



LORENZO SMITH JR.

September 7, 1950 - August 26, 2016

Lorenzo R. Smith Jr. of Kankakee, IL, affectionately known as "Ray," died on August 26, 2016 at the age of 65. He leaves many to celebrate his legacy including: his mother, Hazel Smith, his high school sweetheart and wife of 44 years, Gloria J. Smith, his four children, Sonya R. Smith, Lorenzo Smith III (Dhanusha Sivajee), Linda D. Smith (Adili Kabahita), Marcus Smith (Kristen), his siblings, Gloria Watkins, Linda L. Smith, Valerie Smith Johnson (Johnny), and Eric Smith (Nikki), a brother-in-law, Michael Overstreet Sr., a sister-in-law, Brenda Griffin Collins (Jimmy), his grandchildren, Ashley, Rama, Ravi, Layla, Zamani, Sasha, and Zuri, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and family friends.

Ray was born on September 7, 1950, to Lorenzo R. Smith and Hazel Smith. He married Gloria Griffin on February 12, 1972, and as he would often remark, "his four children are his best accomplishment." He served in the United States Army and worked for Quaker Oats and Indian Oaks Academy before creating Magic Moments Photography. Creating Magic Moments Photography was his most rewarding work. It enabled Ray to capture and share images of people and the community at their best; bringing smiles and laughter to all those around him.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lorenzo Smith Sr., and a sister, Karen Overstreet.

Visitation will be held on Friday, September 2, 2016 at Lax Mortuary in Kankakee, IL from 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm. An additional visitation will be held from 10:00 am until the 11:00 am funeral services on Saturday, September 3, 2016 at Lorenzo R. Smith Sustained Ability and Technology Academy, 4120 S Wheeler Rd., Hopkins Park, IL 60944. Burial will be in Momence Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

JW

“ *Gloria and Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I offer my condolences and will keep you in my prayers. I know the love you and Ray shared. Be strong in the Lord.* ”

Jeanette Whalum-Chambers - October 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Sending out a lot of love and you will always be remembered and missed by so many people for always keeping everyone together. So rest in peace my friend. "Thanks for all the reunions".* ”

Diana Hoard-Graham - September 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *Rih Ray, you are with the best* ”

Deborah Springer - September 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *To The Smith Family, Our prayers are with you and may the LORD continue to comfort you in his peace.* ”

Jeannie Randle - September 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Our prayers are with you and your family. Ray will be missed. Josie Helm, Mary Harris, Barbaretta Abebrenser.* ”

The Hunts Sisters - September 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Prayers and condolences to the Smith Family. We had the pleasure of knowing Ray as we are friends and neighbors of Marcus, Kristen, Layla and Sasha. Yes...Ray's family is a great testament to the legacy of who he was as a person. His love will be

Lowe Family - September 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

VG

“ My deepest sympathy and may GOD comfort you at this time.

Velma Green - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Dear Gloria and Family, please accept my deepest sympathy on your loss. May God be with you all in this time of sorrow. Mike Antons

Mike Antons - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Our deepest condolences to the Smith family brother Smith was a loved man and it was always a pleasurable moment at the photo booth

Calhoun Family - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ On behalf of the Department of Political Science in the Barbara Jordan - Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University, I extend my sincere condolences to Professor Linda Smith and her family. You and your family have our deepest sym

Texas Southern University - Department of Political Science - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ To the entire family- my heartfelt prayers go out to each of you. Ray touched so many people's lives. It's been a privilege to know him since 5th grade, then to have Magic Moments as the photographers at my wedding was also a blessing. Gloria: I

Ardella Perry-Osler - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Gloria, our sincerest condolences and prayers to you and the family at this time. We will cherish the God-give times that we were able to speak with Ray and yourself - whether in the store or an engagement where Ray was the photographer. Ray's life

Michael & Rita Morris - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ My condolences to the entire Smith family. I pray for peace and strength in this time.

Dawn Thomas - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ Our prayers are with you, words cannot express our sense of loss in Lorenzo's passing. Lorenzo will always be in my heart and prayers. I had the blessed opportunity of knowing him and being part of his family. To all my cousins hold tight to memorie

Edward Jordan - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ With Deepest Sympathy! Time will pass and the pain will lessen, but the memories will be present with us all. May God's promise of life give Gloria and the Smith Family the courage today to trust in God.

Mr.&Mrs. James L. Terrell & Family - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ A pleasure knowing Lorenzo and working along side him for 29 years. My thoughts and prayers go out to the Smith family. God doesn't make mistakes.

Erion Bailey - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ To the entire Smith family, you are in my prayers. I know this is a very difficult time. Know that only God can and will be your comforter during this time. Rest in his arms and may His peace be with you. Love you Angela Harvey

Angela Harvey - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Ray my heart is saddened and you are truly missed already.

Betty Howery - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Mr. Smith was a very nice man. I pray God will give you all peace that passes all understanding. Mrs. Gloria, you are a beautiful person as well and we pray your strength in the Lord. I send my condolences to you all. Amen

Sara (Johnson) Morris & family - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ A very important man in my life and many other young men! He was my coach in little league. I played with his son Lorenzo. Those were some of the best days of my childhood. He was the kindest, gentlest man. We couldn't of asked for anyone better!!!!

Gary ray - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Our prayers go out to the family of Lorenzo, we worked with him at General Foods for many years. Lorenzo was the sweetest and kindest person we have ever known. May God bless him.

Bruce & Janet Blake - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ My condolences to the family. I worked with Mr. Smith at Indian Oaks Academy and once he began his photography, I believe my son Darion Collins was one of his first clients for his Senior pictures... (true memories)
Mr. and Mrs. Smith are what our commu

Kenya Collins - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

QR

“ I am without very many words.. but God is able to comfort in this time. Lorenzo and his camera took one of the best pictures that I have of me.. I am really grateful for that.. You have my deepest condolences...

Quincy Rosenthal - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Gloria,
Our prayers and love are with you and your family at this time and in the future.
Sandra and Tom
Ocala, Florida

Sandra & Tom Champ - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ *My deepest sympathy to Gloria and the kids. I have so many great memories of Ray at all of the kids' baseball games over the years. He was a great man.*

Kathy - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Sorry to hear about your loss.*

Jim Smith/Ben Schiel - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Prayers, love, and deepest heartfelt sympathies to the family of Lorenzo (Ray) Smith. May God grant you his perfect peace and strength for days to come!*

Joyce Shoemaker - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

C&

“ *I send my condolences to the family. He will be greatly missed. Was a great guy and mentor. You guys are surely in our prayers. Glad to have had the opportunity to know him.*

Cedric Johnson &Family - September 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ *Gloria, I just heard the news. I am so very sorry for you loss. I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.*

Barb Jackson - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ Ray was always cheerful whenever I saw him. I thank him for that and May He Rest in Heaven. Loving peace and joy to you Gloria and the entire Smith family.

Bessie Timms Taylor - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ May God grant you peace at this difficult time. Ray was well loved and respected, he will truly be missed.

Roslyn S Francis - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Dear Gloria and children
We are so saddened.
We always enjoyed conversations and catching up on the family.
God bless you all.6405

Bob and Jen worth - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

5W

“ Our sincere condolences to the Smith family. Lorenzo was one of our kindest gentlest customers. I always enjoyed conversations with him. There always seemed to be a sadness about him. The last time he came in we sat down & I asked him. He told me about his

5th ave car wash - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ We would like to extend our condolences to the Smith family.

David Anderson & Family - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ *Our heartfelt condolences*

Duane & Kathy Tucker - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *My prayers to the Family and Mrs. Hazel.*

Mary Gant - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *Gloria and family, I'm so very sorry for your loss! Lorenzo was truly one of the nicest men I've ever known. When we would run into each other occasionally at the store, we would of course talk about our family and reminisce about the good ole I*

Candy ray - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *With sincere condolences to you & your family, my family and I will keep you in our prayers that God may comfort you all in this time of need!!*

Sharon & Larry Richardson - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *May you Rest in Peace Ray. We are praying for Gloria and your family. You will be missed.*

David & Linda Higginbothan - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ *Condolences to Gloria and the entire family. Beautiful couple. God bless you.*

Priscilla Thompson - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ My condolences go out to the family of Lorenzo Smith. A man who is greatly respected and loved by all. God Bless you all and may the good Lord continue covering you during your time of bereavement.

Georgia Warren - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Our deepest sympathy to Gloria, their children and the entire family. From Beverly and Davina Stewart

DAVINA STEWART - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I worked with Lorenzo at Indian Oaks and saw him and his wife all the time at the farmers market and the gas station in Aroma Park; such a great guy. So sorry to hear of his passing. condolences to the family

Janet Fortin - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ My condolences to Gloria and family. May God give you continued strength.

Dorothy Wills-Crawford - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Our deepest sympathy to the family.

Jeffery and Debra Howery - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ With a heavy heart, we would like to extend our condolences to Gloria and the Smith family. We have known Ray for a long time and have been blessed to have known him and to enjoy the memories we share.

Ted and Beverley Harvey - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ My prayers go out to the Smith family. He was a truly great man as evident by the legacy he left in his children. Thankful to have known him during my formative years.

Rosevelt Noble - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Lorenzo, I just want to apologize to you and the rest of your family on the loss of your daddy. You are in my thoughts and prayers and I pray God's blessing on each of you. Again, I say I am sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers, Jenny Twigg

Jenny Twigg - August 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ With a heavy heart I send you hugs, prayers and condolences.

Miranda Howery Jeter - August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ Condolences to family and friends.

Evon Simmons - August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ He is resting in the arms of Jesus with his camera. He was a great picture of life to all who knew him.

Milton & Shirley Hudson - August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ To express my sorrow on the news of Rays transition, a lifelong friend, is impossible. But I can express my appreciation for his passion for his wife Gloria, family, friends and community. He was a creative loving soul and loved by so many near and far. R

clemen iris mccain - August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Deepest condolences to Gloria and the entire Lozenzo R Smith Jr. Family. May God keep you in perfect peace. Love Clemen Iris McCain

clemen iris mccain - August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ My condolences to the Smith family.

Delector Kennedy - August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ My condolences to the Smith Family.

Ms.Cheryl Wilson and family - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ My deepest sympathy for your loss.

God Bless,

Phyllis Chambers - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Our deepest sympathy to Gloria and family. We were fortunate to have Ray be the photographer for the Stineman family reunion one year. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time.

Larry and Mary Stineman - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PJ

“ Love and condolences are sent to the Smith family in the passing of your loved one. God's peace and comfort is my prayer for you in the coming weeks and months.

Patricia Jamison - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Our Deepest Sympathy..May God continue to give you comfort during your loss.

Danny and Adrienne Walker - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM