



## Mrs. Ella Willesta Smith

May 22, 1928 - January 12, 2024

### In Loving Memory Of

Ella W. Smith was born May 22, 1928 in Dublin, Georgia to Eula Mae Smith who preceded her in death. She attended Valdosta Church School in Georgia until they moved to Coconut Grove, Miami at the age of 9 years old. Soon after Ella and her soon to be husband along with 2 friends left for Detroit, MI after a short stay in Gould, Florida.

Ella later joined Greater Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Southwest Detroit, MI. She was a joyous member for numerous years and loved by countless people in the congregation. She was affectionately known as Bigma to everyone and welcomed them all with open arms.

Ella worked as a housekeeper for a few years and later founded a cab company where she worked for more than 30 years until her retirement, making new friends and developing relationships along the way. Ella had many hobbies and pastimes that everyone knew her for. She loved traveling across the country in her mobile home, fishing, and singing in the choir. It also wasn't uncommon to find her tending to her beloved garden. Arguably however, Ella just being Bigma, was her best talent to date.

Ella departed this realm of life Friday, January 12, 2024.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

Wednesday, Jan. **24.** 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home  
17600 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 838-9770  
info@pyefuneralhome.com

## Family Hour

Thursday, Jan. **25.** 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home  
17600 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 838-9770  
info@pyefuneralhome.com

## Celebration of Life

Thursday, Jan. **25.** 3:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home  
17600 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 838-9770  
info@pyefuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall

SM

“ *Shella McDonald lit a candle in memory of Ella Smith* ”

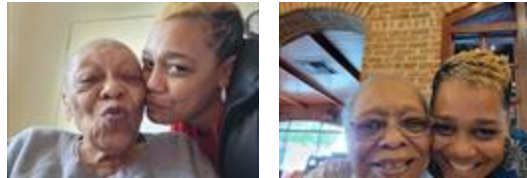


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**Shella McDonald** - January 24, 2024 at 05:36 PM

JS

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall* ”



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**JoNetta Smith** - January 22, 2024 at 11:51 AM

JS

“ *JoNetta Smith lit a candle in memory of Ella Smith* ”



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**JoNetta Smith** - January 22, 2024 at 11:48 AM