



*ACTIVE PALLBEARERS*

Franklin Simmons  
 Anthony Simmons  
 David Campbell  
 Nimrod A. Clouden, Jr.  
 Eric Ford  
 Nathaniel Clouden

*HONORARY PALLBEARERS*

Darren Campbell  
 Aubrey Simmons  
 Calvin Simmons, Jr.  
 Ralph Alexander  
 Joe Liferidge Jr.  
 Raymond Simmons  
 Leon Alonzo Simmons

*IN APPRECIATION*

The family of the late  
**SHIRLEY DEFAIR SIMMONS ELLIOTT**  
 is grateful for all expressions of love, kindness, and comfort  
 shown during the passing of our loved one. May the joy,  
 peace and love of God always embrace you.

*COMPASSIONATE & CARING SERVICES*

*ENTRUSTED TO:*



200 Grace Street | Moncks Corner, South Carolina  
 221 Church Road | St. Stephen, South Carolina  
 Telephone: 843.761.8519 or 843.567.4046  
 "Committed To Excellence and Integrity"  
 www.gethersfuneralhome.com.com

CELEBRATING THE *LIFE OF*

*Shirley Defair*  
**SIMMONS**  
**ELLIOTT**

OCTOBER 15, 1939- JUNE 20, 2025



Friday, June 27, 2025 | 11:00 A.M.

**GREATER ST. JAMES AME CHURCH**

1831 Jedburg Road | Summerville, SC

Reverend Dr. Archie Fair, Pastor

# Life STORY

On Friday June 20, 2025, Shirley was called by her Lord and Savior to a life of joy and everlasting peace. She was surrounded by her devoted daughter, son, and loving sisters and brothers.

Shirley Defair Simmons Elliott, daughter of the late Franklin and Maggie Simmons Mazyck, was born on October 15, 1939, in Longridge area of Moncks Corner, South Carolina. Shirley became a member of St. James AME Church at an early age. As an adult, Shirley relocated from New York and renewed her membership at Greater St. James AME Church. For the past two years, she resided with her daughter in Brooklyn, New York, where she received medical care. Despite her circumstances, she remained steadfast in her faith, never missing her Sunday virtual church services.

Shirley was a devoted and caring homemaker for many years in New York. Upon returning, home to South Carolina she became the caretaker for her eldest sister and her parents until their death.

Shirley cherished the art of cooking and baking, delighting in the joy of entertaining family and friends. Her wit was as sharp as her culinary skills; she spoke with a straightforwardness that left no room for ambiguity. A visit to her home was never complete without the warmth of a shared meal and the sound of laughter echoing throughout. She had a deep love for her dog, Robin, who was her faithful companion and a cherished part of her life. And we would be remiss not to mention her profound affection for her family and friends, who were the heart of her life. She will be remembered for her humor, her honesty, and the love she poured into every gathering.

She leaves behind a legacy of loving memories cherished by her family, including: daughter: Denise Elliott-Hesterbey (Darryl) of Brooklyn, NY; son: Wade Elliott III of South Carolina; brothers: Leon Simmons (Brenda) and Fernwell Simmons (Ferndena); sisters: Mary Ford (Lavone), Alma Liferidge, and Octhetis Clouden (Anthony); adopted sister Viola Taylor (Matt); aunt Maggie Mae Simmons; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law: Jeanette Simmons, Jacqueline Simmons, Bertha Simmons, and Angela Williams; brothers-in-law: Marionell Wade Elliott and Kenneth R. Elliot; and a host of special nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends who will forever hold her close in their hearts. Her warmth and spirit will continue to inspire those who knew and loved her.

## MISS ME, BUT LET ME GO

When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little, but not too long  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that we once shared,  
Miss me, but let me go.  
For this is a journey that we all must take  
And each must go alone.  
It's all a part of the Master's plan,  
A step on the road to home.  
When you are lonely and sick at heart  
Go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.  
Miss me, But Let me Go!



# ORDER OF Service



Reverend Archie R. Fair, Officiating

<b>PRELUDE</b>	Reverend Tucker
<b>PROCESSIONAL</b>	Ministers and Family
<b>HYMN</b>	
<b>PRAYER</b>	Reverend Jerel Matthews
<b>SCRIPTURE READINGS</b>	
Old Testament - Psalm 23	Reverend Myron Foxworth
New Testament - John 14:1-3	Reverend Michael A. Wright
<b>SELECTION</b>	Greater St. James AME Choir
	<b>POEM - "Afterglow"</b> by Helen Lowrie Marshall Read by Maliyah N. Liferidge
<b>SOLO</b>	Ms. Annie Jean Hatcher
<b>REMARKS</b>	Rev. Leonard Simmons Brother Charles G. Droze, Jr.
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	Sister Dorothy Haynes
<b>WORDS OF COMFORT</b>	Reverend Archie R. Fair
<b>COMMITTAL</b>	
<b>BENEDICTION</b>	
<b>RECESSIONAL</b>	
	<b>INTERMENT</b> Greater St. James AME Church Cemetery