



Mr. Merian "Jack" Leroy Smith

December 2, 2006 - November 9, 2022

Mr. Merian "Jack" Leroy Smith, age 15, of Peoria, IL, passed away at 10:11 am on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center. Merian was born on December 2, 2006 in Peoria, Illinois. His mother is Mable (King) Ross and his biological parents are Anita Brewer and Adrian Burnside, Sr.

Merian was a sophomore at Peoria Central High School where he was a member of the Central Lions Football team. He attended Trewyn Primary School where he participated in the Horseback Riding Program and Sterling Middle School.

Merian was a hard worker. He cut grass, shoveled snow and helped neighbors in the community. He was kind hearted, friendly to everyone, loved kids and his dog Myron. Merian was a member of Rising Sun Christian Church under the leadership of Pastor John Gibson, where he served as a Praise Dancer and in the Men's Choir.

Merian leaves to cherish his most precious memories, his mother, Mable Ross; his biological parents, Anita Brewer and Adrian (Bibiana) Burnside, Sr. all of Peoria, IL; ten brothers, Tavier Smith, Rodney Smith, Tramerreon Blake, Aubrian Fisher, Arian Fisher, A'King Fisher, AnDre Fisher, Abri Fisher and Adrian Angelo Burnside all of Peoria, IL and Adrian Burnside, Jr. of Atlanta, GA; nine sisters, Jerri Smith, AniShaun Smith, A'Blessin Fisher, A'Treasure Fisher, A'Royalty Fisher, Amilianna Burnside, Adrianna Burnside and Adria Burnside all of Peoria, IL and Shellie (Roger) Brown of Bartonville, IL;

grandparents, Harold "PaPa" (Denise) Smith, Sheilia (Robert) Bryant, Jimmy (Tangie) Burnside and Michael Statam all of Peoria, IL and a host of nieces, nephews other family and friends who loved him. He is preceded in death by his father, LC Ross, grandmother, Venita "CoCo" Statam and his dog, Myron. Funeral services will be held at 10 am on Saturday, November 19, 2022 at Sovereign Grace M.B. Church with a visitation beginning one hour prior at 9 am. Pastor Alvin Riley, Sr. will officiate. Merian will be laid to rest at Lutheran Cemetery.

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

Lutheran Cemetery

914 S Pleasant St
Peoria, IL 61604-5954

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 19. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Sovereign Grace M.B. Church
1505 W. Martin Street
Peoria, IL 61605

Celebration of Life

NOV 19. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Sovereign Grace M.B. Church
1505 W. Martin Street
Peoria, IL 61605

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Merian "Jack" Leroy Smith*



Simons Mortuary - November 22, 2022 at 03:43 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Merian "Jack" Leroy Smith*



Simons Mortuary - November 18, 2022 at 11:17 AM

DH

Praying for the family keep your trust in the Lord Humes Family

Delores Humes - November 18, 2022 at 07:41 PM



“ *Mr. Merian "Jack" Leroy Smith*

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mr. Merian "Jack" Leroy Smith*

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Merian Smith Burial at Lutheran Cemetery*



Simons Mortuary - November 22, 2022 at 03:43 PM

AB

My name is A'blessin I'm 8 Jack leroy smith is my brother I'm so sad 🥹 he died

Ablessin - February 16 at 02:44 AM

MB

“ *Mildred Baldon lit a candle in memory of Merian "Jack" Smith*



Mildred Baldon - November 19, 2022 at 04:05 PM

R?

“ *Rena & Family 💎💎💎💎 lit a candle in memory of Merian "Jack" Smith*



Rena Webster-Horton & Family 🕯️ - November 19, 2022 at 08:20 AM

TS

“ Nice young man.. full of joy and laughter always was making others smile and making the day brighter.. Condolences to the family.. He will be missed but never forgotten.. He will always Shine.. Shiny and Bright.. God's Angel ❤️

Tanisha Sanders - November 18, 2022 at 08:47 PM

TS

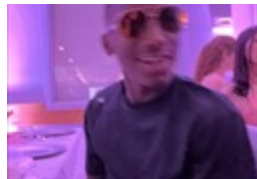
“ Tanisha Sanders lit a candle in memory of Merian "Jack" Smith



Tanisha Sanders - November 18, 2022 at 08:39 PM

NC

“ rip jack 🙏😞



Nayeli Casimiro - November 18, 2022 at 05:59 PM

AL

“ Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Merian "Jack" Smith



Annette Lucy - November 17, 2022 at 06:58 AM

JB

“ JJ was my student in 6th and 7th grade. I was substitute teacher at Sterling Middle School. He was my light in the classroom. Very respectful young man whose light was put out too soon. He was one of those students that left a positive impression on me. He adored his teachers and principals at Sterling. He was a fixture in the office in a good way. When I first met him, I was calling attendance roll and called him Marien. He quickly corrected me. I didn't make that mistake again. I missed my end of day hugs by him. We loved JJ and will miss him. Rest in Peace beautiful soul.

JANICE BUSH - November 16, 2022 at 06:23 PM

MR

“ Mattie Risby sent a virtual gift in memory of Merian "Jack" Smith



Mattie Risby - November 16, 2022 at 04:25 PM

PH

“ Phillip Hickman lit a candle in memory of Merian "Jack" Smith



Phillip Hickman - November 16, 2022 at 09:48 AM

LF

“ Jack was only a handful of years younger than me but i've never met such a well put together high schooler. He was always so kind and respectful. So smart and talented. I know he loved his siblings and family with his whole heart because he sure showed it! He could change your mood from bad to good within seconds without even trying because that's just who he is.

Lauryn Fletcher - November 16, 2022 at 07:25 AM

ZB

“ Zerlyna Burse-Taylor lit a candle in memory of Merian "Jack" Smith



Zerlyna Burse-Taylor - November 15, 2022 at 10:14 PM

TI

“ I love u nephew. God got u now. Muah



Tisha - November 15, 2022 at 08:37 PM