



## Preston Norman Smith

December 25, 1929 - June 11, 2017

Preston Norman Smith, son of the late Julius Norman Smith and Chestina Mary Onley Handy Milbourne, departed this life on Sunday, June 11, 2017.

Preston was born on December 25, 1929, in Pocomoke City, Maryland, where he lived for the remainder of his life. After graduating from Worcester High School in 1947, Preston was employed by the Mason Canning Factory in Pocomoke, Maryland.

In 1948, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and was assigned to the 224th Aviation Squadron at the Mitchell Air Force Base. This began a six year service to his country in the Air Force and Air Force Reserves before he received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on December 8, 1954. While in the Air Force, Preston was wedded in Holy Matrimony to Bessie L. Parker of Accomack County, Virginia on September 3, 1949, and from that union nine children were born.

In 1954, Preston began his career in carpentry and masonry work, first working with his brothers, and later beginning his own business, Preston Smith and Sons. His brick and stone work is noted on several churches locally, in Baltimore, and on local nursing homes in Berlin and Salisbury.

Affectionately known as "Sky King" by his grandchildren, in 1973 Preston was

able to accomplish one of his goals—to officially obtain his pilot's license—and he enjoyed his passion of flying until the age of eighty-one (81). During his adult life, Preston attended and was a member of Trinity and Mount Zion United Methodist Churches.

Left behind to cherish his memories are: his loving wife, Bessie Smith of Pocomoke, Maryland; their nine children—Alan (Diane) Smith of Snow Hill, MD, Patricia Poston of Washington, D.C., Gwendolyn (Rick) Harmon of Townsend, DE, Preston D. (Diane) Smith of Pocomoke, MD, Sylvia (Oliver) Conner of Wilmington, DE, Brian Smith of Texas, Steven Smith and Germaine Garner, both of Pocomoke, MD and Toni Smith of Upper Marlboro, MD; a beloved aunt, Zeola Ames of Pocomoke, MD; as well as nineteen grandchildren, twenty-one great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Preston was predeceased by five brothers and four sisters.

Lovingly Submitted ~ The Family

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Preston Norman Smith, please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.

# Tribute Wall

HF

“ My deepest condolences for the loss of your dear loved one. While nothing will completely take away your grief by meditating on Gods promises found in the Bible you can find real hope and the strength to keep going. My family and I have found the scripture at Isaiah 25:8 to be especially comforting. Here it promises that God "will swallow up death forever and the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces."

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**H. Fields** - June 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one. I recently loss two of my sisters in death. The bible helped me to endure the pain. It can help you also. At John 5:28&29, it tells us that the dead will be resurrected. We have hope of seeing them again. Also, Revelation 21:3&4 tells us that soon death, sickness and pain will be removed. What a wonderful time that will be! Please look forward to that time and until then, may the God of all comfort grant your entire family peace.

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**Doretha Sampson** - June 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ Please accept my condolences for the loss of your loved one. At difficult times like this we realize how precious and fragile life can surely be (James 4:14). As your family and friends comfort one another, as a neighbor I pray you also be comforted by the sure hope the Bible gives us for all those who have died (2 Corinthians 1:3, 4). As recorded in the Bible, Jesus promised that one day he was going to bring back to life all those who have died (John 5:28, 29). That is why he encourages all of us to exercise faith in that promise, the life that Jesus gave in our behalf, and be blessed as we see that promise fulfilled (John 11:25; 3:16). The Bible makes it clear that death is an "enemy" not only to mankind, but also to Almighty God (1 Corinthians 15:26). That is also why God promises to remove forever all the pain, suffering, wickedness, and death that mankind has had to endure for thousands of years (Revelation 21:3-5; Psalm 37:10,11,29). At that time soon, as the Bible indicates, both the living and the dead who are brought back to life will enjoy life, everlasting life, as God originally purposed for this earth thousands of years ago in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 1:28; Jeremiah 29:11). What a glorious day that will be for mankind who are doing what God asks of us, namely that we simply do His Will, not our own (1 John 2:17; 5:3; Proverbs 3:5,6). Please read and meditate on all these scriptures in your Bible and be comforted and blessed (Psalm 1:1-3; John 17:3). Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

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**George Ragusa** - June 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GD

“ Sorry to hear about your fathers passing. May God give you and your family comfort and peace during this time.

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**George & Patricia Deshields** - June 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Sorry for your loss. Prayers are with you and family.

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**Tracey Fulton** - June 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ May the God of all comfort give you peace love and understanding  
in the midst of your grief.

*Thinking of you*

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**St.James Un.Meth Ch. Pocomoke Md.Rev.Dr. Anna Foster Pastor** - June 14,  
2017 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ I am sorry for your loss, please accept my sincere condolences. I  
hope the family will find some comfort and strength in Jesus  
promise of the earthly resurrection(Acts 24:15)and the renewed  
Paradise earth, where death will be no more and no family will  
mourn the death of a loved one.-Revelation 21:3,4;John  
5:28,29;Luke 23:43. may GOD(Psalms 83:18)grant you peace and  
comfort now, during this grievous time.-Matthew 5:4.

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**M Jones** - June 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM