

Pallbearers

Nephews and Grand & Great Grand Nephews

Flower Bearers

JMBC Healthcare Ministry

Acknowledgements

The family of Janie Simmons Knight extends our heartfelt appreciation for the many expressions of love, kindness, prayers, and unwavering support shown throughout Janie's illness and during our time of bereavement.

We offer our sincere gratitude to the dedicated members of the Prisma Health Tuomey Hospice Team for the compassionate, professional, and loving care they provided for Janie. We are extending a special thank you to her devoted caregivers, Mary Ann Smith, Frances Moses, Beverly Lemon, and the many others whose exceptional care, comfort, and encouragement were a true blessing to our family.

To our family, friends, neighbors, church family, and loved ones who remembered us with prayers, comforting words, cards, phone calls, text messages, visits, warm embraces, delicious meals, and countless other acts of kindness, we thank you from the depths of our hearts. Your love, compassion, and support have sustained us during this difficult journey and will never be forgotten.

May God richly bless each of you for the kindness you have shown and continue to surround you with His grace, peace, and abundant love.

With our deepest gratitude, love, and appreciation,
The Family of Janie Simmons Knight

Job's Mortuary, Inc.

Home of Distinctively Finer Funeral Service

Ralph W. Canty Sr., Director

312 South Main St.
P. O. Box 1231 - Sumter, SC 29151-1231
803-773-3323 or 803-773-3324
Jobsmortuary.net



Celebration of Life

Janie Simmons Knight

Sunrise
October 28, 1939

Sunset
June 25, 2026



Friday, July 3, 2026
1:00 PM

Jehovah Missionary Baptist
Church
609 Manning Avenue
Sumter SC 29150

Pastor Marion H. Newton
Officiating



Life Reflections

Janie Simmons Knight answered her Father's call on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at her residence. Janie was born on October 28, 1939, in Summerton, SC. She was the youngest of seven children born to the late Rev. Ambrose and Catherine Simmons.

Janie graduated from Lincoln High School, Sumter, SC, and later moved to Baltimore, Maryland. She began her professional healthcare journey when she accepted a position in the housekeeping department at James Lawrence Kernan Hospital in Baltimore. Janie viewed this position as an opportunity to grow.

Determined to advance her skills, she earned her certification through the American Red Cross as a Nursing Assistant Trainee (NAT). Through hard work, perseverance, and a genuine passion for helping others, she was promoted to a Nursing Aide.

Because of her dedication and professionalism, she later obtained a promotion as an Operating Room Technician. In this role, she became an invaluable member of the surgical team. She remained at the same hospital throughout her career—a testament to her loyalty, strong work ethic, and the respect she earned from colleagues and physicians alike.

Even after her workday ended, Janie's commitment to serving others continued. She volunteered at the Jewish Community Center (JCC), serving residents of Baltimore, MD. She was devoted to assisting senior members of the Jewish community. Janie gave generously of herself without expecting anything in return. To the seniors she served, she became much more than a volunteer. She was a trusted friend, a dependable helping hand, and a compassionate listener. Her kindness transcended cultural and religious differences, reflecting her belief that caring for others is one of life's greatest callings.

After many years of faithful service in healthcare, Janie retired and relocated back to her home state of SC.

Janie's faith was the guiding force throughout her life. At an early age, she accepted the Lord as her personal Savior and became a devoted member of Bethel AME Church in Clarendon County, SC. After moving to Baltimore, she faithfully worshiped at Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church. Following her return to Sumter, SC, Janie became an active member of Jehovah Baptist Church, where she remained faithful until her passing. She served as President and Chaplain of the Healthcare Ministry, as a Deaconess, and was a devoted supporter of the Youth Ministry.





Janie leaves to cherish her precious memories her loving and devoted husband, Wilkerson Knight; one son, Rev. Ricky Simmons of Sumter, SC; a niece who like daughter, Joyce Williams of Columbia, SC; stepchildren: Lorenzo Potosme (Sarai) and Elizabeth Coats of Sumter, SC; Henderson Mason; Lennette Beckles of Barbados; Lisa Knight, Nichole Knight, Jennifer Knight, and Matthew Knight, all of Baltimore, MD; and Hattie Andrew of Sumter, SC. She also leaves one sister, Rose Ann Williams of Sumter, SC; sisters-in-law, Rosalyn Knight and Lorna Wharton (Anthony) of Baltimore, MD; brother-in-law, Carl Springer of the United Kingdom; one grandson, Ricky Simmons, Jr. of Sumter, SC; her cherished great-granddaughter of the home, Layla Simmons; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and dear friends.

Janie was preceded in death by her parents, Rev. Ambrose and Catherine Simmons; her brothers, Milton Simmons and Moses Simmons; her sisters, Mazie Blocker, Leola Bossard, and Mary Simmons; and her sisters-in-law, Yvonne Weir and Wilba Lynch.

Those who knew Janie will remember her as a mighty woman of faith and compassion, always willing to lend a helping hand or offer words of encouragement to those in need.

One of Janie's defining qualities was her unwavering commitment to caring for others. Throughout her life, she believed every person deserved kindness, dignity, and compassion—a belief she demonstrated every day through her words and actions. She found spiritual strength in serving others and continually sought opportunities to uplift those around her.

Janie was also remarkably resilient in facing life's challenges. Her generous spirit knew no bounds. She courageously overcame two previous battles with cancer, demonstrating extraordinary faith and determination. At the age of 86, she fought her final battle with the same courage, grace, and unwavering trust in God.

If we could hear Janie on this day, she would softly whisper in her sweet voice:

"Don't weep for me, for I am at peace. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith. Continue to love one another, care for those in need, and trust God through every season of life. Remember me with smiles instead of tears, for the love we shared will never fade. I have simply gone ahead to my Father's house, where there is no more pain, no more suffering, and everlasting joy. Until we meet again, may God's grace and peace be with each of you."

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." — Matthew 25:23

SACRED ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor Marion H. Newton, Officiating

Prelude Shonda English

Processional and Viewing Clergy and Family

Opening Hymn Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

Old Testament Psalm 121 Pastor Robert Thomas
Mt. Pisgah AME Church

New Testament II Timothy 4:6-8 Pastor Neil DuBose
Bethesda Church of God

Prayer Pastor Nate Brock

Poem Mia Simmons

Solo *You Are My Strength* Tashs Levy

Reflections: *(please limit to 3 minutes)*

Church Deacon Ben Griffith

Community James McCoy

Family Joyce Williams

Acknowledgments Beverly Lemon

Selection *When I Get Home* The Combined Choir

Words of Comfort Pastor Ricky Simmons

Call to Discipleship

Recessional

Interment

Evergreen Memorial Park
802 N. Guignard Drive
Sumter, SC 29150

I Am Free

Until We Meet Again
Feel My Endless Love
Always!

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.

I took his hand when I heard Him call
Then turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to sing, or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that place at the close of day.

If my parting left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too, will miss.
Be not burdened deep with sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

Even through sickness,
my life's purpose has been filled,
I've savored much, good friends, good times
A loved one's touch.

Perhaps to some, my 86 years may still seem
all too brief

But don't try to lengthen it now with undo grief.

Lift up your hearts and share with me,
God wants me now, He set me free.

Author Unknown

