

Detroit community mourns the loss of Leon Smith

DETROIT – Leon Smith, an elder in Detroit's LGBT community died Jan.12.

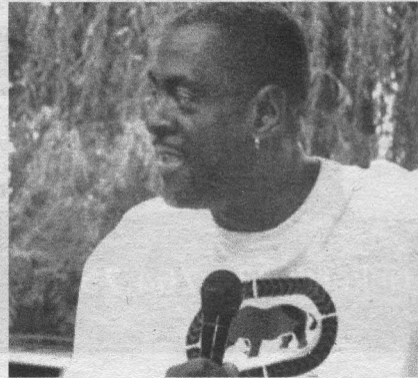
Smith has been an active member of Detroit's LGBT movement since the 1980s. He was an original steering committee member and a key participant in the development of Men of Color Motivational Group, a support for black men. Smith was also an original planning committee member of Detroit's black LGBT pride event Hotter Than July, the statesman for Help & Heal and KICK's faith-based action and support group for HIV men.

“As we prepare for Black History Month let's take a moment to reflect on the life of a man who was a friend, brother, son, mentor, patron, prankster and an inspiration to us all,” KICK commented in an official press release this week.

“KICK sincerely offers heartfelt prayer and continued condolences to Leon's family and all those who have been touched by him throughout the years.”

Services were held Jan. 21.

Leon Smith seen here at Hotter Than July. Photo courtesy of KICK-Detroit



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