



## Mr. Daniel Smith Jr.

April 8, 1949 - January 26, 2023

Mr. Daniel Smith, Jr, 73, transitioned from this life to his heavenly home at 12:25 am on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at UnityPoint Health Methodist Hospital.

Daniel was born on April 8, 1949 in Sidon, MS to Daniel and Nora (Kyles) Smith. He married Denise Proctor in 1998 in Peoria, IL.

Daniel worked at Caterpillar, Inc. as a floor leader and supervisor, retiring after 40 years of service. After retirement, he worked part-time for Central Illinois Agency On Aging, Inc.

Daniel moved to Peoria in 1963. He was a 1968 Manual "Ram" High School graduate where he was a member of the basketball team. Daniel went to Illinois Central College, East Peoria, IL and University of Illinois, Champaign, IL. He earned his Bachelors Degree in Business Administration at Robert Morris College.

Daniel was a member of Morning Star M.B. Church under the leadership of Pastor Calvin Hightower, Sr. where he served as a Deacon since 1986, Sunday School Teacher and many other positions within the church. He also served in the Missionary Baptist District Association, the Baptist General State Convention of Illinois, State Laymen President for seven years and the

Laymen Ministry of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Daniel liked walking his dog, watching boxing and basketball on TV. He was a U of I Fighting Illini and Chicago Bulls Basketball fan.

Daniel leaves to cherish his most precious memories his wife, Denise Smith; five daughters, Darlene "DeeDee" Smith and Desiree Morris both of Peoria, IL, Danielle (Marty) Davis of Woodstock, GA, Dana (Bobby) Tavares of Philadelphia, PA and Taylor Smith of Memphis, TN; three sons, Justin Smith of Peoria, IL; Willam Morris, Jr. of Maui, HI and D'Andre Lewis of Peoria, IL; six sisters, Kattie Lee, Sally Williams and Maxine Jones both of Peoria, IL, Janet Gray, Denise Smith and Dorothy (Walter) James all of Boston, MA; ten grandchildren, Lonnie, Aaron, Darious, Chatavia, Aerial, Destanee, Erin, Nadia, Landon and Lewis two great grandchildren and host of other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. He is preceded by his parents and two brothers.

Funeral services will be held at 10 am on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at New Morning Star M.B. Church with a visitation one-hour prior at 9 am. Pastor Cleveland Thomas, Sr. will officiate. Daniel will be entombed at Swan Lake Mausoleum.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](https://www.SimonsMortuary.com).

The service will be live streamed on Simons Mortuary's Website or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Simons-Mortuary-232095303487150> promptly AT THE TIME OF THE SERVICE (Central Time). Due to Covid-19, social distancing is encouraged to be consistent with recommendations from the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA), funeral home directors have been instructed and should follow CDC guidelines on gatherings,

including those directly related to funerals, visitations, or graveside services.

\*In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we ask that everyone in attendance: wear a face mask and refrain from hugging, kissing and shaking hands (as hard as it is to see someone you care about and not touch them).

\*It is our responsibility as Funeral Directors, to do everything we can to advise families in order to honor our beloved Families and to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

# Cemetery Details

## Swan Lake Mausoleum

4601 W War Memorial Dr  
Peoria, IL 61614

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 4. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
413 W. John H. Gwynn Jr. Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Celebration of Life

FEB 4. 10:00 AM - 11:25 AM (CT)

New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
413 W. John H. Gwynn Jr. Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr.*



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**Simons Mortuary** - February 06, 2023 at 12:14 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr.*



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**Simons Mortuary** - February 03, 2023 at 01:35 PM

SH

“ *To the Smith family and friends, I send my deepest condolences. Losing a loved one is not easy. Trust and continue to lean on Jesus as you go thru these dark days. Sending love from across the miles.*  
*Shirley Hobson Hinton*



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**Shirley Hinton** - March 16, 2023 at 11:01 PM

KC

“ *Kathy Collins lit a candle in memory of Daniel Smith*



Kathy Collins - February 13, 2023 at 01:56 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Burial at Swan Lake Mausoleum*



Simons Mortuary - February 06, 2023 at 12:16 PM

AM

“ *May the Peace and Comfort that only God gives be with this family and friends during this time of sorrow.*

Anna Marks - February 04, 2023 at 07:16 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr..*



February 03, 2023 at 12:36 PM

JJ

“ Sending Condolences to the Smith Family from the Byrds and the Faulkners Family, may you Rest in Heaven my longtime friend, you will never be Forgotten, as we grew up in Peoria, Dan Dan the Popcorn man, Rest On Big Brother, 🙏❤️❤️❤�🙏

Jesse L.Byrd Jr. - February 03, 2023 at 09:24 AM

VA

“ Vonnie Robert Adell lit a candle in memory of Daniel Smith



Vonnie & Robert Adell - February 02, 2023 at 04:02 PM

CI

“ Central Agency on Aging, Inc. lit a candle in memory of Daniel Smith



Central Illinois Agency on Aging, Inc. - February 02, 2023 at 02:50 PM

MR

“ Mattie Risby sent a virtual gift in memory of Daniel Smith



Mattie Risby - February 02, 2023 at 01:42 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr..*



February 02, 2023 at 01:19 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr..*



February 02, 2023 at 12:40 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr..*



February 01, 2023 at 10:25 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr..*



February 01, 2023 at 07:17 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Daniel Smith Jr..*



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February 01, 2023 at 07:10 PM



“ *My condolences to my nieces and the rest of the family! Dan was my first brother in-law. He always called me Big Red, never by my given name. I remember baby sitting Dee Dee and Danielle when I was a little girl. He also took me to get my drivers license when I was in high school! I thought that was the coolest thing. I have lots of memories of him but these two stood out as favorites of mine. Dan may you rest in Peace!*



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**Sharon Rudd-Collins** - February 01, 2023 at 06:38 PM



*Virgil and Barbara Gordon...  
Dan was a very active servant of God. He was present at many church functions that called for the men to represent. Dan always had a welcome smile and time for a fellowship about God's goodness. May God's love, peace and joy in the Lord continue to sustain the family.*

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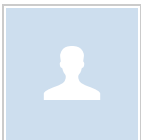
**Barbara Gordon** - February 04, 2023 at 01:40 AM



*May God bless the entire Smith Family! Dan I will always remember your smile! May you rest on Brother N Law 🙏🙏🙏*

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**Pamela Rudd Washington** - February 05, 2023 at 12:07 AM



“ *Mr. Daniel Smith Jr.*

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January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mr. Daniel Smith Jr.*

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *My heartfelt condolences to Deacon Daniel Smith's family. I want to thank God for allowing me to cross pass with Deacon Smith's life. We travel many miles together around these United States as we attended local, state, and national conventions for the Laymen Ministries. I learned leadership from a man of character, integrity, and most of all a man of God. To his family, I say be proud of your dad, hold fast to your faith and keep God first in your life. With love and sympathy, blessings always. Deacon Willie Newman and Family*

**Willie Newman** - January 28, 2023 at 10:30 AM



“ *Deacon and Joanne Thomas lit a candle in memory of Daniel Smith*



**Deacon Willie and Joanne Thomas** - January 28, 2023 at 10:14 AM

DC

“ My friend and co-laborer for God has transitioned from Earth 🌍 to Glory. He was faithful to the Prison Ministry I was blessed to lead and still do at Illinois River Correctional Center in Canton. Twice every month, for over 10 years. He never missed. He truly understood that all sinners lay bare at the foot of the cross. I was and am honored to call him my brother, mentor and friend. Minister Donald Cummings.

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**Donald Cummings** - January 27, 2023 at 11:25 PM

PH

“ Phillip Hickman lit a candle in memory of Daniel Smith



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**Phillip Hickman** - January 27, 2023 at 08:03 AM

MC

“ Sorry to hear about the passing of my LAYMEN BROTHER.... He will be missed, but never forgotten 🙏 We will be speaking words of PEACE and COMFORT over his family 🙏 ..... RIHP MY BROTHER

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**Ministers Robert and Irma Costic** - January 26, 2023 at 09:30 PM