



## Macletus Marie Dejoie-Smith

July 22, 2018

Macletus Marie Dejoie-Smith, Ph.D., age 62, passed away peacefully on July 22, 2018 at Passages Hospice in New Orleans due to complications related to a year-long battle with cancer. Beloved wife for 38 years of Michael Smith, Ph.D., loving mother of Gabrielle Renée Dejoie Smith, daughter of Macletus Terrell Dejoie and the late Joseph Adolph Blaine Dejoie Jr., beloved sister of J.A. Blaine Dejoie III, Kristen Wilson and the late Michelle Dejoie- Manning, beloved aunt of Kobie Kennon, beloved sister-in-law of Charles and Maggie Smith. A native New Orleanian, Dr. Dejoie-Smith attended St. Francis Cabrini Elementary where she and two of her siblings were among the first class of African Americans to integrate the school. She went on to attend Mount Carmel Academy before obtaining her B.A from Yale University and her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from University of California, Berkeley. She attended Yale in the early years of coeducation at that institution and was the youngest student to be accepted into the clinical psychology doctoral program at Berkeley at age 19. After obtaining her doctorate, Dr. Dejoie-Smith worked professionally for many years as a licensed clinical psychologist in Washington, D.C. while residing with her husband and daughter in Silver Spring, Maryland. She returned to reside and work professionally in New Orleans in 2010. She was licensed as a clinical psychologist in Louisiana and prior to being diagnosed with esophageal cancer in 2017 had just passed a national licensing exam to become a medical psychologist in Louisiana. She was highly respected and loved by members of her own and husband's

families and by numerous friends and colleagues. She loved to cook for family holiday gatherings. For many of her daughter's growing up years she was a "cub" mother to many of her daughter's friends. She was a warm and devoted aunt to her siblings' children and grandchildren and to her late sister-in-law's child and grandchildren. She had a deep, caring relationship with her late mother-in-law. Her kindness, sharp wit, generosity and love of family will be sadly missed.

Relatives and friends of the family, priest and parishioners of Transfiguration Catholic Church are invited to attend a Memorial Service at Transfiguration Catholic Church, 5621 Elysian Fields Ave. on Saturday, July 28, 2018 at 11:00 am with Father Paul Desrosiers, Celebrant. Visitation will begin at 10:00 am. Interment: St. Louis # 3 Cemetery. Arrangements by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Ave. Please visit [www.rhodesfuneral.com](http://www.rhodesfuneral.com) to sign the guestbook.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Louis #3 Cemetery

3421 Esplanade Ave  
New Orleans, LA 70119

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Transfiguration of Our Lord Catholic Church  
2212 Prentiss Ave  
New Orleans, LA 70122  
(504) 282-0444

## Memorial Service

JUL 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

Transfiguration of Our Lord Catholic Church  
2212 Prentiss Ave  
New Orleans, LA 70122  
(504) 282-0444

# Tribute Wall

VK

“ We are deeply saddened by the news of Mac’s passing. We sincerely regret that we are unable to travel to New Orleans for her services. Please know that we are there in spirit and share your grief for a life lost too soon. She was courageous in her illness. May her soul Rest In Peace.  
Walter, Viola and family

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**viola king** - July 30, 2018 at 12:58 PM

KQ

“ I will miss my dear friend. I will always treasure our years at Yale, in California and in Washington, DC. I have no word to express how sad I am. I extend my deepest sympathy to Michael and Gabrielle.  
Karen Q.

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**karen quash** - July 29, 2018 at 03:36 PM

AM

“ I first met Mac in college when she was probably 15 years old, yet I had no idea. She always carried herself in a manner that belied her true age. There were a lot of intelligent people at Yale but she was one of the few that was equally as good socially. She had a way of meeting you on your own level. It was a kind of confidence born of an interest to know more about you then to talk about herself. You know her interest was genuine. She was clearly intrigued by the world and wanted to know more. I was not at all surprised that she chose to become a psychologist. It just seems like a natural course for her to want to use her skills to help others. I am certain that like myself there are many people who she has touched who are saddened at her loss. But I can also say that we are all fortunate to have had the opportunity to share time with her. May God Bless her and grant his grace and peace to her family.

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**Alton Martin** - July 27, 2018 at 04:02 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Macletus Marie Dejoie-Smith.*



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July 26, 2018 at 05:41 PM