

WHEN I MUST LEAVE YOU...

When I must leave you  
For a little while-  
Please do not grieve  
And shed wild tears  
And hug your sorrow to you  
Through the years,

But start out bravely  
With a gallant smile;  
And for my sake  
And for my name  
Live on and do  
All things the same,

Feed not your loneliness  
On empty days,  
But fill each waking hour  
In useful ways,

Reach out your hand  
In comfort and in cheer  
And I in turn will comfort you  
And hold you near;

And never, never  
Be afraid to die  
For I am waiting for you in the sky!

#### PALLBEARERS

Taurean Gavin (grandson)  
Ja'Quel Gavin (grandson)  
Everett Gavin (grandson)  
Michael Gavin II (grandson)  
Rafique Wilson (great-grandson)  
Israel Jones II (great-grandson)

#### FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Grandchildren, Nieces, Nephews

#### INTERMENT

Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 1pm  
Little Salem Primitive  
Baptist Church Crawford Cemetery  
1988 Wakulla Arran Rd., 32327

#### REPAST

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church  
(immediate family only)

#### NOTE OF APPRECIATION

For every phone call, text message, word of comfort and willingness to support....we sincerely thank you! Times like this are very difficult. The people around you make it much easier. May God continue to shine his light upon you and your family. A special thanks to staff at Q.L. Douglas. You made this process a little easier.

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#### CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR



**SMITH**  
*Gavin, Jr.*

ALPHA  
11.26.1933

OMEGA  
4.18.2023

Friday, April 28, 2023 @1:00 PM  
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church  
3738 Winton Drive | Jacksonville, Florida 32208  
Bishop John E. Guns, Pastor



# LIFE STORY

SMITH GAVIN, JR. was born on November 26, 1933 to the late Mae Smith Gavin Sr. and Lucenia Gavin of Shadeville, Florida.

Smith was surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, when God whispered softly, "Come home and take your rest".

Smith married his sweetheart, Eva Mae Gavin, on August 22, 1954 in Shadeville, Florida. Together they moved to Jacksonville, Florida and celebrated 68 years of marriage.

Smith, a beloved Brother and proud member of the International Longshoremen's Association Local Chapter #1408 was affectionately called "Tallahassee" by his colleagues and friends. Tallahassee began his career as a header and Master forklift/clamp operator who retired after 33 years of service at the Talleyrand Marine Dock Terminal. In his leisure time, Smith was a raconteur, who loved being outdoors and spending time with his family. He was an avid Florida State University football fan. On Sundays, you could find him sharing the pew with his wife at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in the morning and cheering on the Seminoles or Jaguars in the afternoon.

Smith was predeceased by his 3 sisters: Ruby White, Thelma Monroe, Nellie Mae White. 3 brothers Joe Gavin, Leo Gavin, George Gavin and daughter Darlene. Smith is survived by his brother James Gavin (Rebecca), his loving wife Eva, 5 children; Michael1 (Cheryl), Vanessa, Chiquita (Patrick), Everett1 (Kendra) and Cornell. 16 Grandchildren: Justin1, Quintin, Michael2 (Jamie), Justin K (Krista), Jordan children of Michael1. Shinell (Lamar) daughter of Vanessa. Laqutrice (Ted), , Crystal (Israel) and Pachika (Jonathan) daughters of Chiquita. Chante, Taurean (Jessica), Ja'Quel (Lauren) and Everett2 (Kelsey) children of Everett1. Roderick son of Darlene and Clorise & Carnella daughters of Cornell.19 Loving great-grandchildren: Justin2 and Jasmine, children of Justin1. Qurielle daughter of Quintin. Mikenzie, Mikayla and Bernell, children of Michael2. Cassidy, Santana and Christopher, children of Shinell. Rafique and Terrell, sons of Laqutrice. Alayja, Israel and Trinita, children of Crystal. Lawrence, son of Pachika. PJ and Aniyah, children of Chante. Jaden daughter of Tauren and Lucas son of Everett2. 4 loving great-great-grandchildren: Bishop, August, Rylen and Millie, children of Rafique and a host of family, friends, church family and loved ones.



# ORDER OF SERVICE



Presiding.....Elder Regina Smith

Processional..... God Will Take Care of You  
(Artist: Le'Andria Johnson)

Scripture  
Old Testament.....Pastor Sonjanique Guns  
New Testament.....Deacon Willie Sheppard

Invocation.....Pastor Barbara Johnson

Selection..... Choir  
(Speak Lord/Tamela Mann)

Words from the Heart .....Michael Gavin (Son)

Words from the Heart .....Chiquita Mosely (Daughter)

Words from the Heart ..... Laqutrice Johnson (Granddaughter)

Reflections (2 min. max.)..... Family/Friends

Selection.....Henrietta Telfair

Words of Comfort.....Bishop John E. Guns  
(Pastor: St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church)

Recessional..... God's Got It  
(Artist: J. Moss)