God sent me an angel; it was you, Troy, the love of my life, my dream come true, and my everything. I took vows to love you and to cherish you through sickness and in health. I thank God for allowing me to do that by giving me the supporters to do so and to show you what real love is and what a true family is. I am glad that you were able to experience, the family trip to Alabama. You had the time of your life, and I am so happy you did. Unfortunately, I will never be able to see you, hold you, kiss you, and talk to you every day because heaven couldn't wait for you.

Your loving wife,

This was the hardest thing to write, and I hoped I would never have to write it, but here we are.

~ BREATHE ~

I wasn't by my dad's side when he passed. I couldn't tell him one final time that I loved him or that he was genuinely the best dad I could ask for. He is the other half of me and with his being gone, I now feel that I could float away at any moment. ~ BREATHE ~

I don't remember my dad as the frail man he was in the hospital, but as the vibrant, energetic, funny, and active man he has been since birth. I have so many memories with my dad that I will always keep close to my heart and will never share them with anyone outside of close family. ~ BREATHE ~

I love you, Father. Enjoy Heaven. I promise to make you proud. I will do everything to make both you and me proud. This is not good-bye; It's just see you later. Sending love from your Pumpkin, Lillie

Dear Dad, As you look down on me, and watch me take every step and leap in my life. I hope you are proud of the young man your little boy has become. I know we had our disagreements and that I could be a problem at times, but it was always love with us. We all care and love you sooo much. I want you to know that, and I know I wasn't there for you as much as I should have been and that kills me., because I know I could have made a difference. I remember the time we would just play "Madden" and "Call of Duty" together all the time and the times we would throw the football outside.... It's so many things I wish I could change, but I have to go on in life without you here with me and Lillie. It's so hard, but as you told me, "Always look out for your sister, no matter what". You always got onto me and Khamari about the little stuff, but I understand you just wanted us to be better men. I promise that I am going to be the pest man that I can be and take care of my sister. I am going to make you proud, Pops, I promise. As you watch over me, please help me keep my head up and focused. Until I see you again, Daddy, I love you.

> Your Loving Son, Marie

#### ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Derrick Wills, Jr. **Stanley Tice** Michael Robinson **Marcus Robinson** Jay'Vion Wills Joseph Nelson

#### Active Floral Bearers A'Myrial Wills

Madison County High School - Class of 1999

#### REPAST

Architillery Missionary Baptist Church Dining Hall

THE FAMILY'S MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE
The Family of January mith, our "Troy", would like to express
our deepest appreciation and sincere gratitude to those who have offered prayers, support, and words of comfort during our time of bereavement. Thank you for your love and words of condolence, along with the strength of God, that helped us through these difficult days.

> May God continue to bless you! We take comfort in 1 Corinthians 2:9

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." -The Family

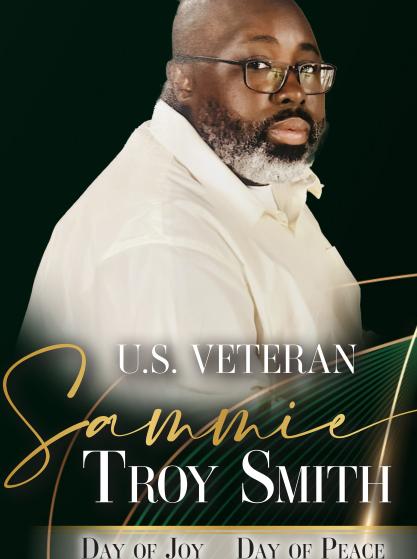
### EARTHLY BED OF SLUMBER WITH FULL U.S. NAVY HONORS

Monday, July 7, 2025 I 12:00 P.M. **Hymn I Committal I Final Presentation Tallahassee National Cemetery** 5015 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32311

Professional Services Entrusted To



# CELEBRATING THE LIFE, LOVE, & FAITH



DAY OF JOY August 12, 1980 June 22, 2025

> Celebrating His Life Saturday, July 5, 2025 11:00 Ante Meridiem

ARCHITILLERY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 7000 North State Road 53 Madison, Florida 32340

Rev. Robert Holmes, Pastor & Gracious Host Minister Courtney Straugher, Eulogist

J.P. Moore Undertaking Company, Directing

# LIFE STORY

U.S. Veteran
Sammie Troy Smith
August 12, 1980 – June 22, 2025

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save Whose arm hath bound the restless wave, Who bid'st the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep..." ~ The Navy Hymn

Petty Officer Second Class (PO2) Sammie Troy Smith, better known as "Troy" by his loved ones and close friends, was born on August 12, 1980, to Deloris Washington and Robert Robinson. He grew up in the Cherry Lake community of Madison, Florida, with his mother, siblings, and grandparents. He was a lifelong resident of Madison, Florida.

Troy's relationship with God further developed through his childhood Sunday School and worship experience at Architillery Missionary Baptist Church. It was there he professed his belief in Jesus Christ and vowed to keep Him first in his life.

Educated in the public school system of Madison County, Sammie was a 1999 graduate of Madison County High School. In 2016, he obtained his Associate of Science degree in Medical Administrative Assistance and Health Science from The Ultimate Medical Academy of Tampa. He then took advantage of other courses offered at North Florida College that allowed him to cross over from Corrections to Law Enforcement in 2022. He elected to also tap into other opportunities accessible to him.

Impressed with the Navy's motto "Non sibi sed patriae" which means "Not for self, but county," *Sammie* proudly enlisted in the United States Navy as a culinary specialist in 2001. He traveled to countless ports of call around the world and served his country with pride and distinction. PO2 Smith was honorably discharged for his admiral service in 2010.

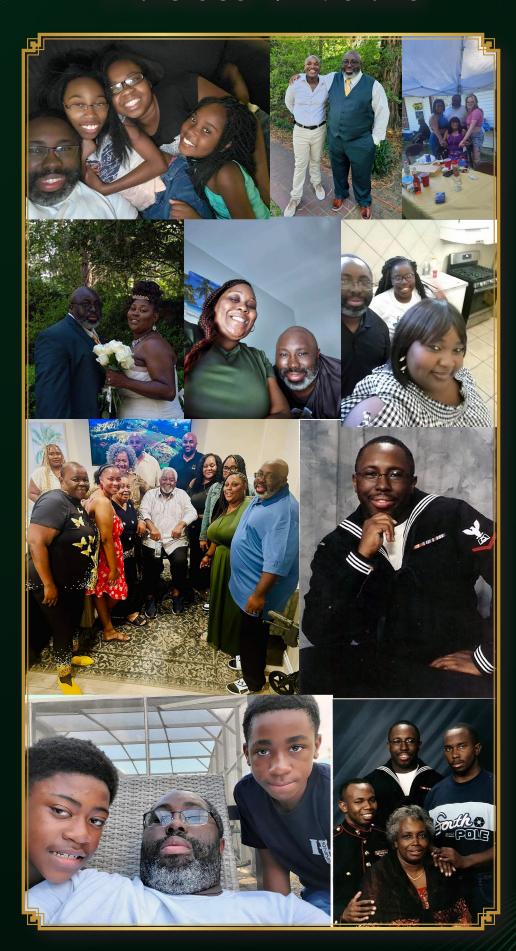
Troy's military training developed his passion for responsibly managing guns and for preparing mouthwatering dishes/meals. On the other hand, everyone anticipated his entertaining quick comebacks that kept their get togethers lively and fun.

Following his departure from the military, *Sammie* gained employment as a corrections officer. He later accepted a civil service position as a rural mail carrier for the United States Postal Service.

PO2 Sammie Troy Smith learned from his military experience that "the strongest storms make the best sailors" and he applied it to other aspects of his life. "Semper Fortis"- He courageously chose not to give up. God knew his heart but had a better plan for him. He chose Sunday, June 22, 2025, to call him to eternal active duty as a soldier - only this time, in the Army of the Lord. (Unfortunately, his transition occurred a day before his and Sheena's first wedding anniversary.)

"A limb has fallen from the family tree; I hear a voice that whispers, 'Grieve not for me; Remember the best times, the laughter, the songs; The good I lived while I was strong Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you; Keep on smiling, the sun will shine through. My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest; Remembering all...how I was truly blessed. Continue traditions, no matter how small; Go on with your lives, don't stare at the wall; I miss you all dearly so keep up your chin; Until that fine day we're together again."

# Precious Memories



The loved ones of PO2 Sammie Troy Smith who will cherish his precious memory until they meet again are his loving and devoted wife wife: Sheena Pree-Smith of Madison, FL; parents: Deloris Washington of Madison, FL and Robert Robinson of FL; children: Lillie Smith and Marje Page, both of Madison, FL and Christian Smith of Baltimore, MD; brothers: Stanley (Tracee) Tice of Valdosta, GA and Steven McGhee of Madison, FL; sisters: Amy Graham and LaQuesha Robinson, both of Madison, FL; motherin-love: Sandra Pettaway Griffin (Charles Robinson) of Monticello, FL; brothers-in-love: Donald Griffin of Reno, NV; Thurman Gaines, Michael (Nicole) Robinson, and Marcus Robinson, all of Carson, CA; sisters-in-love: Tanesha Robinson of Dallas, TX and Bertha Pettaway of Los Angeles, CA; aunts: Edith Nelson, Mildred Smith, and Remia (Van) Powell, all of Madison, FL; uncles: Alexander Washington of Lake City, FL and William (Carol) Gaines of Jacksonville, FL; Marine best friend/sister: Melinda Sweeney of VA; along with many other sorrowing relatives; comforting friends, and loving neighbors.

Loved ones who preceded PO2 Sammie Troy Smith in death were his grandparents: Alexander Washington, Lillie "Doll" Washington and Lena Neloms; uncles: Roosevelt Nelson, Sr. and Alvin Neloms; nephew: Stanley Tice, Jr. and niece: Aria Tice...... "Anchors Aweigh."

# THE Divine ORDER OF SERVICE

REFLECTIONS & TRIBUTES
(Two Minutes, Please)
As a Friend – Trina Pride
As a Nephew-In-Love – Tina Atkinson
As A Brother-In-Love – Donald Griffin
As Our Sibling – Stanley Tice
Amy Graham
LaQuesha Robinson

Steven McGhee

"Yet we have this assurance: Those who belong to God will live; their bodies will rise again! Those who sleep in the earth will rise up and sing for joy!" -Isaiah 26:19 KJV