli Rose Murray, Jordan (Michael) Turner; six great-grandsons: Bryson Colson, Joshua Mojica, Tyrese Mojica, Anthony Nastasi, Zavier Nastasi, and Ellis Nastasi; two brothers, Evangelist Bennie L. Daniely of Fort Valley, GA and Napoleon Daniely (Marcia) of Macon, GA as well as a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins. survive. She was well loved by her family and will be greatly missed.



# WHEN TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see.  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes  
All filled with tears for me, I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today.  
While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you love me, as much as I love you,  
And each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me, too.  
But when tomorrow starts without me,  
Please try to understand that an angel came and called my name  
And took me by the hand and said my place was ready,  
In Heaven far above, and that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.  
But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye for all my life, I'd always  
thought I didn't want to die. I had so much to live for. So much left yet to do.  
It seemed almost impossible that I was leaving you.  
And all the fun we had. If I could re-live yesterday just even for a while.  
I'd say good-bye and kiss you.  
And maybe see you smile. But then I fully realized that this could never be.  
For emptiness and memories would take the place of me. And when I thought of  
worldly things. I might miss come tomorrow. I thought of you, and when I did.  
My heart was filled with sorrow. But when I walked through heaven's gates,  
I felt so much at home when God looked down and smiled at me from His great golden  
throne. He said, "This is eternity" And all I've promised you. Today your life on  
Earth is past. But here life starts anew. "You have been so faithful, So trusting and  
so true. Through there were times you did some things you knew you shouldn't do.  
"But you have been forgiven and now at last you're free so won't you come and take  
my hand  
And share my life with me," So when tomorrow starts without me don't think  
we're far apart.  
For every time you think of me I'm right here in your heart.*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

Rev. Raymond F. Hampton, Officiant

Musical Prelude

Processional

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Calvin Ezell, Sr.

## *Scripture Reading*

Old Testament.....Pastor Gregory Roseboro, Sr.

New Testament.....Pastor Kimberly Hill

Musical Selection.....Miss Betty Allen

## *Obituary Read Silently*

Eulogy.....Rev. Richard A. Smith

Acknowledgements.....Edwards Small Mortuary Staff

Recessional

## *Interment*

Willow Lake Memorial Gardens  
1578 Willow Lake Road  
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030