

“Thank God for the Blessing”

Thank God for the Blessing!



Thank God for the blessing! Your kind expression of sympathy and friendship will always remain in our memories. We are grateful for the richness of her life, the kindness of her heart and the love of her friends and family. We thank you for your love and prayers. We felt that love in your thoughtfulness and we thank you. May the good Lord, who has welcomed Mother Marie Smalls home, bless you and your family. -The Smalls-Robinson Family

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Matthew 5:4

Interment

White Plains Rural Cemetery
167 N Broadway • White Plains, NY 10603



Pallbearers

The Grandsons



Repast

Mt. Hope AME Zion Church
65 Lake St • White Plains, NY 10604



Funeral Arrangement

Entrusted to: Lee's Funeral Home
160 Fisher Ave. • White Plains, NY 10606

Celebration of Life for Mother Marie Smalls



January 16, 1916 - February 18, 2022

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I
have remained faithful. 2 Timothy 4:7*

February 28, 2022 • 11am

Calvary Baptist Church
188 Orawaupum Street • White Plains, NY 10606



Officiating Minister
Pastor E. Lee Trollinger Jr.

Obituary

Marie Robinson Smalls was born on January 16, 1916 in Paiges Point, Beaufort County, South Carolina. She was the fifth child of her parents Isaac and Mary (Harris) Robinson.

The heartbeat of her life was her family. Marie and her late husband, Joseph Smalls, met in the Canaan Baptist Church yard, in Sheldon, South Carolina and they were married on March 29, 1935. They had a happy and blessed marriage until the death of her beloved Joseph in September 1986. Their union was blessed with six children (Isaac, Thomas, Joseph Jr., Patricia, Delores, Norma). Marie and Joseph migrated to White Plains, New York in 1936. They raised their children in the spiritual life of Calvary Baptist Church and Mt. Hope AME Zion Church, White Plains, New York.

As a member of the Robinson family, she is part of a strong and proud heritage. She and her siblings (Joanna, Lydia, Catherine, Delphine, Alec, Almetha) were born on "Robinson Hill", land that was purchased and designated as heirs' property by her grandfather Andrew (Christine) Robinson. She has been active in the preservation and history of the heirs' property during her entire life. She loved and cherished her extended family. Mom, Granny, Aunt Marie, Cousin Marie was a founding member of the Northern Robinson Family Reunion Committee, established in 1977 and she served as treasurer for many years. Most important, she was the "unofficial -oral tradition – historian" of the family. Her knowledge and memory regarding people, places, and events was phenomenal and valuable about the extended Robinson family and the Paiges Point and Sheldon areas of her youth. As the matriarch of our family, she was a living witness to five generations of children, grands/great, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

One of her most loved groups was the Canaan Baptist Church Committee of which she was a founding member and treasurer for many years. She maintained continuous and active participation through the life of the group. The "Canaan Committee" was special and dear to her heart because it was the group that "reached back" and supported the church where she was baptized and attended until she moved to White Plains and joined Calvary Baptist Church, circa 1938/1939.

At Calvary Baptist, **Mother Marie Smalls**, had continuous membership under all pastors beginning with Rev. Haywood D. Morris to the present pastor, Rev. E.L. Trollinger. She would always talk about her respect and love for the many years with Rev. Dr. Lester Cousin and affectionately tap the shoulder of Rev. Trollinger and let him know that he was "doing a good job". At Calvary she was a founding member of the Gospel Chorus in 1954 and served as treasurer for many years. She served as a member of the Pulpit Aid and she attended Sunday School, taught Sunday School lessons and led Sunday School discussions. She also kept her daughters involved in the Baptist Training Union "BTU" of Calvary.



Order of Service



Clergy Processional

Word of Comfort

Congregational Hymn....."Just Over In The Glory Land"

Old Testament Reading.....Min. Idella Paridasio

New Testament Reading.....Evangelist Jonni Dingle

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Debra E. Morris

Musical Selection.....Brenda Perry

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

Church Tributes.....Deacon Clara Hamilton, Calvary Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Gregory R. Smith, Mt. Hope AME Zion Church

Family Tributes.....Dr. Norma Smalls-Mantey, Daughter

Joseph Smalls-Mantey, Grandson

Min. Kevin Smalls, Grandson

Elder Rashida Cartwright-Thigpen, Great Niece

Min. Dara Smalls, Granddaughter

Choir Selection.....Calvary Baptist Church

Special Tribute.....Rev. Dr. Lester Cousin

Acknowledgements & Condolences.....Church Clerk

Legacy of Life.....Church Clerk

Congregational Hymn.....Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

Words of Life.....Rev. E. Lee Trollinger

"Thank God For the Blessing"

Benediction

Recessional



Remember Me

By Anthony Dowson

Speak of me as you have always done.
Remember the good times, laughter, and fun.

Share the happy memories we've made.
Do not let them wither or fade.

I'll be with you in the summer's sun
And when the winter's chill has come.

I'll be the voice that whispers in the breeze.
I'm peaceful now, put your mind at ease.

I've rested my eyes and gone to sleep.
But memories we've shared are yours to keep.

Sometimes our final days may be a test,
But remember me when I was at my best.

Although things may not be the same,
Don't be afraid to use my name.

Let your sorrow last for just a while.
Comfort each other and try to smile.

I've lived a life filled with joy and fun.
Live on now, make me proud of what you'll
become.

Hold To God's Unchanging Hand

1 Time is filled with swift transition.
Naught of earth unmoved can stand.
Build your hopes on things eternal.
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

Chorus:
Hold to His hand, God's unchanging hand.
Hold to His hand, God's unchanging hand.
Build your hopes on things eternal.
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

2 Trust in Him who will not leave you.
Whatsoever years may bring.
If by earthly friends forsaken,
Still more closely to Him cling.

[Chorus]

3 Covet not this world's vain riches
That so rapidly decay.
Seek to gain the heav'nly treasures.
They will never pass away. [Chorus]

4 When your journey is completed,
If to God you have been true,
Fair and bright the home in Glory
Your enraptured soul will view. [Chorus]



Obituary

During her 86 years as a resident of White Plains, NY, she was involved in her church and community. She was a PTA mother for all of her children during their time in the White Plains School District. Our parents stressed the importance of education, and all 5 children completed a college degree. She was also a Den Mother for the Cub/Boy Scouts and an assistant Girl Scout Troop Leader for one of the first troops for Negro girls, in the 1940's in Westchester County. As a result of her participation in church and community activities, she was given numerous awards and recognitions, Mother of the Year, outstanding community citizenship awards and recognition awards from Calvary Baptist Church, including the Women's Day "Woman of the Year Award". She was also recognized by the Central Hudson Baptist Association with the Calvary Baptist Church "Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year" award. A highlight of her 100th to 106th birthdays was receiving proclamations from the Mayor of White Plains, County Executive of Westchester County, New York State and local officials. Each year, on her birthday, the Westchester County Center Marquis displayed "Marie Smalls Day" for the City of White Plains.

An extraordinary woman, and a beautiful and extraordinary life!

"Thank God for the Blessing"

Our dearly beloved mother answered God's call and the Angels carried her to heavenly rest on Friday, February 18, 2022. "Because the Angels came – no more grief or sorrow, no more suffering or pain, now there is everlasting peace because the Angels came."

Always cherishing her memory are her children, Joseph Smalls, Jr. (Kayreitha), White Plains, NY; Delores V. Smalls, Westbury, NY; Dr. Norma Smalls-Mantey, (Samuel) Upper Marlboro, MD; grandchildren, Thomas K. Smalls, Deidra A. Smalls, Daryl J. Smalls, Dara S. Smalls, Adjoa R. Smalls-Mantey, MD, Lauren A. Smalls-Mantey, D.Eng., Joseph A. Smalls-Mantey, Brett I. Smalls, Bernadette Wooten; a legacy of love of 5 generations of grandchildren nieces, nephews, and cousins, extended family and friends. Predeceased: **Beloved husband Joseph (1986)** Thomas E. Smalls (Carol), son; Isaac Smalls (Ruth), son; Brock F. Smalls, grandson; Crystal Alhassan, granddaughter, Kevin M. Smalls, great grandson.

