



## Ms. Edyth L. Smith

May 26, 1952 - March 10, 2026

Edyth L. Smith, born May 26, 1952, to Lorene and Willard E. Smith, entered eternal rest on March 10, 2026. She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Willard L. Smith and Lloyd Smith; two brother in-laws, Gary Buckman and Robert Mays; and her long-time K-9 companion, Rex.

Edyth grew up in a large, close-knit family and an interesting fact was that all but two siblings' names begin with the letter E. She will be lovingly remembered by her surviving siblings in birth order: Elaine Johnson, Eloise Sherman, Eleanor (Fred) Cathy, Edna Miles, Evelyn Mays, Everett (Rosie) Smith, Ethel Buckman and Emily Alexander. She also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family who cherished her deeply.

A devoted, educated, and self-reliant mother, Edyth is survived by her daughters, Valerie Smith-Rivera and Veronica Smith. She was a proud, supportive, and humorous grandmother (known as Mana) to Dave Rivera III, Aaliyah Smith, and Devron Rivera. She also had the blessing to meet and enjoy time with her great grandchildren: Dave Rico-Roy Rivera, Tyr-Avauni Rivera, and Zakari Khaza Rivera. Her family was the heart of her world, and she poured her love and values into every generation.

Edyth obtained her high school diploma from Paseo High school in 1970. She further pursued her education at Penn Valley Community College, obtaining

her associates degree with demonstration of her commitment to growth and opportunity. Edyth dedicated many years of service working at a juvenile detention center, retiring in 2015, where her compassion, strength and steady presence made a lasting impact on the young people she encountered. In addition, she had a love for young children with many years dedicated in the early childcare.

A woman of faith, Edyth was a Christian and a member of Jamison Memorial Temple CME. She raised her daughters in this church and kept them involved in almost daily church activities. She was a dedicated member for years ahead of her health change. Her love for gospel music, singing and dancing brought joy to those around her.

She was happiest when surrounded by her family—laughing, sharing childhood stories, including the weekly Smith family connect at Mama Smith's house, including the bean dinners. These memories were captured by her love for photography which preserved memories that will be treasured forever. She also was a dedicated dog-mom to her miniature Dachshund, Rex. He was known for having all his slobbery toys and loved to chase a ball which Edyth would participate in for hours.

Edyth's life was defined by resilience, self-reliance, generosity, humor, authenticity, and a spirit that lifted others. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday March 21, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Jamison Temple CME 3115 East Linwood Blvd. KCMO 64128. Interment: Memorial Park. Visitation: 10 – 11:00 a.m. at the Church. Arrangements entrusted to Lawrence A. Jones & Sons Funeral Chapels. Condolences may be shared on our website [lawrenceajones.com](http://lawrenceajones.com)



# Cemetery Details

## Memorial Park Cemetery

8251 Hillcrest Road  
Kansas City, MO 64138

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Jamison Memorial Temple CME  
3115 Linwood Blvd.  
KC, MO 64128

## Funeral Service

MAR 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

Jamison Memorial Temple CME  
3115 Linwood Blvd.  
KC, MO 64128

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ Lc Henley purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Edyth L. Smith.



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**Lc Henley** - April 13 at 09:43 AM

LH

“ Going to miss you my friend there was always a place in my heart that had your name on it to the girls may God be with( Lc Henley )

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**Lc Henley** - April 13 at 02:24 AM

IP

“ Ian P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Edyth L. Smith.

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**Ian P.** - March 20 at 12:13 PM