

# Willia Mae Smith

*May 13, 1919*

*June 1, 2000*



**Wednesday, June 7, 2000 - 3:00 PM**  
**Rose Hills Memorial Park**

## Obituary

Willia Mae Smith was born on May 13, 1919 in the city of Caseyville, Mississippi to Willie and Fredonia Markham. She was the second daughter in a family of one older daughter, Joyce and two younger sons, Robert and Arthur.

Willia Mae attended public schools, graduating from Brookhaven High School in 1937. She continued her studies at Campbell College achieving her degree in Education. Following college she taught elementary and high school in Scott County, Forest Mississippi. Subsequently she moved to Los Angeles, California where she received her degree as a Licensed Vocational Nurse from General Hospital. Her first son, Leonard was born in 1949 and her second son, Richard soon followed in 1950. Shortly thereafter she met and married Willie E. Smith and the family moved to Monrovia, California, where Cheryl her third child was born, in 1957. Willia Mae continued her career as a LVN working at various hospitals in the area including City of Hope, Santa Terrisita and Monrovia Community Hospital. Being a strong advocate of education, she also spent time as a teacher's aid at Anders Duarte Elementary School. She worked in these chosen fields for over 37 years retiring in 1974.

As a faithful Christian, she worshipped at Bethel AME in Monrovia . She was a devoted member working tirelessly for her Lord. In 1998 she received the Mother of Bethel award for over 44 years of dedicated service to her church and her community. She could often be heard reciting her favorite Bible verse "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

Willia Mae was a kind and gentle spirit exemplifying the characteristics of the Christ. She spread warmth and sunshine wherever she was. She had the kind of heart that would warm a room and make everyone feel loved and accepted. Her compassion and joy were evident throughout her life.

She is survived by her brother (Arthur), three children (Leonard, Richard, Cheryl), her aunt (Mildred), sister-in-law (Aladean), daughter-in-law (Janis), six grandchildren (Cory, Ian, Myia, Tiffany, Kendle, Gennifer), and one great-grandchild (Taylor). She will be sorely missed by her family and friends.

We know that she is at peace with God...