

Thanksgiving Service for the Life of



Dennis Oneil Smith

2nd November 1935 – 1st April 2022

Watering Place Cemetery

Cayman Brac

Saturday, 9th April 2022

10:30 AM

Officiating Minister:

Pastor Audley Scott

Order of Service

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| Opening Remarks | Pastor Audley Scott |
| Prayer | Pastor Audley Scott |
| Opening Hymn..... | "In The Garden" |
| Scripture – Psalm 23..... | Mrs. Marguerita Bodden |
| Family Tributes: | |
| Tribute from children: Theresa & Colven..... | "Across The Bridge" |
| Tribute from sister: Lena | Mr. Lyndon Martin |
| Tribute from sister: Leila | Mr. Lyndon Martin |
| | "Remind Me Dear Lord" |
| Tribute from brother: Vernon | Song |
| Tribute from Kirkconnell Community Care Centre staff | Song |
| Life Story..... | Mrs. Janet Eldridge |
| Sermon | Pastor Audley Scott |
| Prayer for Family | Pastor Audley Scott |
| Closing Hymn..... | "I'll Fly Away" |
| Laying of Floral Tribute | "Danny Boy" |
| Committal..... | "Precious Memories" |
| Lowering of Casket | "Have Thine Own Way" |
| Benediction | Pastor Audley Scott |

Pallbearers

Lyndon Martin
Shane Brown
Curtis Connor
Sheldon Scott
Clarence Ebanks
Conroy Ebanks

Honourary Pallbearers

Colven Smith
David Bodden
Vernon Smith
Dennis Ames
Adam Bodden
Lincoln Hurlstone
Kevin Miller
Khristopher Miller

Jeremy Smith
George Cunningham
Audwin Smith
Walter Ebanks
Chet Ebanks
Arvery Hurlstone
Alton Miller
Norris Ebanks

Life Story

Dennis Oneil Smith was born on 2nd November 1935 to parents Ora and Veronica Smith in the district of Watering Place, Cayman Brac. He was the fourth child in the Smith family along with siblings, Vernon Smith (died in infancy), Oswald Smith (deceased), Adis Ebanks (deceased), Isaac Smith (best known as Vernon), Jennylee Smith, Leila Hurlstone, Lena Miller, and Amelia Cunningham (deceased). Both Mr. Ora and Ms. Veronica preceded Dennis in death.

Dennis attended Creek All-age school to the accepted time when he could leave school, and get a job as all young men did in those days. He worked for the Kirkconnells and sailed on their ships, the Kirkland and the Kirksea. Later, he worked for the Cayman Islands Government and was part of the crew that built the old Gerard Smith Airport at the end of Cayman Brac. He would also work as a common laborer whenever anyone needed his services.

Dennis met the love of his life, Cassiebell Bodden, and married her on 29th September 1962 at Northeast Bay, Cayman Brac by marriage officer, Mr. Taylor Foster. This union had three children, Theresa Ames, Linvol Smith and Colven Smith. His son, Linvol gave Dennis his only grandchild, Prisca Smith, and three great-grandsons, Emmanuel, Elisha, and Ezra. His wife, Cassiebell preceded Dennis in death on 16th December 2018, and his son, Linvol was last seen on 18th May 2018.

Dennis was known to be an avid singer, and would walk down the streets of Watering Place and The Bight singing Jim Reeves famous songs. It was said that you could hear him before you saw him, and his voice did not require any instrument. Dennis also loved to dance and enjoyed holiday dances in his own neighborhood and Spot Bay. At any special event, he always had a good time and helped others to enjoy themselves too. Dennis learnt a unique skill at chopping coconuts in Swan Island, and could easily chop a coconut open with a few swift strokes. Dennis loved to pick whelks and often carried a bucket of whelks home to his mother, Ms. Veronica to prepare for the family.

As years went by, Dennis would get into three serious accidents where he was knocked down and ran over by vehicles, and almost died from his injuries. From these accidents, and the fight he had to survive, his family quickly realized that Dennis was a strong fighter for life, and often joked that he had more lives than a cat. Later in life, Dennis moved into the Rest Home at Stake Bay in 1999, and later Kirkconnell Community Care Centre where he developed serious medical issues, but every time he was at death's door, he would fight and show his zeal for life. Several times, doctors called his family to say he was on his last and they should get to the hospital. Dennis became non-verbal, bed-ridden, and was fed through a feeding tube, but this did not discourage him as he tried to live his best life. Through all these struggles, Dennis' cognitive abilities were fully functional.

On 7th March 2022, Dennis tested positive for COVID. Dennis fought with everything he had, as he was moved from the Rest Home to the hospital, then back to the Rest Home. Although he recovered from the initial complications of COVID, he lost his battle at the Rest Home, and passed away peacefully on the morning of 1st April 2022.

Left to mourn Dennis' passing are his children, Colven, Theresa and her husband, Dennis Ames, his granddaughter, Prisca and her three children, his siblings, Vernon (who Dennis called Boosie) and his wife, AnnieGrace, Jennylee, Leila and her husband, Arvery, Lena and her husband, Alton, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Dear Dennis, may you rest in eternal peace.



Acknowledgement

The family of the late Dennis Oneil Smith wish to express sincere gratitude to the employees of Kirkconnell Community Care Centre for the many years of care, the doctors and nurses of Faith Hospital, and the many friends who called and messaged during this sad time.

May God bless you all.