



Xavier Michael Smith

December 28, 2007 - December 7, 2025

Xavier Michael Smith, 17, of Newark, DE, passed away suddenly and tragically on Sunday, December 7th. He was born on December 28, 2007, in Newark, the beloved son of Brian E. and Jenine E. Smith.

Xavier, a senior in high school, was an extraordinary young man with an old soul and a heart of service. An electrical apprentice, and a whiz with audio-visual systems at the hall, he loved working with his hands and had many LDC projects to his credit. He had a brilliant mind, he found joy in books, treasured his stuffed animals, and held a genuine love for all animals, especially dogs. As a regular Auxiliary Pioneer for about a year, his faith was a cornerstone of his life.

But Xavier will be remembered most for the way he loved people. He was famous for his incredible, all-encompassing hugs—a warm-hearted, fun, and ever-willing helper. Known affectionately as “the congregation baby,” he was a friend to all ages, a cherished son to the entire Iron Hill congregation, and nearly adopted by the White Clay congregation. His warmth created a family far beyond blood.

Xavier is survived by his parents, Brian E. and Jenine Smith; his brother, Ean R. Lewis; nephews, Easton R. Lewis and Emari R. Lewis, his “Grandmama” Vernetta Smith; his “Big Poppa” Joseph Jay Reid (Sharon); uncles Lester E.

(Malina)Smith, Jr., Christopher E. (Sylvia)Smith, and Joseph Cabrera; aunts Lynette Smith, Felicia Reid, Christine Sanders; and a host of cousins and special aunts and uncles who loved him as their own, changed his diapers, gave him his first haircut, banded his wounds, kissed his forehead and his baby feet (you know who you are), those who would feed him, and supply him with his favorite mints. They cared for him from his earliest days, and whose guidance he valued deeply. He is also survived by his immense and grieving Iron Hill Family. Along with a host of many close friends.

The family wishes to express that the outpouring of love and support is the only thing sustaining them through this shared loss. As the congregation's son, grandson, nephew, and friend, they ask all who loved him: "May we keep holding each other up, keeping our integrity, so the Iron Hill Family can welcome him back in God's New World."

Family and friends are invited to attend a visitation for Xavier on Saturday, December 20, 2025 from 1PM - 3PM at Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home, 635 Churchmans Rd., Newark, DE 19702. A service in honor of his life will be follow at 4 p.m., at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 3011 N Heald St. Wilmington DE.

Zoom information: Meeting ID: 853 6834 6971

Passcode: 12202025

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you honor Xavier's memory by offering a heartfelt hug to someone who needs it, lending a helping hand, or through acts of kindness that reflect his generous spirit.

For directions or to send an online condolence, visit www.stranofeeley.com

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 20. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
635 Churchmans Rd.
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 731-5459

Service

DEC 20. 4:00 PM (ET)

KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
3011 N. Heald Street
Wilmington, DE

Tribute Wall

FL

“ Felicia's co-workers at Barnard Library purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Xavier Michael Smith.



Felicia's co-workers at Barnard Library - December 17, 2025
at 09:24 AM

SH

“ Sharlene sent a virtual gift in memory of Xavier Smith



Sharlene - December 16, 2025 at 11:20 AM

NR

“ I will always remember our trips to build a bear and his smile and many hugs so many that made any bad day better and that smile that just would light up a room. Brian and Janine and family my sincerest condolences and many hugs and love it send to you all today, tomorrow and always we long for the days of tears of sorrow turn into tears of welcome back.

Niceie Randolph - December 16, 2025 at 09:28 AM

KF

“ Brian and Jenine, how very sad we are for you both as parents and for the whole family with this tragic loss! We will always remember Xavier’s kind and caring disposition when he would visit his friends in our Nottingham congregation. His comments were excellent and so heartfelt. We would always tell him we knew his dad when he was a teenager. His eyes would light up and he would give us a big smile and hug! Keeping you both in our prayers, Kevin and Kathy Fraze

Kevin and Kathy Fraze - December 15, 2025 at 01:59 PM

RS

“ I will miss dearly. He was a son to me. I have enjoyed working out in service with him during the week. Most of all I’ll miss is hugs. No matter where we are in the hall or just standing in the back of the hall he made sure to give his hugs to me or just rest his head on my shoulder. I can’t wait to see him again at his resurrection gathering 🥰



Royena Smith - December 15, 2025 at 09:42 AM

AW

I don’t even know the sweet boy but I tell you I send prayers and hugs to the family. This brought tears my eyes 🙏 this gentleman seemed like he was an extraordinary person that blessed many 🙏 sending my condolence

ANTIONETTE WAITE - December 15, 2025 at 11:11 AM

LW

“ So Sorry For Your Loss. Our Prayers And Condolences Goes Out To The Family. We Pray That The Lord Will Comfort You During This Difficult Time. Larry & Jennett Waters. 🙏

Larry Waters - December 15, 2025 at 07:44 AM

TO

“ Xavier is a gentle and kind soul that took time to say hello and give out a hug to anyone he knew, especially the older ones. He would prop a chair at the entrance at the hall when he was a toddler so that he could reach you for a hug. He rocked his bow ties and a huge loving smile. He has wonderful loving parents. Our family will be one of many in line to give you a hug again when your resurrected in paradise. Until then, rest in God's memory. You were one of the lights he sent out in the world to make people feel loved and happy. We will always recognize and treasure that gift. Goodbye for now sweet boy.

Tona - December 14, 2025 at 01:51 PM

JS

Toña — this is a beautiful tribute! Thank you so much. ❤️

Jenine Smith - December 16, 2025 at 08:09 AM

JS

“ Xavier with Ms. V in Science Olympiad



Jenine Smith - December 14, 2025 at 07:05 AM

SI

“ With Eternity in our hearts our hearts will never heal to the extent necessary to forget. Our grief has no expiration date, as it only changes its appearance in a song, a smell, quiet thought or evening meal. Only our Grand Creator will remove the pain in a blink of an eye when death is no more. Sandy Israel

Sandy Israel - December 13, 2025 at 05:03 PM

AM

“ Alberto, Barbara & Sierra Mace-Moralez purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Xavier Michael Smith.



Alberto, Barbara & Sierra Mace-Moralez - December 13, 2025 at 10:02 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I was fortunate to have taught Xavier at Thurgood Marshall Elementary. He was a bright young man with a big heart. I remember his excitement at Science Olympiad and still have the T-shirt his Mom made for the team. Rest easy, Xavier, you will be missed by many.

Nancy Ventresca - December 12, 2025 at 07:51 PM

JS

Ms. Ventresca!!! Wow!!! Thank you so much

Jenine Smith - December 13, 2025 at 02:04 PM

PY

Xavier, will truly be missed. Our prayers truly go out to the family, He will be missed, but never forgotten. Especially that warm heart, and the hugs that everyone got.

Peter & Yvette Young - December 13, 2025 at 10:20 PM

JS

Ms. V ... I just posted the Team picture here in the Media section. We hope we will get to see you at the viewing or funeral

Jenine Smith - December 14, 2025 at 07:01 AM

KS

“ *I remember a sweet, kind smiling young boy who attended Thurgood Marshall Elementary. May you find comfort in those surrounding you, faith to uphold you and loving memories to heal your heart. He was a wonderful person and will be missed by many. Kelly Stoneman, Retired Teacher, Thurgood Marshall*

Kelly Stoneman - December 12, 2025 at 07:41 PM

JS

Oh wow!! Thank you for your thoughts

Jenine Smith - December 13, 2025 at 02:05 PM

JS

Amazing! Thank you so much for your comments

Jenine Smith - December 14, 2025 at 06:59 AM

AN

“ *Me and my brother used to hang out with him in the Kingdom Hall when we were kids, he was always a kind and great kid. May he rest in peace* 📿🙏



anonymous - December 12, 2025 at 04:49 PM

JS

Thank you 😊

Jenine Smith - December 13, 2025 at 02:06 PM

SC

*To my sweet cousin Sheena,
I am grieving with you and your family for your loss. Through the tears
and tender memories, I've come to believe that healing is not
forgetting. It is remembering with love and walking together toward
light.*

*Your cousin,
Sherry Norris Crankfield*

Sherry Crankfield - December 15, 2025 at 07:16 PM

AD

*It pains our hearts 💕 to know your family is experiencing this
tremendous loss! May the outpouring of love, prayers, and the hope of
the earthly resurrection bring some measure of comfort to all of you!
Lancaster Family of South Carolina*

Anthony, Vanessa and daughters - December 17, 2025 at 06:57 AM