

*Ms. Deborah Wilkerson Smith* was born in Sumter County, Georgia on February 11, 1956, to the parents of the late Mr. James Bell and Mrs. Annie Ruth Wilkerson Jones of Detroit, Michigan. She received her education in the public schools of Sumter County. She also attended Georgia Southwestern College. Deborah was employed as a CNA with Sumter Regional Hospital and Magnolia Manor Nursing Center. At an early age, she joined the Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, where she served faithfully until her health failed.

She is preceded in death by two brothers: Lawrence P. Small and James Bell, Jr.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her daughter, Ms. Tiffany Smith and her fiancé, Mr. Stacey Journey, Americus, GA; her grandchildren: Willie Chambers, Tyler Chambers, Daehlyn Journey, Kaidon Journey and Loveill Journey, all of Americus, GA; one brother, Mr. Tilmothy Vernell (Debra Ann) Wilkerson, Americus, GA; two sisters: Ms. Diane Coleman and Ms. Melinda Price, both of Atlanta, GA; a host of nieces, including, Mrs. Terri Ann Wilkerson (Brandon) Sims, Ms. Cheryl Wilkerson, Ms. Sherry Wilkerson, Ms. Kirstie Wilkerson, Ms. Melissa Wilkerson, all of Americus, GA; Ms. Lakecia Spears, Detroit, MI; Ms. Melody Price, Ms. Sherry Price, Ms. Angie Price and Ms. Keshia Price, all of Atlanta, GA; cousins including, Ms. Sallie Ann Barnes, Cleveland, OH and a devoted cousin who was more like a sister, Mrs. Betty (Thomas) Bell, Americus, GA; her Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church family and the 8th United Holiness Church family and friends also survive.