

Floral Bearers
Granddaughters and Nieces

Pall Bearers
Grandsons and Nephews

Acknowledgments

We would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to our many friends, extended family and church families for your many comforting acts of kindness and sympathy shown during our bereavement. We would like to thank Rev. Peay and Fairview AME Zion Church, Rev. Jamaal Edwards and Shiloh Baptist Church, Rev. Roger Fuller and Zion Hill Baptist Church, Rev. James Smith and Palmer Grove Baptist Church, Rev. J. Martin Boulter and Red Oak AME Zion Church, Metropolitan AME Zion Church, Presiding Elder Dr. Victor Wilson of the Spartanburg District, Missionary Supervisor Dr. Gwendolyn Brumfield of the South Atlantic Episcopal District, Bishop Bonnie Hines, Presiding Prelate of the South Atlantic Episcopal District, and supporting Clergy. We would also like to thank White Oak Manor of Shelby, NC, the Camp Family, Bishop James Wiley, Mr. Vincent Hambright, Mr. Earl Vernon, Mr. Michael Logan, Mr. Tyson Willis, and all of our family and friends.

The Family of Mrs. Earlene Smith Baxter



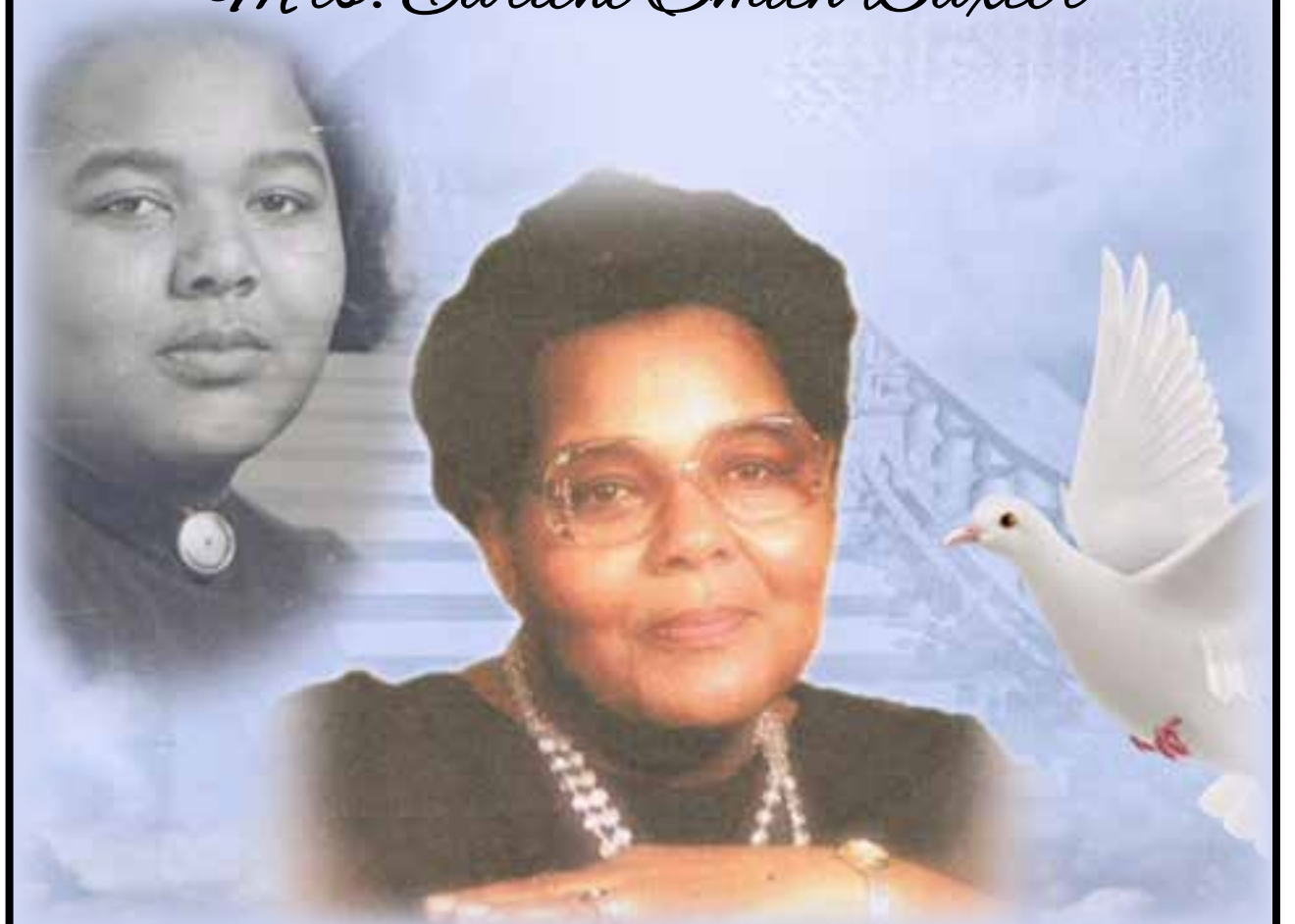
Enloe Mortuary
“Sympathetic and Efficient Service Since 1922”
231 North Lafayette Street
Shelby, NC 28150

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(704) 487-9598

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(704) 487-1504

Celebrating the Life and Legacy of
Mrs. Earlene Smith Baxter



“Baby this is your world, I’m just living in it.” -Mrs. Earlene S. Baxter

Sunrise: April 2, 1940 – Sunset: July 12, 2020

Friday, July 17, 2020

Visitation: 2:30pm

Service: 3:00pm

Fairview AME Zion Church
2733 Spring Tree Ct, Earl, NC 28038
Reverend Jesse Peay, Pastor & Officiating

Metropolitan AME Zion Church
317 Dean Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302
Reverend Gary W. Smith, Pastor & Eulogist

Shiloh Baptist Church
914 Frederick Street, Shelby, NC 28150
Reverend Jamaal Edwards, Host Pastor



REFLECTIONS



Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn.....“Holy Spirit”.....Camp Family

Scripture Reading

Old Testament.....Elder Quintarro Smith
Greater Hope Ministries, Gaffney, SC

New Testament.....Apostle Preston Dean Smith, Senior Pastor
Greater Works Deliverance Ministries, Lincolton, NC

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Marion Jones

Musical Selection.....“You Were with Me”.....Camp Family

Remarks (2 mins).....Mr. Carlton Smith & Mr. Omar Smith
Nieces and Nephews
Mrs. Allisha Winslow & Ms. Aftan Smith
Grandchildren
Mr. Ernest Baxter & Adrienne Boykins
Children
Leading Lady Norma Borders
Faith Harvest Church, Shelby, NC
Rev. James L. Smith, M. Div., Pastor
Palmer Grove Baptist Church, Kingstown, NC

Musical Selection.....“I’m A Soldier”.....Rev. Marion Jones

Acknowledgments.....Elder Quintarro Smith
Greater Hope Ministries, Gaffney, SC

Resolution

Silent Reading of the Obituary

Special Musical Tribute.....Children and Grandchildren

Words of Comfort.....Rev. Gary W. Smith, Pastor
Metropolitan AME Zion Church, Spartanburg, SC

Farwell Song.....“Sending Up My Timber”.....

Recessional

Interment
Fairview AME Zion Church
2733 Spring Tree Ct, Earl, NC 28038

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Weep Not For Me

Weep not for me though I have gone into that gentle night.

Grieve if you will, but not for long.

Upon my soul's sweet flight.

I am at peace, my soul's at rest.

There is no need for tears.

For with your love I was so blessed.

For all those many years.

There is no pain, I suffer not.

The fear is now all gone.

Put now these things out of your thoughts

In your memory I live on.

Remember not my fight for breath

Remember not the strife.

Please do not dwell upon my death.

But celebrate my life.

Obituary

Mrs. Earlene Smith Baxter departed from this life to be with her Lord and Savior on July 12, 2020. She was born in Cleveland County on April 2, 1940, to the late Hezekiah Smith and Phebbie Lockhart Smith. She was the eleventh out of twelve children, and was raised in Shelby, NC.

Mrs. Baxter graduated from Camp High School, Shelby, NC, after which she worked for the PNG Chair Company in Hickory, NC for 15 years. She was a home-maker for 25 years, and went on to work in Child Nutrition Services for Shelby City Schools for 15 years, where she retired. Mrs. Baxter was a caring and loving woman of God who not only cared for her own children, but opened up her heart and home to others. She was a foster parent from 1987 – 2004 where she had the privilege of caring for 32 children.

Mrs. Baxter was a long-time, committed and dedicated member of Fairview AME Zion Church where she served in the Missionary Society. She also served as the President of the Christian Education Department, the Goode Choir, the Mass Choir and the Senior Choir, and she served as the Vice President of the Spiritual Choir. Additionally, she sang on the Hymn choir, was a class leader.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Mr. Ernest Lee Baxter, who affectionately called her “Bae-Bae”; one son, Thomas Lamar Smith of Shelby, NC; her brothers, Ulysses Smith of Shelby, NC, Odis C. Smith of Asheville, NC, Hezekiah Smith, Jr. of Blacksburg, SC, John Lee Smith, Shelby, NC, and R. L. Smith of Lincolnton, NC; sisters, Lowren Smith, Rose Lee Smith Woods, Pansy Lee Smith and Lucile Smith, all of Shelby, NC.

She leaves to cherish her memory, seven children, Cindy Smith of Shelby, NC, Jo Marie Smith of Shelby, NC, Rev. Gary W. Smith (Rev. Patty) of Shelby, NC, Zilla Parks (Ricky) of Shelby, NC, Ernest Baxter (Angela) of Rock Hill, SC, Pansy Davidson (Eddie) of Shelby, NC, and Adrienne Boykins (Ervin) of Shelby, NC. She is also survived by one brother, Bobby Joe Smith (Mary) of Lincolnton, NC, and one sister Myrtle Ellis of Shelby, NC; a God-sister, Ms. Flonnie Davis of Edgemore, SC; 3 special children reared in the home, Kim Jefferies, Brenda Petty and Crystal Wilson; 17 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.