



Thomas Milo Smith

April 17, 1952 - September 10, 2024

Minister Thomas Milo Smith, of Chattanooga, departed this earthly life on Tuesday morning, September 10, 2024 in a local hospital. He was born on April 17, 1952 to Newell Smith and Margaret Hickman Smith. He was educated in the Hamilton County School System and a graduate of Sale Creek High School Class of 1970. Milo was an avid sports fan and excelled in basketball at Sale Creek High. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree at Bryan College, Dayton, TN in May 1974. He also played basketball at Bryan College. In 2001, he received a diploma in theology and certificate in Christian Training from American Baptist Theological College. In 2014, he obtained a certificate in Pastoral Ministries. After college graduation, he was employed with the Hamilton County Juvenile Court System. Milo was a probation officer for Hamilton County Juvenile Court. He later owned and operated Alternative Probation. His last employment was a crisis specialist with Joe Johnson /Volunteer Behavioral Healthcare System. As a young boy, he united with Mt. Annie Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. C. R. Grady. After moving to Chattanooga, he united with Greater Second M.B. Church. Milo answered his call to the ministry and preached his first sermon at Greater Second on April 30, 1995. He later joined Mt. Canaan Baptist Church and was ordained by Pastor Ternae Jordan, Sr. After marrying Althea Word, he moved his membership to Union Hill M.B. Church where she and her families were members. He was a faithful and devoted member and served as Assistant Minister. Minister Smith served as a Sunday School teacher, Sunday School

superintendent and Teen Church teacher. He initiated the Real Men's Ministry. He enjoyed fishing and cooking. His favorite pastime was studying the Bible. He was often called upon to minister to teens and families. Rev. Milo or Minister Milo as he was often called was a faithful and committed Christian. He loved the Lord and loved to share the Word of God with everyone. Milo had his quietness and times of privacy; he was still letting God lead him. Milo was preceded in death by his father, Newell Smith; his mother, Margaret H. Smith (four days after he passed); grandparents, James Milo (Prudence) A. Hickman and Thomas O. (Flora) Smith; niece, Andrea Swafford; brothers-in-law, James Swafford, Randy Word; and sister-in-law, Geraldine Word, Survivors include his loving wife of nine years, Althea Word Smith; stepson, Marshon Massengill; brother, Gralin Smith, all of Chattanooga; sisters, Linda Swafford of Soddy Daisy, TN, Margaret A. Smith, Darlene Davenport, both of Chattanooga, and Yolanda Davis of Soddy Daisy; mother-in-law, Marie Word; brothers-in-law, Joseph Word, Jr. and Charles Word; sisters-in-law, Patricia Word, Barbara (John) Brown, Linda Faye (Gary) Took, Iris Walker, and Lawanda Gail (Walter) Russell, all of Chattanooga, Gloria (Arthur) Carlisle of Stockbridge, GA; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. Thomas will lie-in-state on Saturday, September 21, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Funeral service will follow at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Tyrus Chislom officiating and Minister Mark I. Hickman as the eulogist. Burial in Lakewood Memory Gardens, East. Arrangements are by Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc.

Cemetery Details

Lakewood Memory Gardens East

4621 Shallowford Road
Chattanooga, TN 37411

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

SEP **21**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church
1800 N Chamberlain Avenue
Chattanooga , TN 37406

Service

SEP **21**. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church
1800 N Chamberlain Avenue
Chattanooga , TN 37406

Tribute Wall

VJ

“ Vivian J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Milo Smith.

Vivian J. - October 22, 2024 at 10:51 AM

PC

“ Class of 1970 Sale Creek High School



Peggy Gothard Clark - September 27, 2024 at 11:58 PM

TA

“ It's hard to find sufficient words. I knew him as such a humble, beautiful-spirit who made me proud to be from the same Smith lineage/legacy. My heart breaks for you, Precious Thea but I think it's beautiful that you have a memory of sharing love that many go their full lives not having an opportunity to experience. You 2 seemed like the perfect partners and true friends that also had the opportunity to unify in marriage. I love you so much and I'm praying fervently for your heart and peace of mind.

Tasha - September 21, 2024 at 11:59 AM

ME

Some lies are better told from the grave! The God honest truth is he has a biological daughter, who isn't even mentioned in his obituary.

Me - September 23, 2024 at 09:48 PM

TO

“ To the Family of Minister Milo Smith,

May The God of All Comfort , comfort you today and the days ahead. I will always remember the kindness of cousin Milo when I worked as a part-time employee at the Hamilton County Juvenile Court System. You're in our prayers. Love you all!

Teresa Smith Ogilvie & Family

Teresa Ogilvie - September 21, 2024 at 10:21 AM



DR

“ I am so sorry praying for my family



Deborah Ray - September 21, 2024 at 10:14 AM

MG

“ Minister Milo was always smiling and loved the Lord I will always remember our time of working together at Mt. Canaan.



Minister Dot Graves - September 21, 2024 at 07:55 AM

AR

“ *May peace and comfort be with you during this most difficult time. May happy memories comfort you in this time of sorrow.*

With Heartfelt Sympathy!

Ashley R.Atkins, Emani R.Crumsey, Ashton T.Jordan



Ashley R.Atkins - September 21, 2024 at 03:04 AM

VH

“ *He Is Gone*



You can shed tears that he is gone or smile because he has lived. You can close your eyes and pray that he will come back. Or you can open your eyes and see all that he has left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him, or you can be full of the love that you shared. You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday. Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember him, but only that he is gone. Or you can cherish his memory and, let it live on. You can cry and close your mind be empty and turn your back. Or you can do what he would want smile, open your eyes, love, and go on.

David Harkin

We are so sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you all. Please take comfort in God's promises as we lift you in prayer as you hold on to the great memories that will live on in your hearts.

With Heartfelt Sympathy,

Van E. and Regina Patten Hickman

Van E Hickman - September 21, 2024 at 02:50 AM

SF

“ *Sandra Fairbanks lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Sandra Fairbanks - September 20, 2024 at 11:26 PM

TR

“ *The Harris Family (Rev.Ronald, Rosalind) lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



The Harris Family (Rev.Ronald, Rosalind) - September 20, 2024 at 11:18 PM

TR

We offer our sincere condolences to the Smith family. May you gain peace & strength during this difficult time. May you continue to keep the faith knowing the LORD will see you through. Your family will remain in our thoughts and prayers.

The Harris Family (Rev.Ronald, Rosalind) - September 20, 2024 at 11:26 PM

GG

“ *To: Althea and family. You have our sincere condolences. We pray that God will Bless all of you.*

*Gloria Patton Griffin &
Atoria "Tori" Snow*



Gloria Griffin - September 20, 2024 at 08:33 PM

AJ

“ *Althea I will continue keeping you and your family lifted up in prayer 🙏*



Anita Jones - September 20, 2024 at 05:41 PM

CR

“ *CHERYL ROWE lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



CHERYL ROWE - September 20, 2024 at 05:00 PM

VR

“ *Veronica Ryan lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Veronica Ryan - September 20, 2024 at 01:28 PM

DS

“ *Donna Sails lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



donna Sails - September 20, 2024 at 11:23 AM

TW

“ *Tiamara Wynn lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Tiamara Wynn - September 20, 2024 at 06:04 AM

MW

“ *Maxine Ware lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Maxine Ware - September 19, 2024 at 05:06 PM

SK

“ *Sophie King lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Sophie king - September 19, 2024 at 04:46 PM

HF

“ *Our family met Minister Milo Smith at Greater Second Missionary Baptist Church. Minister Milo was such a caring and encouraging person in the ministry. We are great for his loving spirit. God Bless the Family.*

The Hudson Family

Hudson Family - September 19, 2024 at 02:25 PM

MR

“ Margaret Ann Ryan lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith



Margaret Ann Ryan - September 19, 2024 at 02:22 PM

CF

“ Conyers Family lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith



Conyers family - September 19, 2024 at 12:56 PM

MR

My condolences to Althea Word, and the Smith Family, my prayers and thoughts are with you

Margaret Ann Ryan - September 19, 2024 at 02:15 PM

TD

“ Tonia Swafford Davenport lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith



Tonia Swafford Davenport - September 18, 2024 at 10:30 PM

RT

“ *Richard Thurman lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Richard Thurman - September 18, 2024 at 05:34 PM

GE

“ *GWENDOLYN EDMONDSON lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



GWENDOLYN EDMONDSON - September 18, 2024 at 04:15 PM

VL

“ *Vanessa M Lowery lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Vanessa M Lowery - September 18, 2024 at 03:10 PM

WT

“ *Wanda Swafford Thurman lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Wanda Swafford Thurman - September 18, 2024 at 12:44 PM

RW

“ *Rubye Wilks Wilson lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Rubye Wilks Wilson - September 18, 2024 at 07:13 AM

SS

“ *Sherry Simmons lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Sherry Simmons - September 18, 2024 at 06:21 AM

GM

“ *Glenda Morgan lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith*



Glenda Morgan - September 18, 2024 at 05:58 AM

FH

“ *Milo and I met at Celine Bible Camp when we were children. We worked with children thru the Juvenile Court at MBMHI and the Department of Mental Health. . We met again at Mt Canaan Baptist. He was my friend always and I will remember him always!*

Frances Hester - September 17, 2024 at 11:03 PM

SW

“ Sharon Walton lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith



Sharon Walton - September 17, 2024 at 11:03 PM

LN

“ Rest Well Minister Milo, My Friend! Rest Well Sir! Thank you for so much and you are missed indeed. May God comfort your family during this time of bereavement. 🙏📖



LaKeysha Nolan - September 17, 2024 at 10:57 PM



“ Tammy Sanders lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith



Tammy Sanders - September 17, 2024 at 09:44 PM

LF

“ Lillie Sampson-Roshell and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thomas Milo Smith.



Lillie Sampson-Roshell and Family - September 17, 2024 at 06:21 PM

LF

“ From: Lillie Sampson-Roshell and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Milo Smith.

Lillie Sampson-Roshell and Family - September 17, 2024 at 06:21 PM

JJ

“ Jackie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith



Jackie Johnson - September 17, 2024 at 06:17 PM

JJ

My condolences to the entire Smith Family. Milo and I were classmates throughout elementary school through the 8th grade. Rest Easy Milo.

Jackie Johnson - September 17, 2024 at 06:20 PM

EB

“ Evelyn Willis Baker lit a candle in memory of Thomas Milo Smith



Evelyn Willis Baker - September 17, 2024 at 04:31 PM