



In Loving Memory of

Patricia Ann Simpson

Sunrise
April 7, 1946

Sunset
November 22, 2016

Obituary

I have finished my course, I have kept the faith..... Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day.

II Timothy 4:7-8

Patricia Ann Simpson, affectionately known as Pat to her family and friends, answered her Master's call and went to her eternal home on Tuesday, November 22, 2016, at Overlook Medical Center in Summit, New Jersey. Pat, daughter of the late William and Willa Mae Gray, was born April 7, 1946 in Newark, New Jersey and was the eldest daughter of three.

Pat was educated in the Newark Public School system where she attended West Kenny Elementary School. She graduated from Arts High School located in Newark, New Jersey at the age of sixteen. She went on to pursue and receive her bachelors degree in Political Science at Rutgers University.

In 1964, Pat married Joseph Simpson Jr. and from this union two children were born, Sharlene and Joseph III. Pat was a strong and devoted mother. She always strived to make a better living for her two children. They always came first in her life and they were most important to her.

Pat was no stranger to hard work. She began by working at the YMCA under the direction of the late Congressman Donald Payne Sr. She held positions in the banking industry and worked at New Jersey Bell telephone company. In her early years, Pat had an amazing interest in law. She continued to thrive in the area of law enforcement, and became the first black female to be appointed an Essex County Prosecutor Detective, at the age of thirty-five, all while pursuing her law degree at Rutgers Law School in Newark, New Jersey. Pat also, headed the Intensive Supervision Program for non-violent offenders.

Pat was a Christian woman who loved the Lord. She found her church home at Saint James AME Church in Newark, New Jersey where she was an active member before her illness. Prior to becoming ill, Pat enjoyed entertaining her family and friends, especially her children. She had a love for traveling, singing, dancing, and playing baseball with her son. Pat was intelligent, an avid reader and very strong minded. She was so strong willed that Pat made sure her funeral was taken care of. "That was Pat!!"

This is a strong legacy she has left us. **Pat** will truly be missed!

In addition to her parents, **Pat** was predeceased by her sister, Marilyn Johnson.

Pat leaves to cherish her fond and loving memories: her two children, Sharlene and Joseph III; granddaughter, Breeyanna; grandson, Liam; her sister, Winnie Gray Williams; brother-in-law, Walter (Tony) Johnson; her adopted mother, Helen Miller; adopted sister, Muriel (Cookie) Miller; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Service

Thursday, December 1, 2016 - 11:00 a.m.

St. James AME Church

588 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey

Order of Service

Rev. Lonnie Jones, Officiating

Musical Prelude Bro. Kyle Smith

Processional

Opening Hymn: "Blessed Assurance" Min. Steve Hill

Prayer of Comfort Min. Walter Simpson

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Isaiah 61:1-3
Rev. Pamela Ringold

New Testament I Thessalonians 4:13-18
Dr. Mary White Williams

Solo: "Walk Around Heaven All Day" Min. Steve Hill

Resolution and Acknowledgements Bro. Louches Powell

Obituary (Read Silently)

Solo Bro. Larry Elijah

Eulogy Dr. Jacqueline Reeves

Recessional Clergy and Family

Interment

Glendale Cemetery • Bloomfield, New Jersey

*God saw you were getting tired
And a cure was not to be. So He
put his arms around you and
whispered, "Come to Me."
With tearful eyes we watched
you, and saw you pass away.
Although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
hardworking hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove
to us He only takes the best.*

Acknowledgement

*The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation
for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was
shown to them during this time of bereavement.*

Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

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Carolyn Whigham, Director

