



## Clarence C. Smith

June 11, 1929 - January 29, 2004

Born June 11, 1929 in Baltimore, Maryland, Clarence Cornelius Smith, Sr. was the second son of the late Mary Elizabeth (nee Pratt) and Daniel Clifton Smith. Clarence began his formal education in the Baltimore City Public Schools and continued his quest for educational growth while serving in the United States Army. He was trained in several fields but most experienced in the area of payroll and finance. Clarence married his high school sweetheart, Dolores Shorter, in 1947. From this union, their children Lorna Artis, Clarence Jr. and Brad Courtney (who preceded him in death) were born. He obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant in the Army and served eleven years including a tour of duty in Alaska. After discharge from Oakland Army Base on November 9, 1965, he remained in Oakland, California. Although Dolores and Clarence divorced during his time in the Army, through the years he remained in contact with his entire family as well as friends. It was in Oakland in 1969 that he met his beloved Marva (nee Harvey) Washington. They united together for thirty-five years of devotion and commitment to one another and raised together Marva's (then nine-year old) son, Byron Keith Washington. During the forty-some years Clarence resided in San Francisco, he worked at a variety of jobs. He was employed with the United States Postal Service, then as a longshoreman and for twenty years, drove a taxi. In 1989, he joined Marva as an employee at the University of California San Francisco Hospital and medical Center. He worked in the Cell Culture Facility as a Laboratory Assistant/Driver for the next seven years retiring in 1996. He formed

wonderful friendships at UCSF that lasted throughout his retirement. Clarence was an ardent jazz fan, and avid sports fan, a voracious reader, a terrific history buff and a fabulous cook, he enjoyed potting and growing beautiful flowers and luscious foliage to adorn the apartment and balcony. He especially enjoyed vacations to the Nevada resort spas in Lake Tahoe, Reno and Las Vegas and the annual Jazz and Blues Festivals in Monterey, California. Loving, caring, giving are the words that describe Clarence best. He had a generosity of spirit that touched the very heart of all those he met and his life was enriched with the return of their love and generosity tenfold. On January 29, 2004, Clarence quietly slipped away. Clarence leaves to cherish wonderful memories: his adored wife, Marva; his beloved children, Lorna, Clarence, Jr. (Loretta) and Byron; five grandchildren, James W. Artis, Jr., Clarence C. Smith III, Troy Counts, Donna Jones (O. Malik) and Stacy Smith; four great grandchildren, Ricky Thompson-Artis, Malik and Myles Jones, and Domenic Smith; two sisters, Margaret Mears and Constance D. Higgins (his sister Floried Parks predeceased him); a brother, Daniel Clifton Smith; sisters-in-law, Phyllis Eley and Alice D. Smith; nieces, Tamara Brown, Joyce (George) Nelson, Jackie Nelson, Romaine (Luke) Durant, Jill Smith, Ellen Smith and Patricia Merritt; a nephew, Daniel Smith; and a host of other relatives and friends.

# Tribute Wall



“ Clarence C. Smith

March 25, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ Clarence C. Smith

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ Dearest Clarence,

*Today, June 11, 2010, I celebrate your 81st birthday anniversary. I miss you more today than yesterday but you are always in my heart. Happy Birthday Love.*

*Your adoring Marva*

Marva Washington-Smith - July 03, 2010 at 03:26 AM



“ Dear Clarence,

*Today, June 11, 2010, I celebrate your 81st birthday anniversary. I miss you more today than yesterday but you are always in my heart. Happy Birthday Love!*

*Your adoring Marva*

Marva Washington-Smith - July 03, 2010 at 03:21 AM



“ Dear Clarence, Today, 06/11/2006, would have been your 77th birthday! I always enjoyed planning your birthday celebration vacations. We highly anticipated these exotic extravaganzas and were never disappointed. I dearly cherish the wonderful memories we shared. So, Happy Birthday! Forever loving you and missing you. Marva###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My Dearest Clarence, As 2007 dawns, I reflect upon the wonderful times we shared over our 35 years together. You brought me so much joy and gave me the awesome gift of your unconditional love. I feel your presence with me always and I thank you for continuing to watch over and protect me. I will love you eternally. Yours adoringly, Marva###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy during your time of sorrow but know that the God of comfort is with you all during this time of tribulation. (2Corinthian 1:3-4) Due to the many unforeseen occurrences that brings tragedy to our lives Jehovah God promises one day soon Death will be no more (Rev 21:3-4) and his son have been given the authority to bring all those in the memorial tombs back to life. John 5:28-29 Just think there will come a time not only will death be no more but Jehovah promises that no one will have to say I'm sick according to Isaiah 33:24. I feel the need to express these words of hope because so many of us today treasure the gift of life and we do all we can to maintain it to hold on to it. That is why it hurts so badly when our loved ones die. With so many of us desiring life today no matter how good or bad it is we still want life here on earth. No one looks forward to that time of death. That is why I am under obligation by the spirit and love of God to share that hope that is in our near future that the righteous shall inherit the earth and reside upon it forever according to Psalms 37: 29 along with the above stated promises on a paradise and peaceful earth. We all can hold true to this everlasting promise because Isaiah 55:11 states all the words Jehovah have spoken WILL NOT RETURN WITHOUT RESULTS. What a wonderful prospect for our future especially enlight of the fact that Hebrews 6:18 States of God, it is IMPOSSIBLE for him to lie.##imported-begin##Carter##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Ruth##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Dear Clarence, A New Year dawns and life goes on but oh, how empty it is without you. Missing you and keeping you close with loving memories. Adoringly, Marva 12/31/2005.##imported-begin##Marva##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Remembered always, dear Clarence. Especially today, which would have been your 76th birthday. Precious memories flood my heart. You are forever loved and deeply missed. Your adoring Marva. 06/11/2005##imported-begin##Marva##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Dear Mrs. Smith and Family, please accept my sincere sympathy on the loss of your beloved husband and father. May it comfort you to know that the Bible gives us hope for the future of our dead loved ones. That hope is the resurrection as brought out in Acts 24:15. The God of love does not rob us of our dear ones. (Psalms 83:18) John 8:44 tells us who really is responsible for death. I hope you will consider these scriptures in your Bible and that they will bring you comfort and peace.##imported-begin##Gail Green##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Not a day goes by that you are not remembered, my dearest Clarence. I see you in the corners of my mind- Standing tall and proud with a trace of a smile from your nose to your eyes to the tips of your lips. I hear your voice in the breath of the wind, the pouring rain, the rolling seas; in the ocean's roar as it slaps against the rocks at the beach's edge to the distant shore. I feel your presence in the warmth of the rising sun and in the glow of it's setting; in the swirling fog in the coolness of the evening- engulfing, embracing, comforting me. Today, six long stem white roses protrude from a tall floral vase on your handmade bookcase in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of your birth. Today is a special remembrance with joy and tears of all the loving celebrations through the years. I reflect upon your strength and tenderness; I rejoice in knowing that our love is eternal! Your adoring Marva###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end###

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Ode to Smitty 3.5.2004 I met a Man, He lived next door. I met a Man, he said hello when I was opening my door. I met a Man, he brought fresh Egg Nog. I drank it in the evening while I watched the fog. I met a Man, He was always friendly and cool with a smile. Sometimes we would hang out and talk a while. I met a Man, He spoke of his wife. He said she was the light of his life. I met a Man, He told me his days were smooth as a line. Whenever I got jealous, he would say, soon it will be your time. I met a Man, He lived next door. I met a Man, he said hello when I was opening my door. By T Tymstone###imported-begin###Thomas/ Herschell###imported-end###

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ I was very sorry to hear of your loss. I saw the grief in your eyes, and I realized how important this man was to you. I wish you the best, and I know you will emerge as a stronger and better person.##imported-begin##Craig Yonemura##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ I enjoyed knowing Smitty. He and Marva gave me a lift to UCSF Medical Center a lot of times.##imported-begin##Claudette Parrish##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Marva, please know that you, as well as Smitty's entire family, are in my thoughts and prayers. I loved Smitty, and will miss him always. I love you.##imported-begin##Stephanie Y. Coleman##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Smitty has been a much-loved member of his California family for many years. We treasure the bounty of beautiful memories of family gatherings, picnics and celebrations. We always enjoyed Smitty...and his culinary specialties. His quiet, caring presence will be sorely missed. Marva, and all of the family, our prayer is that God may comfort your hearts and draw you closer to Himself during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Rich and Jerri Coleman##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Marva, we are so thankful for the times that we were able to spend with you and Smitty. The memories will always be there as will our prayers.##imported-begin##Oscar & Emily McGuire##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Marva and the Smith family.##imported-begin##Richard Turk##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My big Brother##imported-begin##V. Margo Davis-Bell##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ I shall always remember Smitty as a gentle man and a gentleman. He was a joy to know. My deepest sympathy to Marva and the Smith family.##imported-begin##Carol Brito##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ God keep you in this time of sorrow. Please know that God makes no mistakes and He hears your prayers. In His Love, Debra (Debbie)##imported-begin##Debra Onyemelukwe (Lopez)##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Ron and I send our sympathy to Marva and the Smith family.##imported-begin##Gloria Bell##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Aunt Marva my prayers go out to you and Smitty's family. Although I never met Smitty's family I know this is a difficult time for them. I pray that God will comfort you and his family during this time. God Bless You Trina##imported-begin##Trina Myles##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Smitty was a great man; you could tell by his kind and gentle manner and the smile he put on Marva's face; and they way he said "Take care of her" (about Marva) whenever he darted off some place in a hurry. His loss is immeasurable. Our thoughts are with you. Love, David##imported-begin##David Ball##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Hi Marva, hope all is well. I really miss you. Give my love to all of Smitty's family. Call me when you get home. Love you Linda##imported-begin##Linda Harvey##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Marva, So sorry we cannot be with you in flesh, but we are in spirit. We Love You##imported-begin##Corinda and Miss Ida##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you through this difficult time of your grief. God bless.##imported-begin##James&Rose Wilson##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Dwight and I send our deepest sympathy to you and your family at this difficult time. We will keep you in our prayers.##imported-begin##Darleen Thomas##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ I feel privileged to have known Clarence and have worked with him. He was a true friend and a great gentleman. May he rest in peace and may The Lord grant peace and comfort to his family. With deepest sympathy, Nancy Daniallinia##imported-begin##Nancy Daniallinia##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Dear Clarence, Today is your 78th birthday anniversary- Happy Birthday!! I can't begin to tell you how much I miss sharing my life with you. I cherish each and every memory of you. Your smile still lights up my life. You are truly missed, loved always, cherished for life, never forgotten. My love for you is boundless and eternal. Your adoring Marva 06/11/2007.##imported-begin##Marva##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *My Dearest Clarence, Another year has passed and I miss you even more today than I did yesterday. I will always cherish the beautiful times we shared. You made an inspiring impact on so many lives you touched and I am forever blessed with loving memories of you. You will be in my heart forever! Your adoring Marva 12/31/2007###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end##*

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *Dearest Clarence, Today, June 11, 2008 would be your 79th birthday. Happy Birthday! Your smile is always in my memory and your love always in my heart. Love forever and always. Marva###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end##*

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *Dearest Clarence, As 2009 approaches, I'm reminded of how precious was our time together. I'm so happy we didn't squander one moment. I hold dear so many treasured memories of the lasting love we shared, the easy laughter exchanged, the long walks and even longer conversations and the many fabulous meals you so lovingly prepared to share with family and friends. These memories fill my treasure trove and keep you in my heart forevermore. Your adoring Marva###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end##*

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *My Dear Clarence, Always, when I think of you I smile... I am warmed by the memories of the days you filled with your laughter, your wit and your love. You made my life complete. Today, I smile because it is your 80th birthday anniversary and I'm recalling many favorite memories of past birthday celebrations in Las Vegas, Reno and at Lake Tahoe. I will miss you always but I will always remember the wonderful life we shared. Happy Birthday my love. Forever yours, Marva*###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *Dearest Clarence, New Year 2010. I welcome it in alone. How I miss celebrating the arriving New Year with you. I will set new goals and focus on what must be done but through it all I miss the life and love we shared-our quiet talks, our lengthy walks, the wonderful meals you prepared and shared. But you are in my heart always. I have my wonderful memories of you that keep me warm and our love everlasting. Your adoring Marva*###imported-begin###Marva###imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM