



## Roosevelt Dwight Smith

March 1, 1958 - March 25, 2021

Roosevelt Dwight Smith was born on March 1, 1958 in Murfreesboro, TN to the union of Roosevelt and Emma Smith. Roosevelt was the youngest of three children. As an Air Force brat, Roosevelt moved around often as a child – living in Washington, D.C., Springfield, MA, Holyoke, MA, Fort Worth, TX, and finally landing in Detroit, MI in 1968. Roosevelt graduated from Cass Technical High School in Detroit, MI, where he met the love of his life, Diane Powell. Upon graduation, he attended the University of Michigan on a full athletic scholarship for football.

Roosevelt began his walk with Christ at an early age and was baptized in 1969. Throughout life he continued to worship in the church and spent time serving in multiple ministries. His passion for Christ continued throughout his life and eventually grew from developing his relationship with God, to leading his family closer to God as well.

In 1982, Roosevelt and Diane married. To this union, two amazingly beautiful, smart, and talented girls were born – his words, not ours lol. Roosevelt and Diane made sure their girls, Stefanie and Stacie, had the best in life. His daughters had full confidence that they were his number one, unless of course there was a conflict with his first number one, Diane. He prayed daily for his family and always reminded them that they were blessed, highly favored, anointed to prosper, and had favor with everyone they came in contact with, in

Jesus's name.

Roosevelt became known as Rosie in Fort Worth, TX. It was at this point when it started becoming apparent that Rosie Smith excelled in everything he did. Having begun playing football, it was clear early on that Roosevelt's athletic abilities were stellar. From track to swimming to baseball, Roosevelt stood out as a champion. After a successful football career at the University of Michigan, he went on to play professionally for the Dallas Cowboys and Denver Broncos. After time in the NFL, Roosevelt had a phenomenal career in corporate sales. For multiple years Roosevelt was number one in sales for the country and he won President's Club on numerous occasions. Even more, he loved teaching success and character development to teens through his motivational speaking organization, Positive Perspectives. Excellence with positive impact was simply his way of life.

He was known for his powerful voice, but peaceful presence whenever he entered a room. He was a loyal, faithful friend and a bright light to strangers. He was the epitome of a husband and father; and a great inspiration to young men who did not have the right example in their lives. This element of his life was noted and admired consistently. His greatest pleasure was to do anything that his girls – Diane, Stefanie, or Stacie – asked him to do. He loved when his girls said, "we were going to do something" because it really meant that "he was going to do something". This even included coming out of retirement to help Stefanie start her entrepreneurial endeavor, Alpha-LIT Detroit. The consistency of Roosevelt's great character throughout his entire life was undeniable.

Roosevelt leaves to cherish his loving memory, his wife, Diane; two daughters, Stefanie and Stacie Smith; sister and brother, Nina Harrell and Tony Smith; A host of in-laws, nieces, nephews, and friends; and a granddog, Pepper Mynt. We will love you always and forever.



# Previous Events

## Strolling Visitation

APR 2. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
24585 Evergreen Rd  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 702-5367  
info@kempfh.com  
<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

## Family Hour

APR 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Detroit World Outreach  
23800 West Chicago  
Redford, MI 48239

## Funeral Service

APR 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Detroit World Outreach  
23800 West Chicago  
Redford, MI 48239

# Tribute Wall



“ *Roosevelt Dwight Smith*

September 27, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Roosevelt Dwight Smith*

September 27, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ *Dear Stefanie, I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. May God be your strength forever and a day for yourself, Stacie and your mom.*  
*Kimberly Lewis* ❤️



Kimberly - September 16, 2021 at 08:39 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Terrence Rollins - April 03, 2021 at 12:20 PM

TR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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Terrence Rollins - April 03, 2021 at 12:13 PM

TR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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Terrence Rollins - April 03, 2021 at 12:11 PM

TR

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Terrence Rollins - April 03, 2021 at 12:10 PM

TR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Terrence Rollins - April 03, 2021 at 12:09 PM

AN

“ To the family, his presence will surely be missed , especially laughter. Think on the things worthy of praise. Put the garment of praise on, because he would want it that way. Time will heal your hearts and the Lord comforts the soul. Plus truth be told he could be hilarious.

May God bless you all.

Truly , Sister Anita Lee

Anita - April 03, 2021 at 11:43 AM

CR

“ Christa & Brian Reid purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



Christa & Brian Reid - April 02, 2021 at 04:12 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



April 02, 2021 at 03:14 PM



“ I had the pleasure and privilege of working with Roosevelt at Pitney Bowes in 1984. We were in the same hiring and training class, and spent many days together in the office in Southfield, as well as in Sales Training in Cherry Hill, NJ. I remember his easy smile, and the grace and kindness with which he treated everyone. Roosevelt was a man of great strength, and yet he was humble enough to happily admit that his strength came from Diane, who was the center of his life. I moved on to other places, but have often looked back and smiled remembering those early days and the laughs that we shared. I send all of my love and support to Diane, Stefanie and Stacie, as well as everyone in Roosevelt’s life who mourn his passing. Roosevelt, I’ll see you on the other side, my friend.

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Mark Kraushaar - April 02, 2021 at 02:37 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



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April 02, 2021 at 01:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



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April 02, 2021 at 12:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.*



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April 02, 2021 at 08:14 AM



“ *To Diane and family,*

*We were saddened to hear of Rose's passing. We played ball together in high school, but I always remember the encouragement he offered on and off the field. May the Lord bless you and keep you and make His face shine down on you and grant you all peace.*

*Carl (Jones) & Wendy Alexander*

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**Carl (Jones) Alexander** - April 02, 2021 at 01:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.*



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April 01, 2021 at 11:20 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.*



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April 01, 2021 at 03:25 PM

JF

“ Jannie M Sales & family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



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**Jannie M Sales & family** - April 01, 2021 at 01:33 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



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March 31, 2021 at 07:33 PM

MW

“ Marcia Ward-Tumpkin purchased the Love's Tapestry for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



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**Marcia Ward-Tumpkin** - March 31, 2021 at 04:15 PM

WJ

“ Our mothers became fast friends (both RIP) during our time at Michigan and were somewhat infamous during our Rose Bowl trips. Rose you kept it real and you will be missed. Prayers and Peace in your transition my Brother

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**William Jackson** - March 31, 2021 at 02:43 PM

KD

“ *Kathryn Steppes - Davis purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.*



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**Kathryn Steppes - Davis** - March 31, 2021 at 12:23 PM

HE

“ *Helena Elsila purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.*



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**Helena Elsila** - March 31, 2021 at 12:20 PM

DS

“ *I am so glad to have met Roosevelt. Great guy. He will be missed by many. RIH.*

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**Dwayne Smith** - March 31, 2021 at 06:26 AM

MH

“ *Mark and Lynnette Haywood purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.*



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**Mark and Lynnette Haywood** - March 30, 2021 at 10:35 PM

PC

“ I left class early one day to call my parents because I wasn't feeling well. I saw Roosevelt in the hall and instinctively he asked if I was all right. I remember collapsing toward the floor but Rose caught me and carried me to principal's office. I have never forgotten his kindness. I offer my sincerest condolences and this story to help comfort his family. Phyllis (Glenn) Collins, CT76

Phyllis Collins - March 30, 2021 at 08:12 PM

PF

“ So sorry for your loss. May God comfort and keep your family in the palm of His hand.

Phyllis Holmes Frierson  
CT '76



Phyllis Frierson - March 30, 2021 at 04:49 PM

DN

“ Back in the early 2000's I worked with Roosevelt Smith @ Ricoh , he was a very nice man. My condolences to his family. Dave Nemer



Dave Nemer - March 30, 2021 at 01:05 PM

AM

My condolences to the family. My daughter and Stacey were in Girl Scouts together. I remember he and his wife welcomed the girls to their home for a sleep over. Blessings and prayers to all...

Aarolyn McCullough - March 30, 2021 at 09:54 PM

KS

“ Barbara and Kevin Sack are sending our sincere condolences to Diane and her family.  
Roosevelt was a great man and I am truly fortunate to say our paths crossed.  
He was a tremendous asset to our Detroit District.  
May he RIP.

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**kevin sack** - March 30, 2021 at 11:45 AM

LB

“ Love, Ron, Carolyn & Leah Barnes purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



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**Love, Ron, Carolyn & Leah Barnes** - March 30, 2021 at 11:21 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Roosevelt Dwight Smith.



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March 30, 2021 at 08:26 AM

RL

“ Diane and family,  
We are praying that God will bless and comfort you. May He also bless your memories.  
Love,  
Derrick and Rita Lockridge

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**Rita Lockridge** - March 29, 2021 at 10:28 PM

ME

“ *Prayers and Blessings to the Smith Family!*  
*We love you all and will continue to keep you*  
*in our thoughts and prayers.*

*The Evans Family*



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**Monique & Douglas Evans** - March 29, 2021 at 10:10 PM