

*In Loving Memory
of*



Mary Chambers

Sunrise: March 17, 1918

Sunset: June 10, 2016

Service

Friday, June 17, 2016 - 12:00 Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

The sun rose on the life of **Mary Sims**, daughter of Izzie and Alcinda Sims, on March 17, 1918 in Dumfries, Virginia. Later the family would move to western Pennsylvania. Truth be told (and Mary who was quite fond of telling “the truth”, as she knew it) was actually born on March 8th, but the midwife did not record the birth until the 17th. This later gave family and friends a week long birthday celebration, every year with Mary.

While growing up in Footdale, Pennsylvania, Mary Sims was always close to family. That included, at an early age others, particularly the family across the road, whose young son, Albert, caught her eye, as early as age twelve. During the Christmas holiday of 1935, at the young age of seventeen, Mary bravely moved to New York City to start working. As most of everyone in the family knows, Mary was very proud of being, “The First” in the family to come to New York City, and took particular delight in frequently reminding folks of that trailblazing accomplishment. Later, in New York, Mary reunited with her childhood sweetheart from the family across the street. Mary Sims and W. Albert Chambers were married on May 19, 1938. That incredible union would endure for 69 years, until Albert’s death on June 14, 2007. The couple proudly called Harlem, New York their home.

Mary, now Mary Chambers cherished any time with family. She was straight forward and always sincere, and often reminded us, “I tell it like it is”, reflecting her take-no-prisoners, yet loving spirit. This spirit also fueled an early love to dance, that sparked proud boasts that she could, “close down the joint ...”

Mary was also a great cook. Those skills were equally matched by her high standards for how a house and home should be kept. Mary’s standards never wavered. Ever! An avid reader, Mary kept select family members abreast of current events, ranging from global and political issues, to details about the life and adventures of her favorite celebrities.

Although she was forced to leave school in Pennsylvania early, in exchange for work in New York, she encouraged excellence by her examples and was extremely supportive of the educational and career pursuits of her many nephews, nieces, and loved ones. She enjoyed a long career as a housekeeper and shared fond memories of her many jobs working for a number of appreciative families. Of those families fortunate to cross paths with her, a couple of families in particular, evolved into becoming a part of her own family and remained close for many years after her eventual retirement, and until her passing.

Mary was preceded in death by her loving husband, Albert, siblings, Ossie, John, Alberta, Althea, Nanny, Frank and Fred. Mary is survived by: her beloved “baby” brother, Boston Sims; sister-in-law, Ruby Sims; a host of nieces, nephews, grand nieces, grand nephews, cousins, in-laws, god children, extended family, friends, and her two devoted special godchildren, Leah Doyle and William Holmes, who were dedicated to Mary until her peaceful sunset, on June 10, 2016. She was 98.

We will miss Mary deeply and are grateful for the blessing of her love and the fond memories she has left us all.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

*Mt. Hope Cemetery
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York*

Psalm 23

The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

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