

*Celebrating
the Life
of*



Shirley Temple Simmons

SUNRISE: December 9, 1937 - SUNSET: August 12, 2022

Service:

Saturday, August 20, 2022

Viewing: 1pm - 2pm

Memorial: 2pm - 4pm

**Grace United Methodist Church
125 W. 104th Street, New York, NY 10025**

Shirley's Life

Ms. Shirley Temple Simmons (Peterson) was born on December 9, 1937 in Petersburg, Virginia, to the late Junius and Hattie Peterson. She departed this life on August 12, 2022 in New York City, New York. She was preceded in death by her parents, two daughters, Carol and Livial; four sisters, Minnie Johnson, Olivia Reese, Gloria Bates, and Grace Archer; her brother, Robert Peterson; and her grandson, Roger Holmes.

Shirley moved to New York City at an early age and married Carl Simmons (1937-2018) in 1957. Throughout the years, she worked in the home health and restaurant industries.

She gave birth to four children: Carol Annette (1958-2019), Veronica Joyce (born 1960), Livial Wanda (1965-2018), and Oliver Wendell (born 1972).

In 1992, she joined Grace United Methodist Church where she served as a member of the Grace United Methodist Women, president of the choir and president of the usher board. She also attended Vocation Bible School and became a certified Lay Speaker. As an evangelist, Shirley loved the Lord and took every opportunity to spread the love of Christ to the community, especially the youth. She was a longtime resident of Douglass Houses, becoming a surrogate mother to many in the community. She was a people person who genuinely loved others, and they loved her back.

Shirley was a phenomenal cook and enjoyed preparing food for the church, the Douglass community, as well as her loved ones. She also enjoyed watching soap operas and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Left to cherish her memory are: her daughter, Veronica; her son, Oliver; eleven grandchildren, James Thompson, Dennis Simmons, Jonathan Simmons (Falecia), Carl Thompson, Fantaja Thomas, Christian Simmons, Theo Thomas, Candice Morales, Bobby Griffin, Dawnette Holmes, and Olivia Holmes; ten great-grandchildren, Mya, Dennis Matthew, Paris, Persia, Jill, Theo Jr., Josiah, Victor, Tajanee, and Treasure; her sister, Carolyn Thompson; daughter-in-law, Alina Holmes; godchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family and friends.

Order of Service

Processional..... The Simmons Family

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament..... Sis. Helena Cook

New Testament.....Sis. Johnnie Mae Allen

Prayer of Comfort

Musical Selection

Reading of the Obituary

Acknowledgement of Condolences

Remarks (2 Minutes Please)..... Family & Friends

Musical Selection

Eulogy

Benediction

Recessional

Repast to Immediately Follow

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free;
I took His hand when I heard Him call;
I turned my back and left it all.
If my parting has left a void;
then fill it with remembered joy.
My life's been full, I savored much;
good friends, good times,
a loved one's touch.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;
ah yes, these things, I too, will miss.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief;
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with me;
God wanted me now, He set me free.

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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