



REST PEACEFULLY, UNCLE BEN.

BENJAMIN "BEN" SMITH
JULY 17, 1949 — SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Benjamin "Ben" Smith

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THE SERVICE
Order of Service

- 01 — Opening & Welcome
- 02 — Opening Prayer
- 03 — Scripture Reading
- 04 — Obituary / Life Tribute
- 05 — Family & Friends' Reflections
- 06 — Closing Prayer & Words of Comfort



2010 Murchison Road · Fayetteville, North Carolina

OBITUARY
A Life Remembered

Benjamin "Ben" Smith, a beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, peacefully departed this life on September 11, 2026.

Ben graduated from Lucy Laney High in Augusta, Georgia, as a talented student-athlete. His ability on the football field earned him a scholarship to attend South Carolina State College, where he pursued his passion for football.

While in school, Ben began learning the construction trade during summer breaks and free weekends. Through hard work, determination, and a natural talent for the craft, he eventually became a master carpenter. Ben enjoyed cooking and took pleasure in preparing food for family and friends. He was also known for being a jokester with a quick wit and a quirky sense of humor.

Ben will be lovingly remembered for the life he shared with his family and friends and for the lasting relationships he built throughout his years.

He leaves to cherish his memory his daughter, Kendra Cox, and was preceded in death by his daughter, Elizabeth Smith.

He is lovingly remembered by his grandchildren, Jarian Grant of Columbia, South Carolina; Steven Quan Lewis, Sanchez Smith, Shalyan Smith, Shazmine Smith, Farrel Crawford Jr., and Darron Mountie, all of Augusta, Georgia.

His legacy continues through his two great-grandchildren, Natalia Taylor and Maliyah Smith, both of Augusta, Georgia.

Ben is survived by his brothers, Emmanuel "Shaun" Key of Richmond, Virginia; Donald Fruster of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and Charlie Tyus of Macon, Georgia.

He is also survived by his sisters, Cynthia S. Tariq of Richmond, Virginia; Teresa S. Payne of Monroe, Georgia; Brenda T. Harris, Darnell Jenkins, and Barbara Jean Ellis, all of Macon, Georgia; Emma T. Stanley of Texas; and Trudy Anita Davis and Cathy R. Fruster, both of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Indianna "Della" Smith. He leaves behind four beloved aunts, Kathryn Bradley of Killeen, Texas; Louvenia Jones and Burnistine Young, both of Atlanta, Georgia; and Sarah Smith of Brunswick, Georgia.

Ben was preceded in death by his parents, Exie Mae Key and Sylvester Key, and Charlie Tyus and Lucille Tyus. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Joe H. Smith, Milton Walker, and Alexander Key, and his sisters, Ernestine Tyus, Diana T. Clowers, and Barbara T. Cliett.

Ben was blessed with friendships that spanned many years. Among those who held a special place in his life was Ms. Clara Shuler, with whom he shared a friendship of more than 50 years. He also treasured the friendship of Tim and Jeanetta Zinzow, Moses "Moe" Purcell, and Benjamin "Chief" Washington, who preceded him in death only weeks before.

Though Ben has left this earthly life, his love and memory will remain with his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, siblings, extended family, longtime friends, and everyone blessed to have known him.

His life was a gift, his memory a treasure, and his legacy will continue through the generations he leaves behind.

Rest peacefully, Benjamin "Ben" Smith. You will be deeply missed, forever loved, and always remembered.