

FAMILY TRIBUTE

TRIBUTE TO --
INEZ EUPHEMIA
SMITH

1935 - 2024



Tribute To --Inez Euphemia Smith

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"If it falls to our luck to be street-sweepers, sweep the streets, like Raphael painted pictures, like Michelangelo carved marble, like Shakespeare wrote poetry, and like Beethoven composed music. Sweep the streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth would have to pause and sayHere lived a great street sweeper"

These words were spoken by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., on June 20, 1965, in Kingston, Jamaica, at the Valedictory Service of the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.

The words from the quotation that are etched in our thoughts are the words, "here lived a great street sweeper." As we reflect on the life of Inez Euphemia Smith, we can't help but focus on the fact that in her body lived a great mother, grandmother, great grandmother, relative, friend, neighbour and mentor who tried relentlessly to be the best human being she could be to her children, family and friends.

Inez Euphemia Smith was a Woman of Prayer, who was acutely aware of the awesomeness of her God, which led her to daily spend quality time in her "secret place" communicating with her Maker. This resulted in a deep settled peace in her demeanor and a life without many complaints, regardless of her prevailing circumstances and what she was experiencing with her health challenges.

One could not help but be impressed by how much tender sympathy and empathy Sis Inez had toward her children and for anyone who was suffering to any degree. No matter the situation, great or small, she was always ready to offer a word of comfort, with prayer, and it came from a heart full of pity and love. Sis Inez loved her children and grand-children with all her "heart, soul and body". At the mere mention of their names, she would often breathe a prayer. We recall that on one occasion, shortly after the passing of her late husband, David, in 2022, while being driven from Mandeville to Kingston, she prayed all the way: she prayed for all family members – mentioning their names individually, she prayed for her Pastors and church members, friends, associates and even those in positions of leadership in our country. She was constantly in Prayer!

She always wished to be able to give more and to do more for family and friends, but more importantly she sent many prayers up to our great High Priest, Jesus Christ. Some of those prayers have yet to be answered affirmatively. It now remains for those who remain to make sure that these prayers are answered in the affirmative. This will give Sis Inez great joy at the resurrection of the righteous saints.

Inez genuinely loved her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, which manifested itself in her godly actions. She was the epitome of kindness and had a genuine and uncommon concern for the plight of others, which led her to always give generously and without any expectations to be rewarded in return. We recall that she went to a church service in Mandeville and sat beside a young lady and her little girl. She was so moved by what she saw that shortly after Sis Inez received some stuff from the USA and from the little she received, she packed two reasonably sized bags and sent to the little girl. Her kindness didn't stop there, a few months later that year, 2023, she traveled to the USA, from where she made several calls to ascertain the little girl's dress size and brought back a church dress for her and had it delivered. Such was the liberality of her giving and her kindness!

Inez Smith could not paint pictures like Raphael, carve marble like Michelangelo, write poetry like Shakespeare, nor compose music like Beethoven; however, she was the best mother, grandmother, great grandmother, relative, saint and friend you could ever hope for.

Now that she is gone, we now have to treasure the precious memories we shared during her lifetime, which will always live on in our hearts.

Sis Inez, may you now, with your Saviour, Jesus Christ, rest in peace.

Grace be unto you all and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.