



## Together Again

*A reunion occurred in Heaven this week  
Of the sweetest and most joyful kind  
As Dad's spirit moved beyond this Earth,  
Released from his mortal life.*

*And what a reunion it must have been!  
A joy beyond our conceiving,  
When Dad met Mom in Heaven again,  
Ending months of dignified grieving.*

*And we are certain Dad is still holding Mom's hand  
While she cherishes each moment by his side,  
And they're experiencing the joy of being together again,  
Catching up on the months they were denied.*

*We are confident they are also looking over us,  
Hoping this happiness will lessen our pain  
As we contemplate the joy that they finally feel  
Now that they are together again.*



## ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Brian Smith  
Felix Smith  
Kendrick Oliver  
Coleman Garrison  
Jeremy McKnight  
Darius Jones  
Dale Callahan

## FLORAL BEARERS

Family and Friends

## REPAST

Fellowship Hall

New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church

## THE FAMILY'S MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

*The family of **Russell "Sonny" Smith, Sr.** would like to  
thank everyone for their kind expressions. Your phone calls,  
visits, flowers, thoughts, and prayers have all helped greatly  
during our time of bereavement.*

*May God continue to bless each of you, is our prayer.*

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO



J.P. MOORE MORTUARY & CREMATION SERVICES  
Jamarien "JP" Moore, CFSP  
President | Mortician  
379 West Base Street, Madison, Florida 32340  
tel: 850.973.6677 | fax: 850.973.6676

[www.JPMooreMortuary.com](http://www.JPMooreMortuary.com)

"Spreading  
*Sunshine*  
at the Sunset of Life"

#TheMorticianWhoCaresMoore  
*Your Life Was A Blessing, Your Memory A Treasure*



**Russell  
SMITH, SR.**

SUNRISE  
April 10, 1945

SUNSET  
September 22, 2023

CELEBRATING HIS LIFE  
Saturday, September 30, 2023  
11:00 AM

NEW MT. ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
181 SE Williams Street  
Madison, Florida 32340

Reverend Alfred Colson Gracious Host  
Pastor Dallas Monismith, Eulogist  
Pastor, New Harmony United Methodist Church, Live Oak, Florida

J.P. Moore Undertaking Company, Directing

VICTORY

GO TEAM!

CHDOWN

TO



# LIFE STORY

**RUSSELL “SONNY” SMITH, SR.**

**1945 – 2023**

*“Father, I Stretch My Hands to Thee, No Other Help I Know”*

**Russell “Sunny” Smith, Sr.**, the son of Jim Smith and Mable Sims, began his life on April 10, 1945, in Oakville, Georgia. He received his education in the Worth County School System as well as the countless life lessons that prepared him for his future. Known as **“Sunny”**, he lived there with his family until he relocated to Madison, Florida, 56 years ago.

Preceding **Russell** in death were his loving wife of 54 years: Clandie Gervin Smith; son: Russell Smith, Jr.; parents: Jim Smith and Mable Sims; and brother: Robert Lee Trice.

During the years of his earthly life, **Russell Smith, Sr.** celebrated many joys, sorrows, and special occasions – accepting Christ at an early age, marriage, fatherhood, career, retirement, and grandparent. He demonstrated his faith daily by honoring the loving memory of his loved ones who quietly and unexpectedly transitioned from their labor to rest and in his interaction with others.

Following his extended career as a truck driver for Gold Kist (Pilgrim’s Pride) meat processing plant, **Russell** settled down to enjoy his retirement. He loved his cats, dogs, other pets, as well as fishing trips or just sitting in the yard enjoying the changes in the seasons/ nature itself. He really looked forward to being the #1 Seminole football fan. Likewise, he enjoyed the good times he spent with his family. He especially enjoyed his great-granddaddy duty, his being with the little ones at play, for he was their “Mrs. Doubtfire”, the best grandpa ever!

**Russell** had faith in knowing that the Lord had not forsaken him, but that he would meet his loved ones again one day. Therefore, on Friday, September 22, 2023, he surrendered to the Will of God and transitioned to his eternal home.

It is hard to forget someone who gave you so much to remember. The legacy of **Russell Smith, Sr.** lives on in the hearts of his sons: Brandon Smith and Brian Smith, both of Madison, FL; daughters: Lori Smith of Perry, FL, Kimika Smith of Tallahassee, FL, Deborah Sims of Lakewood, NJ, and Victoria Smith of Madison, FL; sisters: Lenola Corker, Jeanette (W.T.) Grant, Ernestine (William) Broughto, and Brenda (John) Shaw, all of Albany, GA; brothers: Jessie Smith and Curtis Smith, both of Atlanta, GA, Gregory D. Sims of Albany, GA, and Leroy Sims, of Sylvester, GA; sister-in-law: Annie Gervin of Madison, FL; brothers-in-law: Joseph (Lewanna) Gervin of Tallahassee, FL, Herman (Leatha) Gervin and Dwight S. Gervin, all of Madison, FL; eleven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and a host of other loving relatives and sorrowing friends.

# PRECIOUS MEMORIES



# THE DIVINE ORDER OF SERVICE

*“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.”*

MATTHEW 5:4

Prelude ..... The *J.P. Moore* Gospel Chorale & Band

Processional ..... Eulogist, Clergy, Mortician & Family

Parting Glance &  
Seating of the Family ..... The *J.P. Moore* Staff

The Prayer of Consolation ..... Pastor Barry G. Graham

Scripture Readings  
Old Testament ..... Evangelist Voncyle Givens Wilson  
New Testament ..... Pastor Barry G. Graham

Selection ..... The *J.P. Moore* Gospel Choir & Band

Family & Friends Reflections & Tributes, *Two Minutes, Please*  
As A Brother ..... Brother Herman Gervin  
As A Friend ..... Brother Leroy Sims

Acknowledgements & Resolutions ..... The J.P. Moore Staff

Selection ..... The *J.P. Moore* Gospel Chorale & Band

Words of Comfort ..... Pastor Dallas Monismith

Mortician’s Brief ..... Mr. Jamarien “J.P.” Moore, LFD, CFSP

Recessional ..... Clergy & Family

*“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.”*

PSALM 30:5

# EARTHLY BED OF SLUMBER

Hymn | Committal | Mortician’s Brief | Final Presentations

Oakridge No.2 Cemetery  
1376 SW County Road 360  
Madison, FL 32340