

A Celebration of Life

Imogene Phipps-Usoh was born June 7, 1961 in San Antonio, Texas. She was the fourth of six children born to the late Walter J. Smiley, Sr. and Myrtis (Harvey) Smiley. Her father was an army veteran that allowed Imogene and her siblings to travel the world. She attended grade school in Germany and Italy before settling in Oklahoma City where she graduated from Millwood High School.

Imogene would bless you with conversation and her gift from God...her voice! She accepted Christ at a young age and was a faithful member of Tabitha Baptist Church. At Tabitha, she served as a member of the Mass and Women Choir, Children and Youth worker, Coordinator for the Church Outreach activities with the Oklahoma City Thunder Basketball Team, and a member of Tabitha's Women and Prison Ministry Team. She always gave her time and efforts to assist others.

Following in her father's footsteps, Imogene enlisted in the United States Army in 1979 as a Light Wheeled Vehicle/Generator Mechanic. She served in Desert Storm and was the recipient of Southwest Asia Service Medal with 3 Bronze Service Stars and Kuwait Liberation Medal. She was Honorably Discharged in 1992. Upon leaving the military, Imogene was employed at Hertz and also at the United States Postal Office until her medical retirement in 2007.

Imogene was preceded in death by her parents, Walter James Smiley Sr. and Myrtis Lee Smiley.

Imogene leaves to cherish her memory, her daughters: QuinShana Nicole Tate of Killeen, Texas, and Sonya Lamae Tate of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; one son, Charles Jermaine Tate of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; three sisters: Wanda Faye Phipps (Thomas) of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Linda Gail Satterwhite (William) of Huntsville, Alabama, and Joyce Lewis of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; three brothers: Charles Darnell Jackson (Jacquetta) of Waynesville, Missouri, Walter James Smiley Jr. (Tammie) stationed in Washington DC, and SFC Carlos Smiley stationed at Fort Benning; six grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of other relatives and friends.