



Ms. Marlene Smith

April 18, 1946 - March 2, 2015

Marlene Smith was born April 18, 1946, the second child of Willie and Lorraine Willis. She had three sisters, Darlene, her Irish twin (born ten months apart), Linda, who preceded her in death and baby sister Contrina. "Tootsie" as she was affectionately called by her family and loved ones, was the heart and soul of her family.

Marlene took great pride in working hard and making an honest living. She was particularly proud of the relationships she formed while working in South Haven, Michigan and Kalamazoo, Michigan at the Eaton Corporation and for Marshalls.

Marlene's greatest joy was the love she had for her family, particularly her four children, Anthony, Erick, Lorraine and Robin. She was so proud of each of them and the families they raised. Marlene was a loving daughter, faithful sister, best auntie, sweetest grandmother, fun-loving co-worker, special cousin, kind-hearted niece and dearest friend.

One of Marlene's passions was for the finer things in life. She loved shopping! She liked beautiful artwork, jewelry, designer perfumes, purses and clothes but she always kept things in perspective because she would give you the shirt of her back if you were in need. A beautiful legacy left for a beautiful woman who touched so many lives.

She is survived by: her mother, Lorraine Willis, Covert, MI; two sons: Anthony Whitehead (Denita), Grand Rapids, MI; Erick Whitehead, Indianapolis, IN; two daughters: Lorraine Whitehead (Willis), Redford, MI; Robin Oquendo (Ramon), Kalamazoo, MI; two sisters: Darlene Cox (Charles), Altamonte Springs, FL; Contrina Thomas, Kalamazoo, MI; five grandchildren: Autumn Dozier, Denzale Whitehead, Ericka Whitehead, Anthony Whitehead, Jr. and Jessica Whitehead; two nephews: Pierre Willis (Paula), Katy, TX; Andre' Woods (Shamiria), Tallahassee, FL; three nieces: Jacqueline Willis, Tallahassee, FL; Monique W. Long, Orlando, FL; Nicole Woods, Orlando, FL; aunt, Dorothy Walker, Chicago, Illinois; six cousins: Renee Walker, Covina, California; Sandra Walker, Chicago, Illinois; Ralph Walker, Covina, California; Michael Walker, San Antonio, Texas; Jason Walker, San Antonio, Texas; Larry Walker, Philippines; dear friends: Sherrie & Kyra Evans, Chicago, IL; Sheila & Carla Burford, Chicago, IL; a host of great-nieces and nephews, family and friends and best friend for over fifty years, Julie Lorraine Scott, Chicago, IL.

Cemetery Details

Mount Ever-Rest Memorial Park

4037 South Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

A Service in Loving Memory

MAR 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Marlene Smith



Harper Funeral Home - March 04, 2015 at 09:00 PM



“ Ms. Marlene Smith

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Ms. Marlene Smith

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Robin & Family..... So sorry to hear of your loss. May your cherished memories help guide you through his difficult time. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.

With Sincere Sympathy
Leah Colwell

Leah - March 08, 2015 at 04:50 PM

AN

“ You will be missed love u Marlene I will never forget u love Antonia



Antonia - March 05, 2015 at 08:51 PM

AN

“ Sorry for your loss I loved Marlene she was the nicest person you could ever know I am still in shock she was a true friend I will never forget you love Antonia

Antonia - March 05, 2015 at 08:41 PM

TB

“ Tonya Bass lit a candle in memory of Ms. Marlene Smith



Tonya Bass - March 05, 2015 at 07:55 PM

LJ

“ May God be with you during your loss.I remember Marlene being such a beautiful,kind and special person. Our prayers are with you'll. Larry & Darlene Hale



Larry Hale Jr. - March 05, 2015 at 07:46 PM

TB

“ *My prayers go out to the family,I want you to know we love u all and to stay strong as she is in God's hands. Love the Hale family.* ”

Tonya Bass - March 05, 2015 at 07:38 PM

EH

“ *Ed And Joan Harris lit a candle in memory of Ms. Marlene Smith* ”



Ed and Joan Harris - March 05, 2015 at 06:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ms. Marlene Smith.* ”



March 05, 2015 at 02:27 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Marlene Smith.* ”



March 05, 2015 at 02:02 PM

LJ

“ Larry, Dewanna, Alvner, Larry Jr. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ms. Marlene Smith.



Larry, Dewanna, Alvner, Larry Jr. - March 05, 2015 at 12:20 PM

LC

“ Love Always Julie, Leon, Sherrie, Kyra & Charles purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ms. Marlene Smith.



Love Always Julie, Leon, Sherrie, Kyra & Charles - March 05, 2015 at 10:38 AM

KG

“ Kyra L Gillette lit a candle in memory of Ms. Marlene Smith



Kyra L Gillette - March 05, 2015 at 08:29 AM

RW

“ Reva Woodard lit a candle in memory of Ms. Marlene Smith



Reva Woodard - March 04, 2015 at 11:50 PM

TF

“ *To the family of Marlene Smith---May God bless and keep you during this most difficult time. Trust in Him for He knows what's best. May God keep you in the center of His will. Choice Blessings.The Hollin Family*

Tanya Hollin and family - March 04, 2015 at 11:18 PM

TF

“ *Tanya Hollin And Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Marlene Smith*



Tanya Hollin and family - March 04, 2015 at 11:12 PM

KG

“ *You will be truly missed Auntie Marlene! I will miss your strong spirit, your amazing sense of humor and getting to spend wonderful moments visiting you! The epitome of a classy lady! Love you always, Kyra*



Kyra L Gillette - March 04, 2015 at 10:20 PM

JB

“ *Jim, Angie, Caroline, Courtney and Duke Burkhart purchased the Memories to Treasure for the family of Ms. Marlene Smith.*



Jim, Angie, Caroline, Courtney and Duke Burkhart - March
04, 2015 at 02:32 PM