

Obituary

Died: Monday, September 9, 2019

The Obituary of Marie Ella Powell Smith



Marie Ella Powell Smith the 7th of 10 children born Friday July 17, 1925, in Indianapolis, Indiana to James F., Sr. and Bessie Minor Powell. Her parents, six brothers, two sisters, one son and her husband preceded her in death. God called Marie home on Monday, September 9, 2019.

Service Summary

Visitation

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Sat Sep 14, 2019

St. John's Missionary Baptist Church

1651 Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46218

Celebration of Life

12:00 PM Sat Sep 14, 2019

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Marie's profound love for the church was instilled by her grandmother, America Powell, who was a Founding Charter Member of St. John's Missionary Baptist Church. Marie accepted Christ at the early age of 12 years and was baptized at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in May of 1937, where she was a faithful member for 82 years. She was actively involved in several ministries, including Matrons, Juvenile Rehabilitation Circle, Dorcas Circle and the Love Center. She would attend Sunday School, Wednesday noon day prayer praise, and Sunday worship service. Marie would often remark that she would attend worship service as long as she was physically able. This, she did until illness prevented her from doing such.

Marie was employed by Indianapolis Public School System as a tutor for 23 years, retiring in 1988. She was P.T.A. President of School #43, President of the Juvenile Rehabilitation Group, and lifetime member of Crispus Attucks National Alumni Association. She was also a part of the Kappa Alpha Psi Silhouettes, and also a member of the African American Society, Pi Omicron Rho Omega Alpha Gamma Chapter.

Marie was an avid sports fan with a special interest in baseball, football, and basketball. She was also a pole vaulter during her high school years.

On September 14, 1945, Marie married Walter Houston Smith and enjoyed 67 years of marriage together. To this union four sons were born: Walter Eugene "Mack" Smith, Charles William "Squeaky" Smith, Calvin Earl Smith (now deceased), and Larry Dean Smith.

Marie was a great cook, seamstress, and gardener. To many of her church family, she was known for her hugs. On Sundays during the fellowship period members would come from all over the church to be hugged. It was said when she hugged you, you knew you had been hugged.

Family was everything to Marie, and she oftend boasted about her sons and their families. grandchildren, great grandchildren, and the newest additions of great-great grandchildren were the apples of her eyes and brought her much joy. Family gatherings from the reunion to the holidays were especially important to Marie. Once you were in the family, regardless of changes in the family dynamics, you were always considered family. So much so that even close friends of the family became family.

Marie departed this life at the age of 94 years 1 month and 9 days. She leaves to cherish her memory Veatrice, daughter in law; sons, Walter (Brenda Bolden-companion), Charles (Sandra), Calvin (deceased) (Teresa) and Larry (Arline); one sister, Bessie Bell; 12 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great grandchildren, and 4 generations of nieces and nephews. In addition, a host of friends and her church family. Marie was a wife, mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great grandmother, a great great great great aunt, church member, and a friend loved by all.

Humbly Submitted.....The Family