

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Reverend Archie R. Fair, Officiating

- Musical Prelude
- Processional The Clergy and Family
- Final Viewing
- Hymn of Praise "My Hope is Built"
- Prayer Reverend Michael Wright
- Scripture Readings Reverend Myron Foxworth
 - Old Testament: Psalm 23
 - New Testament: John 14:1-7
- Selection Greater St. James AME Choir
- Special Tribute Ms. Monica Wright, *Niece*
- Poem Reshena Miller and Kinishawa Warren
- Solo Ms. Faye Smith Simmons
- Reflections Ms. Myra Haney Singleton, *Class Leader*
- Acknowledgements Ms. Willie Mae Gibbs
- Selection Greater St. James AME Choir
- Words of Comfort Reverend Archie R. Fair
- Recessional
- Committal Service
- Benediction



ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

- Darian Green
- Donnell Johnson
- Sheldon Miller
- Vaushon Warren
- Roscoe Wedderburn
- Chris Whitty

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

- Devon Fladger
- Elbert Ford
- Earl Gibbs, Sr.
- Holbert Gibbs
- Darryl Johnson
- Roche Simmons

FLORAL BEARERS

- Ushers
- Family and Friends

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We, the family members of *Joan "Topsy" Simmons*, wish to thank you for the precious acts of love and kindness that were rendered. Additionally, we gratefully acknowledge the supportive and kind care of her beloved sister, Pamela Johnson, who was always there for her. Pam, thank you for being her Angel without wings.

Words cannot express our appreciation to everyone for all that they have done to support our family. May God continue to bless you.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO
GETHERS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**



200 Grace Street
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
843) 761-8519

PRINT AND DESIGN
JAIJOUR PUBLICATIONS, LLC | 843-323-7162

A CELEBRATION OF *Life* **FOR**



JOAN "TOPSY"
Simmons

1948

2024

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7*

Saturday, July 20, 2024
11:00 AM

Greater St. James AME Church
1831 Jedburg Road | Summerville, South Carolina

Rev. Archie R. Fair, M. Div., Pastor

-Interment-
Greater St. James AME Church Cemetery

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOAN "TOPSY" SIMMONS

Joan Greene Simmons, daughter of the late Norward Greene, Sr. and RoseAnn Warren, was born on July 13, 1948, in Moncks Corner, South Carolina. Following a well-lived life, on Sunday, July 14, 2024, Joan transitioned peacefully from Earth to her Heavenly Home.

Joan, also affectionately known as "Topsy," was reared in Longridge and was educated in the public school system of Berkeley County. She graduated from Berkeley Training High School in 1964. She earned an associate degree in Childcare Development from Trident Technical College.

Joan was a member of Greater St. James AME Church. She loved her church family and enjoyed worshipping with family and friends. Joan accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and was an example of His Love.

Joan met the love of her life following high school. Following an eight-month courtship, she married Winston Simmons on October 15, 1966. Their union was blessed with two children, Carlton Dwan and Latrica Niea'. Winston and Joan experienced true love for each other for over 51 years. Later in life, both experienced some difficulties; Winston with his hearing and Joan had vision challenges. They often stated that he was her "eyes" and she was his "ears". Their strong love and devotion to each other were clear and evident. To that extent, they would often be seen in color coordinated outfits.

Joan was employed at Evans Rule and enjoyed a fruitful 30-year career. Upon her retirement, Joan enjoyed spending time with family and friends, traveling, and shopping. In addition to completing crossword puzzles, her favorite pastime was watching Lifetime and Hallmark movies. She would often share the conclusions to movies before the ending.

God blessed Joan to be a part of a loving family who compassionately cared for her. Her warm personality will always be remembered. Cherishing fond memories of this lovely woman of grace are: her beloved son, Carlton Dwan; daughter-in-law, Connie of Myrtle Beach, SC; her "favorite" grandson, Jaden Frances Samuel; Sisters: Mona Wells of Moncks Corner; Beverly Robinson (Weldon) of North Charleston; and Pamela Johnson (Donnell) of Summerville, SC; Brothers: Norwood Greene (Delores) of Orangeburg, SC; Alonzo Warren (Shirley) of Charleston, SC; Gregory Warren of Summerville, SC; Kenneth Warren of North Charleston, SC; and Ronald Wedderburn (Delores) of Summerville, SC; sister-in-law, Minnie Davis of Moncks Corner, SC; special friends who were like sisters: Ruthie Simmons, Bennie Simmons, Blanche Mance, and Edith Wilson; her supportive and caring neighbors, Lori and Mark Panos; and others who will cherish lasting memories are a host of nieces, nephews, numerous relatives, dedicated colleagues, and friends.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Winston, her daughter, Latrica.

As Joan "Topsy" Simmons' life was a blessing and her memory a treasure, she will be loved beyond words and missed beyond measure. May we find comfort in this special prayer for the journey that remains, God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

A TRIBUTE TO MY SISTER

We have shared laughter, tears, sorrow, pain, love, but never hate. We have agreed and disagreed but our sisterly love for each other remained the same. You have been there for me, my husband, and children through some of the most difficult times. One stays with me the most; when my daughter was born with some serious health problems, you stood by my side, up and down to the hospital, even taking time off from the job, and that's just the start. You took it to the finish line with me so many other times. I thank God for blessing me with an amazing and caring sister.

I am so grateful that I often told you how much I love and appreciated you. I will miss our every day or night phone calls, visiting you, and spending time together.

I love you Sis, but God loves you best.

You will stay on my mind and will forever remain in my heart.

Rest in peace, my dear sister, Joan.

Your sister, Beverly



IF ROSES GROW IN HEAVEN

*If roses grow in heaven,
Lord please pick a bunch for me,
Place them in my Mother's arms
and tell her they're from me.
Tell her I love her and miss her,
and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek
and hold her for awhile.
Because remembering her is easy,
I do it every day,
but there's an ache within my heart
that will never go away.*

