



Ms. Wanda Kaye Smith

August 16, 1958 - March 14, 2026

Sixty-seven years ago, a twin, Wanda Kaye Smith, was born to the late Mrs. Earnestine Smith and the late Mr. Cecil Smith on August 16, 1958, in Morton, Mississippi.

Kaye was called home on March 14, 2026, at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Kaye joined Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church at an early age under the leadership of the late Rev. Fred D. Chapman. She remained an active member of the choir until her health began to fail.

Kaye received her education at Forest High School, where she graduated in 1977. She later attended Jackson State University, graduating in 1981, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education.

Kaye began her career at Forest Elementary School as a first-grade assistant, where she worked for several years. She later pursued a career at the Educational Training Institute, where she remained until her health declined.

Although Kaye did not have any children of her own, she lovingly raised Terell Hayes and Kayla Miles as her own.

Kaye was preceded in death by one sister, Sandra F. Smith; two brothers, Terry J. Smith and Cecil M. Smith; one nephew, Anthony L. Smith; and her aunts, Morline Batts and Edna Minor.

Kaye leaves to forever cherish her memory a loving son, Terrell (Susie) Hayes of Forest, Mississippi; a loving and devoted niece, Kayla (Bryan) Miles of Byram, Mississippi; one brother, Ricky (Hollis) Smith of Forest, Mississippi; and a special uncle, James Batts of Cerritos, California.

She also leaves to cherish her memory three nieces, Twila (Nadarrius) Clemons, Kiara (Jamie) Derrick, and Nadeja Finderson, all of Forest, Mississippi; four nephews, A.J. Smith, Jakolbi Smith, Nicholas Smith, and Terrell Burkes, all of Forest, Mississippi; and a host of great-nephews, Martez Hayes, Nicholas Smith, Karson Smith, Legacy Derrick, and Kamari McCleod, all of Forest, Mississippi.

In addition, she leaves behind two great-nieces, Madison Finderson of Forest, Mississippi, and a very special niece, Kailani Seales of Byram, Mississippi.

She also leaves behind a special niece, Stephanie Braggs and nephew Clyde (Nickie) Taylor both of Forest, MS. She shared a special bond with her friends and cousins, including Emma Taylor, JoAnn Smith, Barbara Earby, and Darlean Spivey.

Kaye also leaves to cherish her memories a host of relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Hill MB Church Cemetery

179 Pleasant Hill Road
Morton, MS 39117

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 19. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Dean Memorial Funeral Home
745 Highway 468
Brandon, MS 39042
(601) 825-3884
<https://deanmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Homegoing Service

MAR 20. 12:00 PM (CT)

Pleasant Hill M.B. Church
179 Pleasant Hill Road
Morton, MS 39117

Tribute Wall



“ *Dean Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Wanda Kaye Smith*



Dean Memorial Funeral Home - March 19 at 06:28 PM

CW

“ *Comadell Williams lit a candle in memory of Wanda Smith*



Comadell Williams - March 20 at 11:16 PM

BD

“ *Brenda Denson lit a candle in memory of Wanda Smith*



Brenda Denson - March 19 at 05:27 PM

EA

“ *Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of Wanda Smith*



Eddie Ainsworth - March 17 at 10:08 PM

EA

“ *Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of Wanda Smith*



Eddie Ainsworth - March 17 at 10:07 PM

VJ

“ *Vergie jackson lit a candle in memory of Wanda Smith*



Vergie jackson - March 17 at 10:03 PM

CB

“ *I am so sorry to hear that Kaye has passed away. She was my classmate at Forest High School, Class of 1977. I am praying for the family to be comforted at this time.*

Charlene Jones Bates

Charlene Jones Bates - March 17 at 04:20 PM

JS

Lord, my heart is very heavy right now. I have loss a dear friend of 47th years. We met in 1978 or so, at JSU. We were roommates and best friends. Kay was very humble in kind to all she met. We remained friends and never lost contact with each other over the year. We talked several times a week. I am going to miss her deeply. Lord, it feels as if a piece of my heart has been ripped out. But, I know that Kay is resting in the warm arms of our LORD and Savior. Rest well my dearest sister/friend. Love you, Joanne Brown Smith ❤️

Joanne Brown Smith - March 20 at 09:28 PM