

In Memory of Edward C. Smith

April 17, 2023

WHEREAS, we honor the life and legacy of Professor Edward C. Smith, a third-generation Washingtonian who loved history so much that he vowed to read one book each week for the rest of his life; and

WHEREAS, after graduating near the top of his high school class, Professor Smith worked in President Lyndon Baines Johnson's White House mailroom, where his talent for writing became evident; and

WHEREAS, Professor Smith later became deputy speech writer in President Jimmy Carter's White House and went on to write for numerous high-profile publications; and

WHEREAS, along the way, Professor Smith married Mary Magdalene Jefferson Smith with whom he raised six wonderful children; and

WHEREAS, Professor Smith co-founded and taught at the Youth Leadership Foundation and The Heights School and also taught at American University (AU); and

WHEREAS, Professor Smith became the first tenured African American professor at AU where he taught American history for 45 years and was beloved by students and faculty alike; and

WHEREAS, Professor Smith's leadership and commitment were surpassed only by his love of our city and his passion for giving back to the community:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim April 17, 2023, as a day of remembrance in Washington, DC for PROFESSOR EDWARD C. SMITH.

Muriel Bowser Mayor, Washington, DC



