



## Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith

January 8, 1990 - December 26, 2014

STATESBORO, GA

Ms. Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith, age 24, passed into eternal rest on Friday, December 26, 2014 in Austell, GA. She was a member of the Original First African Baptist Church where she was involved in the youth ministry. Ms. Smith was a 2008 honor graduate of Statesboro High School and a Spring 2013 graduate of Georgia Southern University where she received a bachelor's degree in Child and Family Development with an emphasis in Family Services. She recently passed the Law School Admission Test and was a Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children through the Statesboro Department of Family and Children Services. She was an employee of the Screven County Department of Family and Children Services and also the Statesboro Walmart Store #754.

Ms. Smith leaves to cherish fond memories, her loving mother, Ms. Willie Pearl Smith of Statesboro, GA; loving sisters, Mrs. Raquel (Garfield) Joyce of Austell, GA; Mrs. Yoko (Jermaine) Parker of Savannah, GA; Mrs. Latoria (Shondai) Harris of Stone Mountain, GA; and Mrs. Tamyra (Charles) Jackson of Lithonia, GA; a nephew, Yokhorian Parker of Savannah, GA; her "twin cousin", Ms. Raven Lundy of Statesboro, GA; an aunt, Mrs. Maretta L. (Elwood) Moore of Statesboro, GA; two great aunts, Mrs. Inez Martin of Statesboro, GA; and Ms. Alice Smith of Savannah, GA; her godchildren,

Ramon Nichols, Jr., of Statesboro, GA and Amelia Little of Houston, TX; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Family visitation will be held on Saturday evening from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Ben Samuel Hill Memorial Chapel of Hill's Mortuary, Inc.

The funeral service for Ms. Smith will be held 2 pm Sunday, January 4, 2015 at the Original First African Baptist Church with the pastor, Rev. Frankie L. Owens, officiating. Burial will follow in Bulloch memorial Gardens.

Final rites have been entrusted to Hill's Mortuary, Inc.

Online condolences may be expressed at [hillsmortuaryinc.com](http://hillsmortuaryinc.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Miss u*

-----  
**Grady young** - April 30, 2020 at 02:22 PM



“ *Hey Kiah,  
Letting you know I was thinking about you can't believe it's been so long...know you watching over us. Love ya and miss ya.*

-----  
**Andre'a Clark** - October 29, 2017 at 08:33 AM



“ *Pearl and Family: I am so sorry for your loss. May the memories you shared and your faith in God help ease your pain. God bless you all. Glen*

-----  
**Glenda Washington** - January 08, 2015 at 04:51 PM



“ *Agnes Lovett Shepperson-Atlanta, Georgia lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



-----  
**Agnes Lovett Shepperson-Atlanta, Georgia** - January 08, 2015 at 03:46 PM



“ *I Was so sadden to her about Akiah she is such sweet person and I have enjoying being part of her life at Statesboro High School and at Walmart..Rest in Peace ...Love You*

-----  
**Barbara Howard** - January 06, 2015 at 01:57 PM

BH

“ *Barbara Howard lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Barbara Howard** - January 06, 2015 at 01:54 PM

TS

“ *Truley Scott lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Truley Scott** - January 06, 2015 at 09:57 AM

MM

“ *Akiah, even those who didn't know you well could tell you were incredible. Although I hadn't seen you for years, when I saw you at work you were genuine and kind to me, as you always were, and I was so excited to have seen you again. I wasn't at all surprised to hear you were in nursing school - someone as intelligent and compassionate as you would be drawn to a field like that. The world lost an amazing force of goodness and strength when you left, and it grieves me to think of all the people who have been robbed of your presence in their lives, but I know your memory and the lives you touched will continue the great force you worked while on Earth. Rest in peace Akiah.*

---

**Marta Michalska-Smith** - January 05, 2015 at 08:04 PM



“ I remember meeting you for the first time and we thought it was funny that I look just like your sister only t find out that we were sisters also. I miss seeing your smile at Wal-Mart. Love you always

Latoya Perry - January 05, 2015 at 08:25 AM



“ Our deepest sympathies go out to you and your family. May God give you the comfort and peace.

Lisa, Torrance (c/o 08), Brandon and Kyera Whitaker

Lisa Whitaker - January 04, 2015 at 09:39 PM



“ Akiah, I am so thankful to have had the pleasure of knowing you during our childhood. We spent many years together ever since we shared a homeroom class in the fourth grade. Your sweet disposition and driven personality has always inspired me. Anything you aspired to do, you set out and accomplished. Your passion for life was something I will never forget. Although we may have drifted apart over the years, I will always remember your sweet smile. As I witnessed today, you have touched the hearts and lives of so many people. You are deeply loved and missed.

Katie Ward - January 04, 2015 at 09:03 PM



“ Barbara Hodge Lee lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



Barbara Hodge Lee - January 04, 2015 at 12:51 AM

ND

“ *Niki DeLoach lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Niki DeLoach** - January 03, 2015 at 11:40 PM

AC

“ *I'm going to miss you girl.... My best friend gone to soon.. all the memories I still hold in my heart from childhood to adulthood will never fade away...I lost my best friend and my sister.. Love you Kiah.*

---

**Andrea Clark** - January 03, 2015 at 06:59 PM



“ *Tyrone Perkins lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Tyrone Perkins** - January 03, 2015 at 04:10 PM

RO

“ *Roz lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Roz** - January 03, 2015 at 02:52 PM



“ *Ms. Pearl and Family,*

*We, at CASA, were so happy for Akiah when she was chosen to work at DFCS! We will miss Akiah and will continue to keep you in our thoughts and prayers.*

*May God bless you with memories that lift you up during this unexpected, and difficult journey,*

*Lainie, Sharon, Eileen and the Board of Directors*

---

**Lainie Jenkins** - January 03, 2015 at 02:48 PM



“ *Ashley Davis lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Ashley Davis** - January 03, 2015 at 01:18 PM



“ *Keisha Jackson lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Keisha Jackson** - January 03, 2015 at 12:40 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith.*



---

January 03, 2015 at 09:48 AM



“ *Pearl,  
I am saddened by this news. Your daughter was such a wonderful young lady with so much promise. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this most difficult time.  
Donna Whitt  
Blowing Rock, NC (formerly of Statesboro and EGRMC)*

---

**Donna Whitt** - January 03, 2015 at 08:51 AM



“ *Velma L. Littles purchased the Thinking of You - Angel for the family of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith.*



---

**Velma L. Littles** - January 03, 2015 at 08:22 AM



“ *Lucia Wallace lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Lucia Wallace** - January 03, 2015 at 03:01 AM

VS

“ *May you rest in heaven so peacefully!* 🙏👉

-----  
**veronica smith** - January 02, 2015 at 10:44 PM



“ *Akiah you were such a beautiful person. Although I feel you were taken away too soon, I am comforted by the fact that I know you are in a glorious place. With your dedication to helping others, I know you would have flourish in your career since graduating from Georgia Southern. You will be deeply missed my cousin and friend. I love you.*

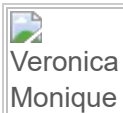
-----  
**Jap White** - January 02, 2015 at 10:12 PM

SK

“ *Sophia Kirkland lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



-----  
**sophia kirkland** - January 02, 2015 at 10:04 PM



“ *Veronica Monique lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



-----  
**Veronica Monique** - January 02, 2015 at 09:52 PM

TB

“ *Seeing you and you always smiled.. U will be truly missed*

-----  
**tiki brock** - January 02, 2015 at 09:20 PM

CW

“ I will all ways reamber the last word you sayed to me.But i no you are going to a better place.

Connie Wallace - January 02, 2015 at 09:10 PM



“ Akiah, I'm so glad I got to know you, you were such a sweet person, I always looked for your register at Walmart. Rest in peace, prayers to your family..



Kristi Melancon - January 02, 2015 at 08:46 PM

GD

“ I am so sorry for your loss she was such a beautiful young lady



glenese doyle - January 02, 2015 at 08:19 PM

KA

“ KATRICE lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



KATRICE - January 02, 2015 at 08:17 PM

MT

“ Pearl - know that you are in my prayers for peace in the coming days.  
Marilyn Turner

Marilyn T - January 02, 2015 at 08:12 PM

LS

“ Latasha Scott lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



Latasha Scott - January 02, 2015 at 07:49 PM

CP

“ Celentria Prince-Young lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



Celentria Prince-Young - January 02, 2015 at 07:01 PM



The loss of someone close is difficult to bear. We share your grief. Our hearts go out to you @ this time & in the days ahead. May your memories bring you comfort. God Bless! Love Always

Celentria Young - January 02, 2015 at 07:28 PM

SS

“ Sharmin Smith lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



Sharmin Smith - January 02, 2015 at 06:12 PM

BD

“ I love and miss you so much Akiah. I will never forget the many memories we shared. You were so strong, smart, and selfless. We did not become close until we began college but I feel like I've known you forever. We often joked about being the same person because we were so much alike. I feel so empty without you here. I thank God for our friendship. Although my heart aches because you are gone, I know you are in a better place. RJ and I love you and will forever keep you in our hearts.



Brittany Davis - January 02, 2015 at 04:37 PM

MK

“ Mandy Kennedy lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith




Mandy Kennedy - January 02, 2015 at 02:30 PM

DF

“ Mrs. Yoko Parker and Family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Debra B. Frazier- Principal  
Faculty and Staff  
Midway Middle School

---

**debra frazier** - January 02, 2015 at 01:20 PM

 Shelia  
Mosley

“ Sending my prayers and condolences to Akiah's family. It was a  
pleasure working with her. She was a kind hearted individual who  
always kept a smile on her face and always had a positive attitude.  
Heaven has truly gained an angel. RIP Akiah.

---

**Shelia Mosley** - January 02, 2015 at 12:40 PM

YT

“ To Pearl and the rest of the family. I was so sorry to hear of your  
lost. My prayers and thoughts are with you.

---

**Your Cousin Ruby (Mae) Tullie** - January 02, 2015 at 12:37 PM

RH

“ Robin Hodge lit a candle in memory of Akiah  
Kamil "Grace" Smith



---

**Robin Hodge** - January 02, 2015 at 12:23 PM



“ *I love you girl and you will be always and forever missed.* ”



---

**Melanie Powell** - January 02, 2015 at 10:33 AM

AR

“ *Akiah was a sweet person with a kind and genuine spirit! Sending my condolences to her family and friends.* ”

---

**Alexis Riddles** - January 02, 2015 at 10:23 AM

SB

“ *Heaven gained another angel! RIP Baby Girl!* ”



---

**Sherri Brady** - January 02, 2015 at 05:07 AM

KL

“ *Sorry for your loss. She will be missed.* ”

---

**kendria little** - January 01, 2015 at 11:05 PM

CH

“ *Praying for the family.* ”

---

**Carrie Hicks** - January 01, 2015 at 09:14 PM

PS

“ I am very saddened to hear of the loss of one so young and full of a promise. I had the privilege of teaching Akiah in eighth grade and again her senior year, but there were many times that she taught me something too. She worked so hard to finish her degree so that she could begin her plans to work as a child advocate. The last time we talked we discussed the LSATs and law school. I know Akiah's heart and passion was for children and taking care of her family and friends. She had a heart for God and an unwavering dedication to serving others. My heart is heavy with the loss of this beautiful young woman who meant so much to so many.

*Paige Sutcliff*

---

**paige sutcliff** - January 01, 2015 at 08:51 PM

EM

“ Eugene Martin lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



---

**Eugene Martin** - January 01, 2015 at 08:24 PM

PO

“ Praying for The Smith Family...

*P. Oglesby & Family*

---

**Penny Oglesby** - January 01, 2015 at 07:11 PM

LJ

“ *Lynette Jones lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



Lynette Jones - January 01, 2015 at 07:02 PM

LJ

“ *Lynette Jones lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



Lynette Jones - January 01, 2015 at 07:02 PM

LaShonda Davis

“ *Akiah was a very sweet peon very quite. She was the most kind and polite person I've ever met. When I was hired on at Wal-Mart #0754 she was on of the people who helped me learn the register. Her smile will truly be missed she will never be forgotten. Rest In Peace my friend and coworker*

LaShonda Davis - January 01, 2015 at 04:34 PM



“ *Akiah was very welcoming to me when I first transferred to WalMart 754! She was a very warm and caring person! May she rest in peace with Jesus and the angels*

Stacy Harrill - January 01, 2015 at 03:55 PM

KL

“ *Kenosha Love lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



Kenosha Love - January 01, 2015 at 02:51 PM

RM

“ *Ralpheal Myers lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



Ralpheal Myers - January 01, 2015 at 02:32 PM

RM

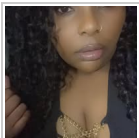
*Praying for the family. So sorry for your Loss*

Ralpheal Myers - January 01, 2015 at 02:34 PM

PH

*A --is for AUTHENTIC  
K-- is for KIND  
I-- is for INSPIRING  
A-- is for AWESOME  
H--is for HUMBLE  
I thank God for your Life sweet girl, you made a big impact in a short time! Pam Hill*

Pam Hill - January 05, 2015 at 01:32 PM



“ *I thank God for allowing me to know you. May you rest in eternal peace and the Holy Spirit continue to comfort us.*

Ronesha Davis - January 01, 2015 at 02:25 PM

YP

“ Yvette Postell lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



yvette postell - January 01, 2015 at 02:00 PM

YP

“ Yvette Postell sent a virtual gift in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



yvette postell - January 01, 2015 at 02:00 PM

LS

“ Sending my prayers and condolences to the Family

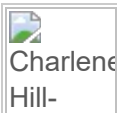


Lavern Smith - January 01, 2015 at 01:18 PM

CM

“ Prayers for the loss of such a beautiful young soul. I'll miss your smile. RIP Kia.

caroline mitchell - January 01, 2015 at 11:51 AM



Charlene Hill-

So sorry for your loss. My condolences for you and your family.

Charlene Hill-Hendrix - January 01, 2015 at 12:07 PM

DD

“ Debra DeLoach-Jones lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



Debra DeLoach-Jones - January 01, 2015 at 11:46 AM



“ Prayers Goes out to the family and friends!!



Ashley Jones - January 01, 2015 at 11:14 AM

-E

“ Gone sooo soon... Such a sweet, loving, and very intelligent young lady... You definitely will be missed... I will never forget that smile every time I walked in Walmart I would say "smile girl it's not that bad" All she could say is "girl you just don't know "...Now you in a better place



-Cashmere Engles - January 01, 2015 at 09:59 AM

TF

“ Akiah, I am at a lost for words. You were a beautiful person inside and out. I remember you as a great student that always had a smile on your face. Rest in peace sweet heart.

Teresa Flemming - January 01, 2015 at 09:58 AM

LC

“ I am so sorry to hear about Akiah's passing. She was one of my Boys & Girls club babies whom I loved and enjoyed watching her bloom into a wonderful young woman. I always marveled at the closeness of your family and I am confident that your love for one another and Gods peace will carry you through this difficult time.



Lisa Campbell - January 01, 2015 at 09:57 AM

KF

Pearl I am so sorry to read of your loss heaven has another angel May God wrap his loving arms around you and your family and give you all comfort My prayers and thoughts are with you

karen fadden - January 01, 2015 at 01:48 PM

Gwen Ray

“ I love you girl especially whenever we linked up and took off in the infinity jeep lol we stayed on the road every weekend plus the countless sleepovers lol because my parents wouldn't let me go anywhere so I was basically Mrs. Pearl second child.. I'm really going to miss you we always stuck by each other side no matter what... My heart hurts because you're gone but I rejoice because you don't have to suffer anymore .. Love you Akiah

Gwen Ray - January 01, 2015 at 09:56 AM

Tybee Smith

“ Tybee Smith lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



Tybee Smith - January 01, 2015 at 09:37 AM

DD

“ *Debbie Davis purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith.*



---

**Debbie Davis** - January 01, 2015 at 08:52 AM

PL

“ *My condolences goes out to Pearl Smith and the Smith/Roberson family. Prayers going up.*



---

**Phyllis Lemon-Bell** - January 01, 2015 at 08:30 AM

OM

“ *Ontario Martin lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**ontario martin** - January 01, 2015 at 08:18 AM

TH

“ *TRACY PENDERGRASS HOUSTON lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**TRACY PENDERGRASS HOUSTON** - December 31, 2014 at 10:58 PM

DB

“ Akiah, so many memories I do not know where to start, but Kiah was always there when I needed her. We had so many talks about how things in life were changing, but we could always count on each other to stay the same. I know she loved her mom and sisters dearly and looked up to them. Akiah will be missed in more ways than imaginable, but I already feel her presence. My guardian angel.

Diondra Brown - December 31, 2014 at 07:27 PM

VC

“ Vicki Lipsey Coppock lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



vicki Lipsey Coppock - December 31, 2014 at 07:15 PM

DE

“ Destiny sent a virtual gift in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



destiny - December 31, 2014 at 06:07 PM

MD

“ Mignone Davis lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith



Mignone Davis - December 31, 2014 at 05:37 PM

KW

“ *My deepest sympathy for such a beautiful life. May the family find comfort, peace, and joy in the loving memories. Rest assured this is not the end but a beginning and you shall meet again.*

*Kimberly Pendergrass Wilson*

---

**Kimberly Pendergrass Wilson** - December 31, 2014 at 05:27 PM

OG

“ *Ochiki Grimes lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Ochiki Grimes** - December 31, 2014 at 04:02 PM

BC

“ *In reading Akiah's bio, it is clear that like her sisters, she was a gifted, special young woman who left us too soon. She will enrich God's kingdom. My prayers and thoughts are with her and her family. May they all be comforted by their memories of Akiah. Ben Callaway/Friend and Colleague of her sister Latoria*

---

**Ben Callaway** - December 31, 2014 at 03:31 PM

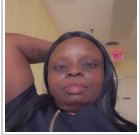


“ *Heartwarming Thoughts Boston Fern was purchased for the family of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith.*



---

December 31, 2014 at 02:15 PM



“ *Charlene Coleman lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Charlene Coleman** - December 31, 2014 at 02:09 PM



“ *Rev. Velma Littles lit a candle in memory of Akiah Kamil "Grace" Smith*



---

**Rev. Velma Littles** - December 31, 2014 at 02:03 PM