

***A Celebration of Life  
for***

***Monica Denise Smith-Clark***

*Sunrise  
April 16, 1964*

*Sunset  
April 26, 2022*



***Friday, May 20, 2022***

*Viewing: 10:00 a.m.*

*Service: 11:00 a.m.*

*From the Heart Church Ministries®  
Annex at 5055 Allentown Road  
Suitland, Maryland 20746*

*Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor*

# Obituary

*"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course,  
I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness..."  
2 Timothy 4:7-8a*

On April 26, 2022, **Monica Denise Smith-Clark**, a beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt, confidant, comforter, nurturer, and friend to all, transitioned to her new home.

Monica, affectionately known as "Moni," was born on April 16, 1964, to Henrietta and Lee Smith in Washington, D.C. She was educated in the District of Columbia Public Schools graduating from Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts in 1982. Subsequently, she attended Shenandoah University where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in arts in 1986, the first person in her family to do so.

Her career path began with DC YouthWorks. After college, Monica worked for the Armed Forces Benefits Association, and the American Statistical Association as a meeting coordinator where she was given the opportunity to travel around the country, sometimes accompanied by her family, for various conferences and meetings. Her final place of employment was the Government of the District of Columbia's Alcohol Beverage Regulation Administration where she worked up until the week before she transitioned.

In 2001, Monica met the love of her life, David L. Clark, Jr. The couple married two years later and from their union she inherited a son, David L. Clark, III—and their younger son, Devin, was born.

On September 11, 2005, the virtuous woman of God joined From the Heart Church Ministries where she remained a faithful member until her passing.

Further, Monica deeply loved and believed in demonstrating that love through her actions. She was always concerned about others; and everything she did was from the heart whether it was a handwritten birthday card, a crocheted hat, scarf, or blanket and even a painting. Monica's love for the arts was ever present in her everyday life. She freely gave of herself and believed in the importance of family while taking her responsibilities as a wife, mother, aunt, cousin, and godmother very seriously.

Lastly, with a smile that could melt one's heart, Monica was genuinely compassionate, full of fun, and loving. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Monica's memory will forever be cherished by her husband, David L. Clark, Jr.; children, Devin and David III; sister, Debra Patterson; brother, Eric Smith; nieces, Tiffany and Tesha; nephew, Christopher (Leslie); great-nieces: Kayla, Madison, Alora, and Aria; great-nephews: Joel, Chris Jr., and Otto; in-laws, Barbara Jean and David Clark, Sr.; close family friends who showed sisterly love: Niles, Ondraya, Dawn, Mary, Dawana, and Trice; and many other loving relatives and friends.

Monica was preceded in death by her parents, Henrietta and Lee Smith.



# *Order of Service*

***Invocation***

***Scripture Reading***

*Old Testament: Psalm 23*  
*New Testament: John 14:1-6*

***Prayer of Comfort***

***Selection*** ..... *Mr. Timothy Brooks*

***Acknowledgements***

***Remarks***

*Ms. Felicia Danzler, Alcohol Beverage Regulation Administration*  
*Mr. Ed Taylor, Friend*  
*Ms. LaTanya Robinson, Cousin*

***Obituary (Read Silently)***

***Song of Preparation*** ..... *Ms. Dawn E. Robinson*

***Message of Hope*** ..... *Minister Bonnie Rampersaud*

***Call to Christ***

***Recessional***

***Interment***

*Fort Lincoln Cemetery*  
*3401 Bladensburg Road*  
*Brentwood, Maryland 20722*

# *Family Sentiments*

## *For My Wife*

*Thank you for the endless love that will help me through each day;  
And thank you for the memories that will never fade away.  
You're the woman I loved. And I am proud to be your husband. And everyday  
In some small way. I will celebrate your life.  
As long as memories last, you will stay in my heart.*

*Your Loving Husband, Dave*



***Mom**...Your life was a blessing your memory a treasure...  
You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.*

*Love, Devin and Little Dave*



## *Poem from your Nieces and Nephews*

*Thank God for aunties who love us, who nurture us, teach us, and guide us.  
Who offer support as we journey through life and prayerfully walk alongside us,  
Thank God for those wonderful women who selflessly give like they do!  
Thank God for women who bless us so much. Thank God for aunties like you.  
My sweet aunt, I am always certain to include you when I count my blessings.  
You filled our lives with so much beauty. We don't know where we'd be without you.*

*Love Tiffany, Tesha, Christopher, Leslie, Kayla, Madison, Joel, Christopher Jr., Otto, Alora, and Aria*



## *MONNI*

*Every time I touched a rose today I thought of you; these very roses were in the yard the evening you left.  
You passed them while they were still in bud; we did not say goodbye nor so long because I knew you  
would be back in a few hours.*

*You must have caught a glimpse of the Heavenly Garden and took another path. Who could turn away  
from such beautiful surroundings with angels and sparkling lights. And there stands Mom and Dad, and  
so many other family members and friends. There was a heavenly family reunion. Words will never  
express, how much we miss you but only heaven knew best—and you were the chosen one. We will always  
love and miss you, and nothing that's loved is ever lost. You were such a kind, loving, and giving daughter  
-in-law who was loved so much. And you will always live in our hearts forever.*

*Love, Mom (BJ) and Dad No.2*



## *Family Sentiments (Continued)*

*Remembering Monica:*

*First and foremost, my most sincere condolences go out to Dave and Devin, and all of Monica's family and friends. She was a committed wife and mother, and this is a very tough and abrupt turn of events for those that love her. And because this was not her first medical struggle, we feel this loss that much more deeply.*

*As we all know:*

- ◆ *She was a warrior.*
- ◆ *She felt things deeply.*
- ◆ *She didn't mince words.*
- ◆ *She could go from that Hollywood smile to "whatchou talking about, Willis?" in a nanosecond.*
- ◆ *She was fiercely devoted and committed to her family.*
- ◆ *She had an awesome sense of humor, and a serious soft spot for things that mattered to her.*
- ◆ *She had lots of political opinions that I enjoyed sharing with her.*

*And she had an incredible, infectious smile, along with a devious glint in her eye when the situation called for it.*

*Monica and I worked together in the early 2000s at the American Statistical Association (ASA). She did membership and chapter stuff and I did graphics stuff. We shared some laughs together at our weekly staff meetings, where they buttered us up with donuts and bagels.*

*We also shared both having married later in life, and having an only child, and having husbands named Dave. I enjoyed meeting Dave and family at Monica's baby shower, especially her mom. As we know, Monica suffered some very tough medical issues, along the way. Having her amazing baby boy Devin was the best thing ever, next to marrying Dave.*

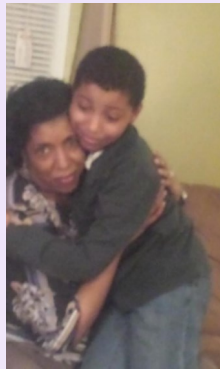
*Monica and I still got together over the years for lunch here and there, and shared stories about our young families and work. For years, I had a small photo of Devin on the side of my fridge that my daughter used to ask me about. "So who's that kid, mom?" And I'm grateful that we've also stayed in contact on FaceBook.*

*The last time I saw Monica was when we met at Matchbox in July at Pentagon City. It was nice to finally feel like we could safely meet for lunch in a lull of the pandemic. She showed me photos of her knitting, we talked about the pandemic, January 6, raising teens (I teach high school art), politics, and of course, family.*

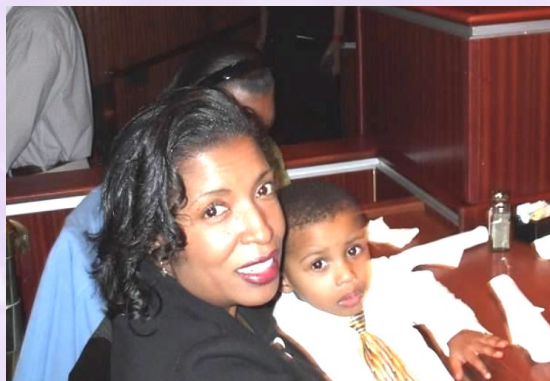
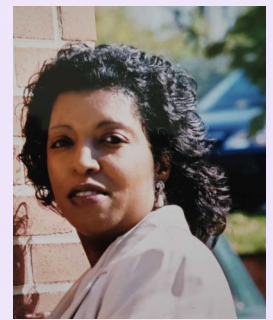
*Before we headed our separate ways, I'm so glad to have shared a big hug, and gave her a kiss on the cheek. That is how I'll always remember her. May you Rest In Peace, friend. I will miss you.*

*Leslie O'Shaughnessy, former co-worker at ASA*











## *Pallbearers*

*Anthony Bollin  
Chuck Chisley  
Mark Denson  
Christopher Harvin  
Eric Smith  
Johnny Williams*

## *Flower Bearers*

*Dawana Clark  
Trice Cooley  
Ondraya Graves  
Kayla Harvin  
Madison Langston*

## *Acknowledgements*

*The Clark and Smith families would like to thank you all for the outpouring of love that we received on behalf of Monica, from former classmates, co-workers, childhood friends, and more. We appreciate all the love that we have received. We would also like to thank From the Heart Church Ministries, and Fort Lincoln Funeral Home and Cemetery for your care and assistance.*



***Services Entrusted to:***  
*Fort Lincoln Funeral Home  
3401 Bladensburg Road  
Brentwood, Maryland 20722*