



## Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith

February 3, 1946 - July 23, 2020

Superintendent Lonnie James Smith was born to the late Jimmy Lee and Nellie Smith on February 3, 1946 in Blakely, GA. He graduated from Carver Heights High School, where he was a very successful football player for the Trojans. He retired from Sprint Telephone Company after 24 years of service. He was an avid golfer who competed and won many golf tournaments.

He was saved at a very early age in Lisbon Church of God where one of the church mothers invited him, and he accepted the Lord. At the age of 8, Supt. Smith began singing with his brothers "The Smith Brothers". Later they became known as "The Dixie Starlight", singing and opening for many known groups.

He later moved his membership to Crystal River COGIC (Bailey's Temple COGIC) where the late Dr. Jerry Bailey instructed him further in the things of God. He was the Devotion Leader, Deacon, Ordained Minister, Assistant Pastor. He was then assigned to Ft. McCoy to lead a mission church.

He later became the builder and founding Pastor of Leesburg Church Of God In Christ in 1990. He served his community, city, state and in any capacities handed to him with finesse and integrity.

Prior to his illness, Superintendent Smith served as Auxiliaries In Ministry

Chairman, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, State Sunday School President, Superintendent of the Leesburg Unity District, President of the Greater Leesburg Ministerial Alliance, and of course “The Best Pastor” with a heart of gold. He served three jurisdictional bishops in the Church Of God In Christ.

Superintendent Smith was a recording artist, His CD “He’ll Turn It Around” is loved and sung by many. His motto: “it’s Just Right To Do Right”; one of his favorite scriptures: “Matthew 11:28; Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest”.

Superintendent Smith leaves to cherish his memories: His wife and love of 40 years, Florence Hartage Smith. They reared three children, Supt. John Christian (District Missionary Constance Poitier) Leesburg, Elders Robert Hartage (Deborah) Wildwood, and Cindy Mills (Minister Leon) Leesburg. His adored sons Lonnie Richards (Leesburg) and Steve Richardson (Leesburg).

Superintendent Smith is preceded in death by his parents Jimmy and Nellie Smith. Siblings: Jim Smith, Jr (Rochelle); John (Jake) Smith; Annie Adams (Leroy); and Mary Cheese (Mike).

Superintendent Smith is survived by his siblings: Willie Smith, Deacon James Smith (Apostle Lottie); Ella Walker and Brother Wilbert Smith. 17 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, friends, and many godchildren.

# Cemetery Details

## Lone Oak Cemetery

306 Thomas Avenue  
Leesburg, FL 34748

# Previous Events

## Wake Service

AUG 7. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Leesburg Church of God in Christ  
1010 County Road 468  
Leesburg, FL 34748

## Service

AUG 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Morrison United Methodist Church  
1005 W. Main Street  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
(352) 787-3786  
info@morrisonumc.org  
<https://www.morrisonumc.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith*

October 22, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Sending Prayers Out To Cousin Lonnie Family. I Loved To Hear Him Sang. My Heart Goes Out To The Family. God Will Give Comfort.*

*Josephine Bellamy*

**Josephine Bellamy** - August 08, 2020 at 10:57 AM



“ 🙏🙏🙏😊

**LoweryC** - August 08, 2020 at 06:10 AM



“ *LoweryC lit a candle in memory of Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith*



**LoweryC** - August 08, 2020 at 06:07 AM

IF

“ *Imogene White & family of St. Petersburg, FL purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith.*



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**Imogene White & family of St. Petersburg, FL** - August 06, 2020 at 11:57 PM

AD

“ *We love you and we are praying for your comfort and strength. Elders Charles & Anita Dorn, Citadel Of Hope.*

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**Anita Dorn** - August 06, 2020 at 03:32 PM

EJ

“ *Expressing my deepest sympathy to the family of Supt. Lonnie Smith.*

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**Elder Maxwell D. Jackson** - August 05, 2020 at 05:11 PM

IW

“ *My condolences to the Smith family. Sending you love and healing prayers during this difficult time.*

*Love, Imogene White*

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**Imogene White** - August 05, 2020 at 03:18 PM

PE

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with you and the family, He will truly be missed. Just hold on, God will see you through!!!!



Pastor Keith Brown & New Life Experience - August 05, 2020 at 08:01 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith.



August 05, 2020 at 07:47 AM

AB

“ Allenea Bolden lit a candle in memory of Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith



Allenea Bolden - August 05, 2020 at 05:19 AM

SP

“ Stanley P. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith.



Stanley P. - August 04, 2020 at 12:35 PM

KA

“ You will be truly miss cousin Lonnie. We Love you.

Love ya,

Katie Harrell

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**katie** - August 03, 2020 at 12:55 PM

KA

“ I will be truly miss cousin Lonnie. We love you.

Love ya,

Katie Harrell

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**katie** - August 03, 2020 at 12:53 PM

MW

“ Prayers and condolences are with the family  
Ret in Heaven my school mate from Carver  
Heights HighSchool



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**Margie Wilkes** - July 31, 2020 at 08:30 AM

DC

“ I remember growing up in C.O.G. I.C he treated us like we were his own. Loved to hear him sing Hold On God Will See You Through!!! Although I cannot be there physically to celebrate the life of a true soldier of the cross, my thoughts and prayers are with you all!!!

Love you,

(Mechi Bush)

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**Demetria Coston** - July 30, 2020 at 09:58 AM

WS

“ *Willie Coleman Smith lit a candle in memory of Superintendent Lonnie J. Smith*



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**willie coleman smith** - July 30, 2020 at 08:37 AM

SR

*The Richardson Family sending you'll Blessing, Prayer's and condolences at this difficult time*

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**SHIRLEY RICHARDSON** - August 08, 2020 at 02:37 PM