



Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones

February 16, 1962 - October 26, 2025

Dr. Cynthia Marie Smith Jones was born in Sumter, SC, on February 16, 1962. She transitioned from this life on October 26, 2025, at Lexington Medical Center in West Columbia, SC.

She was reared in Sumter in a love-filled home by her loving and doting parents, TSgt. John L. Smith Sr. and Mrs. Edith Monroe Smith. She attended public schools in Sumter and graduated from Sumter High School in 1980. Known for her infectious smile and cheerful spirit, she was a very proud cheerleader for the Sumter High School Gamecocks.

She earned both a B.S. degree in psychology and an M.A. in rehabilitation counseling from SC State University. For a combined 30-plus years, she was employed with the SC Department of Social Services and the SC Department of Mental Health, which is now the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. Working primarily as a child therapist and school-based counselor, she was adored for her effective and genuine helping spirit by her student-clients, parents, teachers, counselors, and administrators. Her supervisors and peers admired her ability to foster a sense of calm even in emotionally-charged situations.

While in graduate school, she served as the assistant coach of the SC State University cheerleaders. She helped coach conference championship-winning

cheer teams that also gained national recognition. Coach "Cynt" really knew how to get the cheer team excited about getting SC State fans to "get up for the Bulldogs!"

A proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., she wore adoringly attractive pink and green outfits on various occasions and would often "Skee-wee" her sisters at a distance. However, she respected women of all sororities, particularly those associated with the Divine Nine.

A devoted member of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Sumter, she would always rally to the church's calls as needed. She had much admiration and respect for the pastor, Rev. Dr. James Blassingame, as well as First Lady Dr. Shirley M. Blassingame. She also had high regard for the Deacons and Deaconesses, the choirs, the ushers, etc, all who made Mount Zion such a special place to worship.

Certainly, she was filled with God's holy spirit and was committed to spreading His word in her own way. In fact, she earned a doctorate in Christian counseling from the Carolina Theological Bible Institute, but did not universally claim that she was "trained in the ministry." However, she was God's servant to all who knew her well.

Dr. Smith leaves to cherish memories of her beautiful and loving spirit: Dr. Carl E. Jones, her devoted and loving husband of over 24 years; Carl Edison Jones II, better known as "CJ," her son and the absolute charm of her life; Alysee C. Jones, her step-daughter and cheer partner of the USC Gamecocks; Cooper Jones-Brown, her step-grandson and budding star athlete; John (Doris) Smith, her highly respected big brother; Lorraine Smith, her long-adored big sister; Tyrone (Mary) Smith, her twin-like and very supportive younger brother; Lakita Smith, her ever-admiring and always there little sister; her very caring and much appreciated nephews Antwan Smith, Chris (Lyntavia) Smith, Tyrone Smith, Jr., and Joshua

(Atiera) Smith; SSG (Ret). Donald Jones, her brother-in-law and phone pal; Mrs. Louise D. Matthews, her special auntie/cousin; as well as a host of other well-thought-of relatives, colleagues, and friends. Of course, special friends who communicated and bonded with her regularly include Dorothy Mae Gadson, Lorraine Dennis, Greta Cooper, Terrie Coulter, and Gino Culbreath.

Cynthia is now leading cheers in heaven - " Glory Hallelujah!"

Donations can be made to Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Youth Ministry as well as the American Cancer Society/ Breast Cancer Awareness on behalf of Dr. Cynthia Marie Smith Jones.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Memorial Park

2445 Cains Mill Rd
Sumter , SC 29154

Previous Events

Public Viewing

NOV 8. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Palmer Memorial Chapel
304 South Main St.
Sumter, SC 29150
(803) 773-3381

A Celebration of Life

NOV 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church
Sumter, SC 29150

Tribute Wall

EJ

“ *Ethel Jones lit a candle in memory of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones*



Ethel Jones - December 03, 2025 at 05:35 PM

BW

“ *Condolences and prayers to my family. May God wrap his arms around each of you, to give you the strength and peace to endure this moment of loss.*



Blanche Gardner Williams - November 09, 2025 at 03:06 PM

MS

“ *Cynthia and her son were regular attendees of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Orangeburg, SC. We considered them honorary watchcare members and will miss her beautiful smile and sweet spirit. Our sincere prayers and deepest condolences to the family. Submitted by Annette A. Jones on behalf of the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church Family - 3365 North Road, Orangeburg, SC 29118.*



Mt. Calvary Baptist Church-Orangeburg SC - November 09, 2025 at 07:39 AM

PV

“ *My condolences to the family. Cynthia you will be sadly missed. We all love you your coworker of City trend. Sumter. Hattie, Stacey, Patricia, and all who remember you. God Bless.*

P Vaughn - November 08, 2025 at 01:43 PM

PJ

“ *Patricia Jefferson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones*



Patricia Jefferson - November 08, 2025 at 12:01 PM

DB

“ *Condolences to the Smith Jones family.
Cynthia, such a beautiful spirit
; her smile and genuineness will be missed ..
God's word assures us ..
" To be absent from the body is to be present
with Lord .. " God has taken his Angel home ..*



Deborah Bennett - November 08, 2025 at 09:07 AM

SH

“ *My Prayers and Heartfelt Sympathy to Carl, CJ, the Jones and Smith Family... Cynthia and I have been friends since 7th grade she always greeted you with that Beautiful Smile..and making sure you were ok. Caring for others was her passion. She loved God, her family, and her classmates dearly and we loved her.
Sleep in Peace my Dear Friend/Classmate
Love you Sis❤️ from Sharon H. And the Sumter High Class of '80
💙💛*

Sharon H - November 08, 2025 at 01:49 AM

DS

“*“Jones” was the best supervisor I've had in my entire 23 years with OMH. When I left OAMHC in 2009, we remained in contact, every major milestone I've had, she's been there, from my child's birth 22 years ago, to my call into the ministry, birthdays to my wedding day! I loved then and I'll love you forever Jones! Thanks for being one of my greatest cheerleaders. To CJ know that "Aunt Lucina" loves you and will continue to be here for you! My prayers of comfort to the entire family!*”



Dr. Lucina Smith-Brooks - November 07, 2025 at 08:58 PM

PS

“*To the Smith and Jones family my deepest Condolences to each and everyone of you'll. Cynthia was a very kind, sweet, nice and always greet you with a smile. May God continue to keep you'll close in his arms and give you'll strength as you'll go through this 🙏🙏*”



Patricia Smalls - November 07, 2025 at 03:58 PM



“*Sacred Garden Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones.*”



November 07, 2025 at 12:46 PM

CS

“ Calhoun County Public Schools purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones.



Calhoun County Public Schools - November 07, 2025 at 09:12 AM

GC

“ Cynthia will be truly missed. She was such sweet sweet spirit. To her dear family, just know that Heaven has gained another beautiful angel. My sincere condolences and prayers. 🙏💔🙏🙏 Gwen Cofield

Gwendolyn Cofield - November 07, 2025 at 04:17 AM

JF

“ Jerry And Lisa Canty & Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones



Jerry and Lisa Canty & Family - November 06, 2025 at 07:46 PM

LD

“ Linda Daniels-Williams purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones.



Linda Daniels-Williams - November 05, 2025 at 07:59 PM

DF

“ I send condolences to the Jones and Smith family on the passing of a beautiful young lady. May his peace surround Dr. Carl, CJ and other family members. I will always remember that beautiful smile.

Doris Felder, class of 1976, SCSU

Doris Felder - November 05, 2025 at 03:55 PM

HL

“ Henry (Dal) & Penelope Laws purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones.



Henry (Dal) & Penelope Laws - November 04, 2025 at 11:21 AM

TF

“ Our condolences and prayers to the loved ones and friends.



Tammy Harrison-Edwards & Family - November 02, 2025 at 10:08 PM

TC

“ Cynthia Marie Smith Jones possessed a beautiful, caring, generous, and kind spirit. Cynthia was always the same with that glow and infectious smile that was in its own ways soothing. Her presence was like light. May Cynthia rest well, for she is remembered dearly and fondly. We surround Dr. Carl Jones and Carl II in loving prayers as Cynthia was the light of their lives. Terrence M. Cummings, Blythewood, SC



Terrence M Cummings - November 01, 2025 at 06:06 PM

BH

“ It was with great sadness to hear of the passing of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones, a former colleague and dear friend. Condolences to her husband, Dr. Carl Jones, also a dear friend, and all who loved Cynthia. We have lots of fond memories of her as a cheerleader and later assistant cheerleader coach at SC State. It is our hope that the fond memories of her by family and friends will help everyone during this sad time./Bill Hamilton (SC State Athletics)

Bill Hamilton - October 31, 2025 at 10:42 AM

MT



Myron Thomas - October 31, 2025 at 07:43 AM

DP

“ Deborah P. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones.



Deborah P. - October 30, 2025 at 09:55 PM

CT

“ *Charlena Smith Timmons lit a candle in memory of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones*



Charlena Smith Timmons - October 30, 2025 at 11:05 AM

AB

“ *Dr. Cynthia and I met at our beloved South Carolina State University. Cynt was such a beautiful, kind soul and her laugh and smile was infectious. She was a bright light always when we saw each other. We created nicknames for each other at SCSU and would always dance and say I miss you "TaaTaa" when we say each other. Well, my dear sweet friend and Alumni, rest in God's arms, you fought a good fight TaaTaa! Until we meet again in Heaven. Love you!*

Allene Brailsford Blanding Class of '89 SCSCU

Allene Brailsford Blanding - October 30, 2025 at 10:35 AM

L.

“ *Leo, Valarie Cooper..Waukegan, ILL .. purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones.*



Leo, Valarie Cooper..Waukegan, ILL .. - October 30, 2025 at 02:46 AM

GN

“ Gloria Nesmith-Clark lit a candle in memory of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones



Gloria Nesmith-Clark - October 29, 2025 at 05:17 AM

SR

“ My classmate, neighbor and friend who was always the best and brightest simply put the shiny star.

Stan Rhodes - October 28, 2025 at 02:00 PM

MR

“ Mister Emmanuel S Randolph lit a candle in memory of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones



Mister Emmanuel S Randolph - October 28, 2025 at 10:40 AM

BJ

“ My sincere condolences to the family of a lovely young lady and my Sorority sister. She always wore a beautiful smile. RIP Cynthia!💕
💚

Brenda Jackson-Mcknight - October 28, 2025 at 09:55 AM

TF

“ *Sending our sympathy and condolences and prayers to the family and relatives and friends.*



Tammy Harrison-Edwards & Family - October 27, 2025 at 11:43 PM

MS

“ *Miriam Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. Cynthia Smith Jones*



Miriam Smith - October 27, 2025 at 09:22 PM

LB

THE WORLD WILL MISS THE ,MOST BEAUTIFUL PERSON I HAVE EVER KNOWN, I STILL CAN REMEMBER YOU TRAINING ME AT SDLC, I WILL NEVER FOR GET YOU, PRAYERS FOR YOUR FAMILY, REST EASY

LAVONDA BUTLER - November 08, 2025 at 12:10 PM