

## **An Angel Phenomenal Woman, Woman of God**

**Myra Joe Pope-Smith, born Myra Wilson on December 10, 1930, in Birmingham, Alabama to Maggie Avery Wilson and James Wilson, both parents preceded her in death. Myra was an only child.**

**Myra moved from Birmingham with her parents to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she was raised and attended grade school and college.**

**She attended and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with honors and the top of her class as a teacher. She was a Delta Sigma Theta to her heart. Her first class to teach was Social Studies as a professor at the University of Pittsburgh at the age of 24.**

**She then met and married the late Kermit R. Pope and moved to Cleveland, Ohio, in the Wade Park area. There she worked as a teacher for the Cleveland Board of Education at Wooldridge Elementary School on 55th and Kinsman for over 30 years as one of the highest ranking and paid teachers in the State of Ohio. With many awards and scholarships which she always paid forward and contributed back to the children she taught by paying for and taking them on field trips, camping and shopping trips.**

**She had a deep love and compassion for the children and their education she was dedicated to the cause. She also received an award from the State for attendance for working 40 years and never missing a day. 40 years she taught all grades except kindergarten and then she retired from Sterling Elementary, she never wanted to teach anywhere else but in the Urban areas because she said they needed her most.**

**She was offered a position to teach the University of Cambridge England but she turned it down because of her love and dedication for her students as well as her neighbors and long lasting friendships she had developed over the years.**

**She belonged to St. Paul United Methodist Church on Lee Road in Cleveland, Ohio, where she held several seats, secretary, treasurer, Usher and Communion Steward, Mother Myra was her name and she wore it well with a big heart and a kind word from God and always a smile and a hug for everyone.**

**She loved her church family dearly, her plate was always too full for hobbies as a loving, caring and dedicated Church Mom. Mother of one Betty L. James, mother-in-law to Michael James who nicknamed her, Mama Jarna because of her dancing and love for dressing well, at all times.**

**She was also preceded in death by her husband Joseph D. Smith.**

**She also leaves to mourn her passing 4 grandchildren: Michael James Jr., John James II, Myra J. James and Kirsty K. James, her goddaughter: Barbra Glover, 4 great-grandchildren: Anlyah Cephus, Jamlyah Cephus, Zaniah Peoples and Khamauri James, two step-children and one great-granddaughter, a step-niece: Gwer: Takeall other great grands and a host of other family and friends.**

### **Psalms 23 (KJV)**

**The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul:**

**He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yeah, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

### **Revelation 21:4 (KJV)**

**And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.**

In Celebrating the Life  
Of  
Myra Joe Pope-Smith

"I have fought the good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept  
the faith. II Timothy 4:7"



Sunrise:  
December 10, 1930

Sunset:  
April 12, 2020

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

**Graveside Service: 1:30 PM**

Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery  
5505 Northfield Road  
Bedford Heights, OH 44146

*If Roses Grow in Heaven*

*If roses grow in Heaven, Lord please pick a bunch  
for me. Place them in my mother's arms  
and tell her they're from me.*

*Tell her that I love and miss her and when she turns to smile  
place a kiss upon her cheek and hold it for a while.  
Because remembering her is easy, I do it everyday  
but there's an ache within my heart that will never go away.*

Pallbearers  
Family and Friends

*Flower Bearers  
Family and Friends*

**Acknowledgements:**

The family of Myra Pope-Smith, would like to thank everyone for your love and support shown to us during our hour of bereavement. My God continue to bless and keep you in His Loving Care.

Arrangements Entrusted To:  
R. A. Prince Funeral Services  
16222 Broadway Avenue  
Maple Heights OH 44137  
Phone: 216-518-1777 Fax: 216-518-1975