



Martha Lee Smith

February 12, 1936 - February 25, 2026

SMITH, Ms. Martha Lee - age 90, passed away Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at Angela Hospice Center in Waterford, Michigan. Family hour 10:30AM Monday, March 9, 2026 from the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 268 North Perry Street, with funeral service commencing immediately at 11:00AM. Interment Perry Mount Park Cemetery, 878 North Perry Street. Friends and pallbearers will assemble 10:30AM at the funeral home Monday. Ms. Smith will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home and may be viewed between the hours of 10:00AM - 4:00PM Sunday.

Martha Lee Smith was born in Jackson, Tennessee, to George and Alberta Sain. In 1942, she recalled traveling north to Pontiac, Michigan, with her family via train. When the train stopped in Chicago, she was excited by the confetti falling from the sky from a celebration marking the hope for the end of World War II.

In Pontiac, the family settled, where she grew up alongside her sister Georgia May and their adopted baby brother, James "J.B." Sain. She quickly made her mark at Bagley School, surpassing kindergarten when teachers noticed how advanced she was and placed her directly into first grade. She later attended Washington High School.

Martha's childhood memories were shaped by family life and the people

around her. She found a champion in her Uncle Bud, her mother's youngest brother. In conversation, she said how much she appreciated having someone around who always stood up for her, and that he taught her early on how to speak plainly and be willing to say things out loud that others whispered. She recalled her father's garden and how they would share their bounty with neighbors.

On January 6, 1950, just weeks before her 15th birthday, Martha married Virg "Schoolboy" Smith in Angola, Indiana. The early years of marriage and motherhood were not easy. Before the birth of her first surviving child, Martha experienced the loss of two babies—a daughter, Kimberly Ann, and a son, Darnell—whose losses stayed with her throughout her life. Over the years, eight children were born to them: Michael, Gary, Jovita, Stephannie, Marsha, Keith, Allison, and Dale.

While together, Martha and Schoolboy created connections that lasted well beyond their kids childhood. The Eastside was where children grew up together, and remained in each other's lives long after. Though they chose separate paths in the 60s, the Washingtons, Allens, Williams, and Hirsch families remain connected today.

Martha moved to Detroit during the winter of 1969, where she began working at Fisher Body, a General Motors plant. This job became an important turning point in her life. Once she had established herself, she proudly helped several of her children and their friends gain employment when hiring opportunities opened. Martha went on to work in the Fiero, Lake Orion, and Hamtramck/Poletown locations before retiring in the spring of 1998.

She led a life filled with travel, hobbies, and lasting friendships. She was an avid bowler, participating in ladies', travel, and mixed leagues as part of the Pontiac Rolling 20s and Pontiac Travelers bowling clubs several nights each

week. She proudly earned a 170 average while collecting numerous trophies.

She enjoyed a good game of cards, golf, and traveling with friends to the Bahamas, Alaska, Canada, Nevada, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Chicago, New York, and many other cities and countries. Until her later years, Martha always looked forward to planning her trip to the annual Currie-Gray Family Reunion.

Martha leaves to cherish her memory: Children: Michael (Terra) Smith, Gary (Sonya) Smith, Jovita Smith, Stephannie Smith, Marsha (Donald) McConner, Keith (Ira) Smith, and Allison (Eric) Hanley; Grandchildren: Miaisha Guy, Michael Smith Jr., Emma Littleton, Darneshia Smith, Jessica (Charles) Pernermon, Paul "Antonio" Martin, Ashley Turner, Isaac Smith, Anthony (Gloria) Smith, Demond (Quenyada) Smith, Latoya Smith, Ashley Meckens, RoNeisha Mullen, RoShaun Mullen, Keith Manley, Kourtney Manley, Jerel Smith, Montrel Smith, LaKita Smith, Pierre (Nicole) Taylor, Eric Hanley II, Erica Hanley, Terrell Hanley, Doerrell Hanley; and a host of great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, relatives, and friends.

Martha was preceded in death by her daughter, Kimberly Ann Smith, sons, Darnell and Dale Smith; parents, George and Alberta Sain; brother, James "JB" Sain; sister, Georgia French; nephew, Derrick Sain; and niece, Felicia French.

On February 25, 2026, at the age of 90, she left an unforgettable mark on our hearts and a legacy of resilience, honesty, and wisdom. As we mourn her, let us remember and celebrate a life well lived, marked by unwavering determination and living in the moment.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 8. 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac
268 North Perry Street
Pontiac, MI 48342
(248) 758-1913
lemoonfhpontiac@gmail.com
<https://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhomepontiac.com>

Family Hour

MAR 9. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac
268 North Perry Street
Pontiac, MI 48342
(248) 758-1913
lemoonfhpontiac@gmail.com
<https://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhomepontiac.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac
268 North Perry Street
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Tribute Wall



“ Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Martha Lee Smith



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - March 09 at 10:25 AM

KW

“ Rlp auntie. Love Kimberly Walker

Kimberly Walker - March 15 at 02:53 PM

JL

“ Jordan L. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Martha Lee Smith.



Jordan L. - March 08 at 05:13 AM

MW

“ Marie Wilson purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Martha Lee Smith.



Marie Wilson - March 07 at 02:00 PM

DC

“ Danielle, Doug and the TStream Crew planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Martha Lee Smith.

Danielle, Doug and the TStream Crew - March 07 at 11:01 AM

DC

“ Danielle, Doug and the TStream Crew purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Martha Lee Smith.



Danielle, Doug and the TStream Crew - March 07 at 11:01 AM

PM

“ Our prayers sympathies and condolences are with the family. Blessing and comfort to you all. Pastor Derrick & Mrs. Barbara McDonald



Pastor McDonald - March 05 at 05:04 PM

JO

On behalf of the Bass/Wardlaw family we extend our deepest condolences and prayers. Ms. Martha was a great neighbor on Amos. I will always remember her smile. ~ Joy Wardlaw

Joy - March 10 at 12:27 PM

AS

“ Anthony S. purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Martha Lee Smith.



Anthony S. - March 05 at 02:02 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Martha Lee Smith.

March 05 at 04:35 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Martha Lee Smith.



March 05 at 04:35 AM

LW

“ To the smith family you have our condolences with love from My family Lance white



Lance White - March 05 at 03:53 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martha Lee Smith.*



March 04 at 05:01 PM



“ *Katrina Williams lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Katrina Williams - March 04 at 06:43 AM



“ *My Condolences to the family so sorry for your loss of your Mother, Praying for healing and strength*



Edna Bass - March 03 at 11:40 AM



“ *Phyllis (Webb) Johnson lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Phyllis (Webb) Johnson - March 02 at 10:31 PM

EB

“ *My Condolences to the family sorry for your loss*



Edna Bass - February 28 at 08:03 PM

MS

“ *You will be missed cuz. Sending my prayers to the entire family. Lots of love.*

Mary Sain - February 28 at 07:49 PM

GB

“ *Sincere condolence to the family.*



Gloria Bush - February 28 at 04:24 PM

RS

“ *To the Smith Family, I'm so very sorry to hear of the transition of your Mom. Sweet and kind that's how I will remember her*

Rev. Tony & Sylvia (Hamler) Simpson - February 28 at 12:47 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Martha Lee Smith.*

February 28 at 10:21 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Martha Lee Smith.*



February 28 at 10:21 AM



“ *Barbara RogersLandry lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Barbara RogersLandry - February 28 at 10:05 AM



“ *Brenda White And White Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Brenda White and white family - February 27 at 05:35 PM



“ *R I P.....*



Adele Hopkins - February 27 at 01:52 PM

SJ

“ *Salythia Shelton & Roree Jones lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Salythia Shelton & Roree Jones - February 27 at 01:18 PM

LS

“ *Lorrie Spann lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Lorrie Spann - February 27 at 01:13 PM

KW

“ *Katrina A Wilson lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Katrina A Wilson - February 27 at 08:23 AM

ID

“ *Ireshia N Daniel lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Ireshia N Daniel - February 27 at 05:06 AM

KB

“ *Katherine Hart Brown lit a candle in memory of Martha Lee Smith*



Katherine Hart Brown - February 26 at 11:00 PM