

**2019 Robert R. Moton High School Hall of Fame
Posthumous Nominee**

JOHN T. SMITH, I
EDUCATION

John T. Smith, I. is being honored posthumously as a member of the Robert R. Moton High School Hall of Fame, Class of 2019.

In the short history of Robert R. Moton High School from 1948 to 1970. the school had three high school principals: Mr. William J. Bolden, Mr. John T. Smith, and Mr. John Jackson. The second and the longest tenured principal of these three was Mr. Smith. He replaced Mr. Bolden in 1952 and served from 1952 to the school's final year of existence in 1970.

Mr. Smith received his undergraduate degree from Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama. He obtained a Masters Degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He also pursued his further higher education at the Sorbonne University, in France.

Mr. Smith touched the lives of over 800+ former African American students of Moton High and navigated the segregated Jefferson County school system to develop and improve the curriculum, improved facilities and physical plant. Additions included a new gymnasium, Science Center and Library.

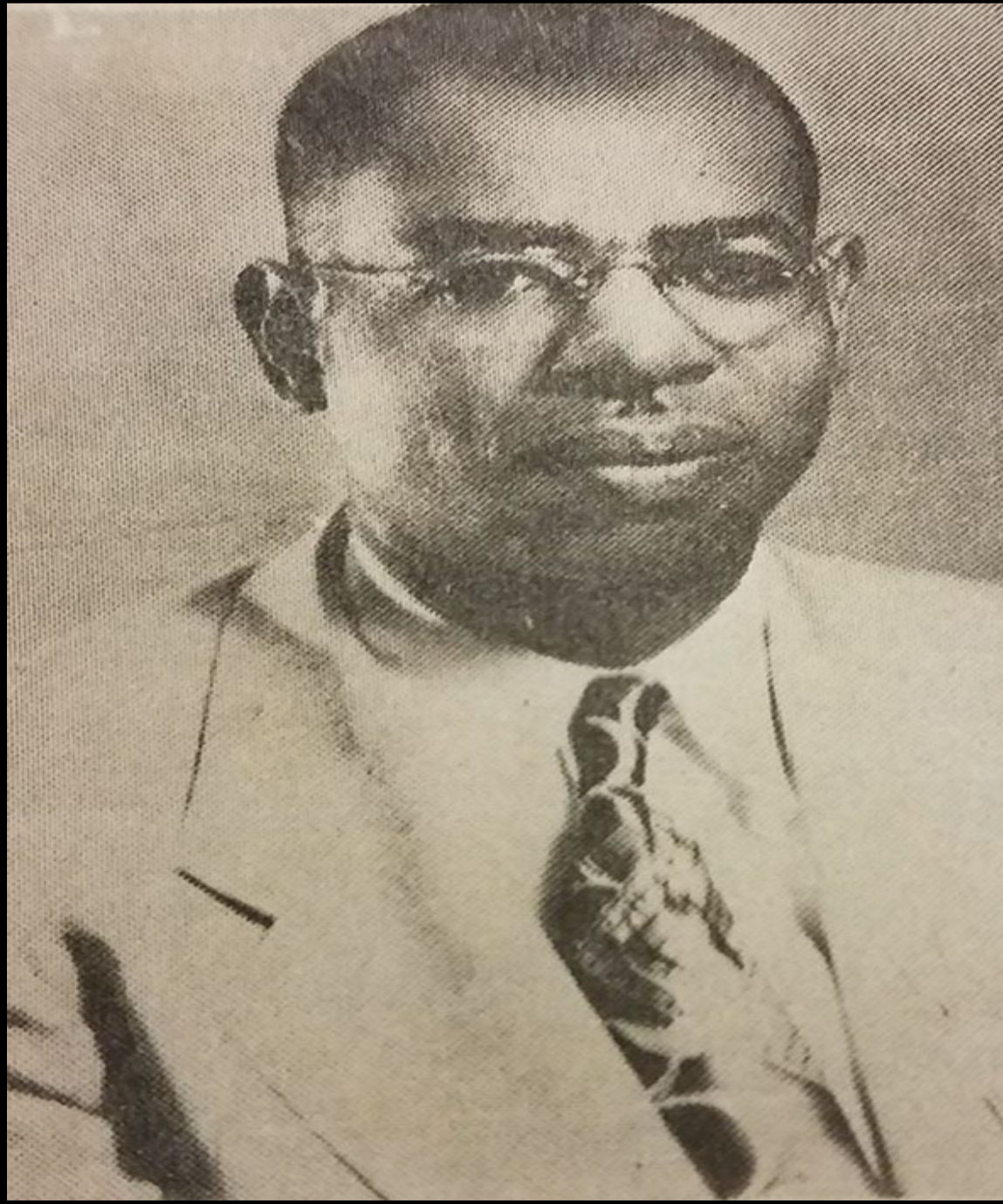
Outstanding students who matriculated at Moton High left to pursue careers in business, ministry, the military, education, peace officers, politics, and sports. At least one former student was able to attend Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts where he received a Doctor of Philosophy degree.

Mr. Smith's life was cut short when a Chilean passenger plane crashed in 1991 during a vacation to South America. The aircraft was bound for Antarctica. He was doing what he enjoyed...seeing the world.

Mr. Smith was married to Mrs. Ida Smith, also an educator. They had two children, John T. Smith, II. and Yvonne Smith Hill.

The Hall of Fame Committee is proud to present Mr. John T. Smith, I. posthumously, for induction into the Robert R. Moton High School Hall of Fame Class of 2019.

Mr. John T. Smith, I was nominated by Raymond E. Marbury, Class of 1962



John T. Smith, Principal
Educator

Mr. John T, Smith distinguished himself as an outstanding Educator and administrator while serving as a Principal and Chief Administrator at Robert R. Moton High School, Leeds, Alabama. His leadership, communication skills, perseverance, and financial initiatives allowed him to achieve high academic levels for his students and funding support from the "separate but equal" segregated Jefferson County School System.

Robert R. Moton High School Hall of Fame Honoree for 2019