

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Virginia Batchelor

Sunrise
February 15, 1939

Sunset
June 23, 2022



Service

Saturday, July 2, 2022 • 11:00 a.m.

Canaan Baptist Church

535 E 22nd Street • Paterson, New Jersey

Min. Daniel Marks, Officiating

Frederick Bowers IV, Organist

Order of Service

Call to Worship Minister Daniel Marks

Selection..... Choir

Old Testament..... Deacon Charlie Batchelor Jr.
Agape Christian Ministeries • Paterson, NJ

New Testament Trustee Calvin Merritt
Mt. Moriah Baptist Church • Passaic, NJ

Prayer of Comfort Minister Eulie Jones

Reflections of Life..... Sarah Batchelor-McMillian

Remarks Reverend Thomas Hinson
Canaan Baptist Church • Paterson, NJ

Family Remarks John H Manley Jr
Retired Chief of Police Elizabeth City State University • Elizabeth City, NC

Message from..... Reverend Barry L Graham, Pastor
Canaan Baptist Church • Paterson, NJ

Selection..... Reverend Fredrick Bowers IV
Greater Ebenezer Baptist Church • Philadelphia, PA

Words of Comfort..... Minister Daniel Marks
Youth Minister of Canaan Baptist Church

Interment
George Washington Memorial Park
234 Paramus Road
Paramus, New Jersey

Obituary

Virginia Simmons was born the daughter of Leander and Katie Simmons in Littleton, North Carolina on February 4, 1939 (although official court records show February 15, 1939). She was the fourth child of 12 and was educated at The Springfield School in Littleton. She met and married Cleamon Batchelor, and to this union three children were born.

In the early 1960s the couple moved from Littleton to Paterson, New Jersey, where she joined Community Baptist Church. Virginia was blessed with an exceptional singing voice, and she sang alongside local groups such as Lloyd Reese and William Hardy and the New Jersey singers. Later she joined Canaan Baptist Church in Paterson where she remained a faithful member until her illness. She was also a member of the Acapella, Emergency and Mass Choirs. She was also active in Sunday School and providing guidance to the youth members of Canaan. She enjoyed bowling and participated in the Canaan Bowling League. She loved long rides in the mountains and enjoyed the countryside. When her children were growing up, she was known by the residents at Riverside Terrace for her bi-monthly trips to the roller rink or to the bowling alley. Since there were so many children interested in these visits to the bowling alley, she would have to make two trips in the van to accommodate everyone. Virginia worked at Freddy's Chicken on Broadway, and she also managed food services for the Father English Center catholic youth organization.

She was first in the Batchelor family to own a Cadillac and was always available to pick you up and drop you off to your appointed destination. Mrs. Virginia was always touched and overwhelmed when Rev. Gadson Graham and Rev. Barry Graham would hand her the microphone to sing an old spiritual. That same feeling would come over her when Almetta Smith would make her own batch of stuffing, Jada Lassiter would serve her famous potato salad and Sheila Eaton would provide her daily lunches of soup and breadsticks.

Virginia was preceded in death by her parents of Leander and Katie Simmons, her husband Cleamon Wesley Sr., two daughters, Linda and Melissa, siblings, Leander Simmons, Mack Arthur Simmons, Jimmy Simmons, Hellen Edmond, Shirley Sykes, Ruby Perkins, Katie Mae Simmons and Maryanne Simmons.

Treasured memories will remain in the hearts of her son, Cleamon (BOO) Jr. (Sharon) of Passaic, New Jersey. Granddaughter of the heart, Natasha Lloyd (Michael) of Fayetteville, North Carolina. Great-grandchildren of the heart, Nah'rese Lloyd, Nevaeh Lloyd and Nariah Lindo. Three sisters, Emma Batchelor of Baltimore, Maryland, Beatrice Hawkins and Joyce Simmons of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Brother-in-law, Robert Batchelor of Paterson, New Jersey. Brother-in-Law William Sykes of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Sister-in-law Iris Robinson of Goldsboro, North Carolina. Sister-in-Law Brbara Batchelor of Emporia, Virginia. Sister of the heart, Jaye Collick of Fayetteville, North Carolina. Godson, Derrick Vane of Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Special nephews, John H. Manley Jr. and Charlie Batchelor Jr., Special nieces, Anne Manley Jones, Sarah Batchelor McMillian and Sheila Perkins. Adopted daughters, Veronica Graham (Gina), Sheila Eaton, Alvida (Beany) Rivers, Vicky Frierson, Valerie Carter and Valerie Hunter. Adopted son, Calvin Merritt. Devoted friends, Ron and Almetta Smith. Caregivers Bonita Bell and Sharon Batchelor and a host of relatives, nieces, nephews and her Canaan church family and friends.

My Last Request

Please don't say that I gave up, just say that I gave in. Don't say I lost the battle, for it was God's war to lose or win. Please don't say how good I was, but I did my best. Just say that I tried to do what's right - to give the most I could, not do less. Please don't give me wings or halos, that's for God to do. I want no more than I deserve, no extras, just my due. Please don't argue with one another, or talk in harsh tones. Don't be concerned about me now, I'm well with God; I've made my home. Don't talk about what could have been, it's over and it's done. Just see to all my family's needs, the battle has been won. When you draw a picture of me, don't draw me as a Saint. I've done some good, I've done some wrong, so use all your paint - not just the bright and light tones, use some gray and dark. In fact, don't put me down on canvass, paint me in your heart. Don't just remember good times, but remember all the bad. For life is full of many things, some happy and some sad. But if you must do something, then I have "one last request." - Forgive me for the wrongs I've done, and with the love that's left, thank God for my soul's resting, thank God for I've been blessed. Thank God for all who loved me, praise God who loved me best.

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

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