



Sunrise July 22, 1927 Sunset October 1, 2011

Service Friday, October 7, 2011 - 12:00 noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue New York, New York 10027

Bishop Oscar Hale, Officiating Cherick Skinner, Organist

<u>Obituary</u>

Helen Louise Simmons was born July 22, 1927 in Charleston, South Carolina to the late Joseph and Mariah Middleton. Helen was one of nine children, five preceded her in death, Allen, Joseph, George, Elliot and Juanita.

Helen married William Simmons and had four children, William, Jr., Henry, Vernese and Johnny. She cherished them all. Helen and William relocated to New York City and lived on 142nd Street for many years where she raised her family. Helen later moved back to Charleston with her husband, who preceded her in death. Helen stayed in Charleston for some years after, but then yearned to be with her children. She returned to New York and lived with her daughter, Vernese. After illness and hospitalization she was then transferred to the Hebrew Home for the Aging in Riverdale where she resided for two years. She made many friends and was always very encouraging. Helen quickly became a favorite to everyone she came in contact with.

Helen's famous words no matter what was "God Is Good" and "God Is Blessing". Helen never lost her faith. She was a true woman of God and on October 1, 2011 she went home to be with the Lord.

Helen leaves to cherish her loving memory: her two sisters, Azalee of Middleton, New York and Mary Middleton of Charleston, South Carolina; one brother, Franklin Middleton of Charleston, South Carolina; one daughter, Vernese; three sons, William, Henry and Johnny; thirteen grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren, one great great grandchild; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Rest Helen, Rest we love you but God Loves you best.

<u>Order of Service</u> Presiding, Rev. Lizzie T. Shuler

| Processional | Clergy & Family |
|------------------|--|
| Selection | Johnny Simmons - Grandson |
| Scripture | Pastor Niki Adwalpalka Crossway Christian Church |
| Prayer | Pastor Ellie Brandon Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church |
| Selection | Catherine Middleton - Niece |
| Acknowledgements | |
| Remarks | |
| Obituary | |
| Eulogy | Bishop Oscar Hail Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church |
| Selection | Cherick Skinner |
| Committal | |
| Viewing | |
| Recessional | |

Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road and the sun has set for me, I want no rites in a gloom filled room, Why cry for a soul set free? Miss me a little-but not too long, and not with your head bowed low. Remember the love that we once shared, Miss me-but let me go. For this is a journey that we all must take, And each must go alone. It's all part of the Master's plan, A step on the road to home. When you are lonely and sick at heart, Go to the friends we know. Laugh at the things we use to do Miss me-but let me go.

-author unknown

<u>Acknowledgement</u>

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kindness during a time of sorrow.

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