



Pallbearers
Family & Friends

Flower Bearers
Family & Friends



Acknowledgement

The family of the late Mr. Avery Smith wishes to express our sincere thanks to each of you for your sympathy and all acts of kindness that you shared with us during our hours of bereavement. May God bless each of you.

-The Smith Family

Arrangements Entrusted to:

Simmons Funeral Home and Crematory of Orangeburg
Simmons Funeral Home of Santee
Paul A. Simmons, Founder and President
 2868 Columbia Road, Orangeburg, SC 29118
 803-534-2646
 8824 Old #6 Highway, Santee, SC 29142
 (803) 854-2044
www.simmmonsfuneralhome.com

A Celebration of Life for
AVERY JACQUES "AJ"
SMITH

SEPTEMBER 5, 1980 – FEBRUARY 20, 2023



Celebration of Life

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023
11:00 A.M.

Simmons Funeral Home & Crematory Chapel
 2868 Columbia Road
 Orangeburg, SC 29118

MINISTER MERVIN RYANT, OFFICIATING

Order of Service

PASTOR JOHNATHAN MINTZ, PRESIDING

Prelude

Processional/Final Viewing Clergy and Family

Hymn of Praise

Scriptures

Old Testament– Psalm 91:1-16 .. Evangelist Constance Mays
New Testament– Romans 5:1-6Pastor Johnathan Mintz

Prayer of ComfortBishop LeBron Sellers

Solo Rev. Dr. Sarah Priester
“Goodness of God”

AcknowledgementsSister Minnie Brothers

SoloPorcher Coulter
“I know I’ve Been Changed”

Reflections Sister Cynthia Seawright
Derrick Richards
Jarret Hill

Solo Sister Cynthia Seawright
“There’s a Dream”

Words of Comfort.....Minister Mervin Ryant

Prayer, Committal & Benediction

Recessional



Repast

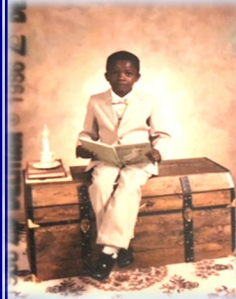
Sharon Stevens (Maternal Aunt)
245 Pinehill Road
Orangeburg, SC 29115
803-664-2122

Interment

Belleville Memorial Gardens
Orangeburg, SC

Reflections of Life

Avery Jacques “AJ”



Smith, 42, passed away on Monday, February 20, 2023, at home in Orangeburg, SC after an extended illness. AJ was born September 5, 1980, in Orangeburg, SC to Jacob Smith and Cynthia Hallinquest Smith. He was the great grandson of the late Lizzie Mae Keitt. He was the grandson of the late Jay Smith and Pansy Smith as well as Flossie Mae Hallinquest and the late James W. Hallinquest, Jr.

He attended Mount Calvary Church of God in Orangeburg, SC. While on the Youth Choir, he frequently led the song, “Nothing but the Righteous.” AJ accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and became an active member of Gethsemane Church of God, where his parents serve as Pastor and First Lady. While there, AJ led the Boys Club, served as an usher, and played the drums.

AJ attended public school in Orangeburg Consolidated School District 5. In his spare time, he liked to fish, hunt, watch movies, listen to music, sing, laugh and crack jokes. He had a calm, easy-going demeanor. His favorite color was blue.

He enjoyed participating in the Boys Club at Rivelon Elementary School, led by the late Principal Thomas Eklund. AJ had a love for basketball and football, and he played these sports from elementary school throughout high school with his best friend and younger brother, Jason Duwayne Smith. Over the years, AJ met students and teammates who served as lifelong friends. He also had a high school job as a cook at Central Park. AJ graduated with his high school diploma from Orangeburg-Wilkinson (OW) High School on May 29, 1999.

Reflections of Life

Upon graduation from high school, AJ was accepted at an Historically Black College and University (HBCU), South Carolina State University (SCSU). He majored in Criminal Justice and aspired to become a private detective. He participated in a state internship with his older sister in the Investigations Department at Carowinds, where he watched surveillance footage, went undercover to investigate employees of theft and other crimes, and patrolled the park to provide security. He also interned with a private detective, James Gordon, at Gordon’s Investigation and Bail Bond Company in Orangeburg, SC. AJ was also a student athlete. He played football for SCSU in the position of Safety as well as on Special Teams. AJ met the love of his life and wife, Anna Jackson Smith, while in college in September of 2003. AJ graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in December of 2003.

AJ started his career with the family business, Edisto Flowers and Plants and Husqvarna with his mother and brother. He later left Husqvarna to work full-time for the family business.

AJ married the love of his life, Anna Jackson Smith on September 26, 2009. After 1 year of marital bliss, AJ was extremely excited to announce to his mother that he and Anna were expecting a child. AJ and Anna welcomed their precious daughter, Savannah Aniya Smith on June 22, 2011. AJ enjoyed watching movies with Savannah and hearing about her daily adventures at school.

AJ’s legacy, laughter, and love will forever dwell in the hearts of his wife, Anna Jackson Smith, his daughter, Savannah Aniya Smith, of the home, his mother, Cynthia Hallinquest Smith, his father, Jacob Smith, his older brother, Jermaine Thomas, Texas, his older sister, Shantay Smith (Samuel) Evans, Marietta, GA, younger brother, Jason Duwayne (Veronica) Smith, uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, and many, many cousins, teammates and friends.