



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.

A gifted student-athlete, Ben graduated from Lucy Laney High in Augusta, Georgia. His talent on the football field earned him a scholarship to South Carolina State College, where he continued to pursue his passion for the game.

During summer breaks and free weekends, Ben began learning the construction trade. With hard work, determination, and a natural gift for the craft, he became a master carpenter. Away from work, he found joy in cooking for family and friends. He was also known as a jokester whose quick wit and distinctive sense of humor brought laughter to those around him.

Ben will be remembered with love for the life he shared, the joy he gave, and the lasting relationships he built over the years.

He leaves to cherish his memory his daughter, Kendra Cox. His daughter, Elizabeth Smith, preceded him in death.

His grandchildren are Jarian Grant of Columbia, South Carolina; and Steven Quan Lewis, Sanchez Smith, Shalyan Smith, Shazmine Smith, Farrel Crawford Jr., and Darron Mountie, all of Augusta, Georgia. His legacy continues through his great-grandchildren, Natalia Taylor and Maliyah Smith, both of Augusta.

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

His surviving sisters are 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 further survived by his sister-in-law, Indianna “Della” Smith, and 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; 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 endured across many years. Ms. Clara Shuler held a special place in his life through a friendship of more than 50 years. He also treasured Tim and Jeanetta Zinzow, Moses “Moe” Purcell, and Benjamin “Chief” Washington, who preceded him in death only weeks before.

Although Ben has left this earthly life, his love and memory remain with his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, siblings, extended family, longtime friends, and all who were blessed to know 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.