

*Celebrating The Life of  
Our Beloved*



*Lilette Louise Foster Smith*

April 26, 1954 - February 12, 2024

**Saturday, February 24, 2024**

11:00 AM Family Hour 12:12 PM Funeral Service

**Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church**

5050 Richard Allen Boulevard

Detroit, Michigan

*Rev. Robert Blake, Officiating*



# Reflections

*When I think of the 2 words that best describe my mother, I think of survivor and warrior. She persevered through so many struggles in her life and always came out Victorious. She always showed a great example of a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Through thick and thin I could always depend on you. We actually grew from a place where we went from mother and daughter to friends. I'm going to miss you so much. I just feel so lost without you. I pray that as I continue to live this life that I become half the woman you were. I might have physically lost my mother, one of my best friends, but I gained a heavenly warrior helping me fight through each day. Rest well in Paradise and tell God I'm going to need some extra hugs for a while to make it through.*

**Love, Danielle** 🍷

*To the woman who loved me unconditionally before I knew what love was. I thank you for life and never giving up on me. You were truly this guy's first love. From the fussing to laughter, you always made me feel that I was loved beyond measure. Thank you so much for being a mother that never gave up on me. Fly High my Angel and enjoy your reward.*

**Love your baby, DeAndre**

*To My Dearest Mother-in-Love, THANK YOU for the unwavering love and support that you have shown me over the years. You may leave this world physically, but your memory will forever live on in our hearts as well as your spirit remaining eternally engraved within each life you touched.*

*I will miss you immensely.*

**I love you to infinity and beyond! Tyra**

*You only have one Grandma Baby – You can only have one special grandma baby! Patient, kind in true, no other friend in all the world will be the same to you. When other friends forsake you, to Grandma Baby you will return, for all her loving kindness she asked nothing in return. As we look up on her picture, sweet memories we recall, of a face full of sunshine and a smile for one and all. Please Jesus take this message to our dear grandma Baby up above and tell her how we miss her and give her all our love.*

**– Your Punkin, Breanna**

*We love you so much from the fun times and laughter that we shared. We know you had to go because God called for you. We will always love and miss you dearly.*

**Love, Dominic, Sydney & Drew**

*They say God gives the hardest battles to his strongest soldiers and I don't know anyone stronger than my big sister, Lilette. You handled this battle, and I never once heard you complain out loud. You continued to smile and say, "I'm OK," knowing that you weren't. You stayed on the battlefield and fought until the end when most would have thrown in the towel. I will truly miss our daily talks and you encouraging me to keep going when I felt overwhelmed. My days will never be the same. I Love You Lilette and I miss you sooo much. Please kiss Dad and Brittny for me.*

**– Your middle sister, Leslie**



## “HER STORY”

*Lilette Louise Foster Smith*

APRIL 26, 1954 - FEBRUARY 12, 2024

On April 26, 1954, God looked over the heavens and plucked a special twinkling star out of the sky. He gave this star in the form of a baby girl to Albert and Matilda Foster. They named her Lilette Louise after her maternal grandmother (Louise Rowe) and great-aunt (Lilette Marchant). She was the oldest of Albert & Matilda's six children. Her father preceded her in death.

Lilette received her early elementary education in the Detroit Public School system. In 1962, the family moved to Highland Park, MI where she attended Highland Park Public Schools graduating from Highland Park High School in 1972. Following graduation, Lilette attended Michigan State University for two years before returning home and attending Wayne State University to study mortuary science.

Lilette gave her life to Christ at a young age and was baptized at her family's church, Bethel AME. At age 13, her angelic voice was recognized. It caught the attention of Barry Alexander who was so impressed that asked her parents to let her and her younger sister, Laura join his choir, The Impressions.

On November 1, 1975, Lilette married George Morgan Floyd. In 1977, this union produced a beautiful daughter, Danielle Elyse. In 1981, her little drummer boy, DeAndre Ehrman arrived. She was blessed to find the love of her life, Larry G. Smith and on December 26, 2009, they were married.

Over the years, Lilette was blessed to work for companies where she met some great people – Burns Funeral Home, The Highland Park Head Start Program, Highland Park Community College, Vickers, Young & Rubicam Advertising - who loved her like family affectionately calling her “Mama Let.”

Lilette was a true Jamaican and a jack of all trades. She knew she could fix anything (just like her dad except she didn't use Duct Tape). She had many jobs and wore many hats in several organizations, but her two passions were Guiding Star Chapter #11 OES PHA where she was a member for over 50 years and Greater Quinn AME Church where she was a member of the following organizations - Women's Missionary Society, Stewardship & Finance Committee, Stewardess Board, Trustee Board, PDC, Choir, Church Secretary, Kitchen Ministry and the Food Pantry as well as the secretary for the Michigan Conference Finance Committee. She was a true steward of her faith with an “I Can Do It” spirit, and she did.

On February 12, 2024, at 12:12 am, God called Lilette to come sing in His heavenly choir. She leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Larry; daughters, Danielle and Tracy; sons, DeAndre (Shatyrh), Larry Jr. and Derrick; granddaughters, Breanna, Sydney, Ashya and Ariyel; grandsons, Brenden, Dominic and Drew; great-grandson, Jaiden; mother, Matilda (Tillye); sisters, Laura, Leslie, Lynore and Marchelle (Bryan); brother, Albert; brother-in-law, Laddis; favorite sister-cousin and partner in crime, Robin; god-sister, Shirlene; best friend, Charise and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



*Sister, if flowers grow in heaven on land that's wild and free, Lord, place some in my sister's arms and tell her they're from me. Please tell her that I love her and miss her every day and tell her there's still so much that I would like to say. Remembering her is easy, she's in everything I do, I miss her so much every day, but I know she's safe with you. If tears could build a stairway made from all the pain, I'd walk right up to Heaven and bring her back again. Lord, please take care of her and I hope that she will see, that she was such a special person and a special sister to me.*

***Love, Albert (your One & Only)***

*To my big sister Ta-Tette - As you were you will always be, treasured forever in our memory. I keep in my heart the love of the past, for there it was planted forever to last. Your presence I miss, your memory I treasure, loving you always, forgetting you never! One of the greatest blessings of my life was being allowed to care for you the way you cared for everyone else all your life. You were the true example of unconditional love and dedication and as far as I can remember, all I ever wanted was to be like you. I pray that I will make you proud as I continue to follow in the gigantic footsteps you have left behind.*

*I love and miss you so!*

***Your baby sister, Lynore***

*Lettie, who's going to go to BLOCKS????? I'm going to miss going to McDonald's, Arby's, Sam's Club, BJ's, White Castle, Olive Garden and every Meijer's in the Metro Detroit Area. Every time I walk in the doors of those establishments, from this point on will remind me of us smiling, laughing and loving on each other. I'm already missing you and my heart is broken. Kiss my Daddy, Mommy and my Uncle! Continue to walk around Heaven all day! I Love My Cousins!*

***- Robin***

*I Love U Always Auntie Let!*

***Love, Your Ishcabibble***

*Auntie Let, your love and kindness will always be cherished in our hearts. You will forever be remembered for the joy and good times you brought into our lives. Rest in peace, knowing you are deeply loved and missed.*

***- Love DJ***

*God brought us together and we chose to keep each other. It seems like yesterday that we met, shared lunch and stories. Your warm smile, laughter and kind heart welcomed us into your family. We laughed, talked and surprised each other and shared lots of hugs. If I had known our last visit would also be our last hug, I would still be hugging you. Thank you for being the light my friend and most importantly my sister. I love you forever!*

***- Charise***











# Order of Service

Organ Prelude

The Lord's Prayer.....Michele Hembree

Prayer.....Rev. Lisa Reynolds

Scripture Readings:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.....Rev. Darren Penson

Colossians 4:12-17.....Rev. William Foster

Selection.....Evangelist Tillie Foster

Resolutions

Acknowledgements of Cards & Floral Tributes.....Nicole Davis

Obituary.....Rhoda Cadwell

Selection.....Breanna Norman

Remarks.....2 minutes please.....Family and Friends

Selection.....Greater Quinn AME Church Mass Choir

Eulogy.....Rev. Robert Blake

Recessional.....*"Walk Around Heaven"* .....

Organ Postlude

(Repass immediately following the service in the Fellowship Hall )

*"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my race, I have kept the faith."*

*2 Timothy 4:7 KJV*



## *"As I Sit In Heaven"*

*As I sit in Heaven  
and watch you everyday,  
I try to let you know with signs  
I never went away.  
I hear you when you're laughing,  
and watch you as you sleep.  
I even place my arms around you  
to calm you when you weep.  
I see you wish the days away,  
begging to have me home.  
So I try to send you signs  
so you know you are not alone.  
Don't feel guilty that you have  
life that was denied to me.  
Heaven is truly beautiful,  
just you wait and see.  
So live your life, laugh again,  
enjoy yourself, be free!  
Then I know with every breath you take  
you'll be taking one for me.*



## *Final Arrangements Entrusted To*

### **Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services**

24585 Evergreen Road  
Southfield, Michigan 48075  
(248) 702-5367

## *Acknowledgment of Appreciation*

Our family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation, the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and many other expressions of loving kindness and concern evidenced at this time in thought and deed.

Special thanks are extended to the staff of University of Michigan Hospital and Hospice of Michigan for their efforts in assuring Lilette's comfort, and the care and compassion that was shown to the family during this difficult period. A more formal acknowledgement will be made at a later date.