

Friday, March 4, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC. 2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027 *Rev. Edward R. Culvert, Officiating Bobby Arrington, Organist*

<u>Obituary</u>

Ruth Belmore Simmons (Mamma) was born June 30, 1915 in Atlanta, Georgia to Emmanuel and Corrine Hardaway. At a very young age, Mamma traveled to Chicago where her grandmother, Haiti, cared for her. Mamma often shared stories of her childhood with her children and grandchildren captivating our imagination with her many accounts of her travels and extraordinary upbringing. Like many people in those days life was a struggle, but it was her belief in God and strong spirit to triumph, that would see her through.

On July 5, 1929, Mamma would journey to New York City where she would settle down and where she made her home. Determined to acquire a formal education, Mamma attended Harriet Beecher Stowe. In 1934, Ruth was married to the late Francis Belmore and from that union they were to have three children, the late Donald Belmore and two surviving children, Sonia and Carol Belmore. By being an only child, Mamma had a desire to have a large family, later having six more children that were raised with the love of her life, the late Walter S. Simmons. Henry Tobb, June and the late Joyce Belmore, Michelle, Walter and the late Allison Simmons. Having such a large family, Ruth and Walter worked extremely hard to support them. In her endeavors Mamma had to take on various jobs such as a professional garment presser, a child care provider and a professional cook for a boys home.

All that had the pleasure of knowing Ruth Belmore would have to say she was a fantastic cook. Mamma loved good music, good food and using any occasion to get together with family and friends. All of our fondest memories are time we spent around the kitchen table and of dancing in the mirror. Her laughter was very deep, but loving, and often echoed throughout her home. In the glimmer of her hazel eyes was like looking into the deep ocean with intrigued, mystery and hidden treasures. These treasures was revealed to her loved ones and friends. Treasures such as always lending a helping hand, speaking a kind and encouraging word, providing food that not only filled the body but it fed our soul.

On February 28, 2011, Ruth made her final journey home to be with the Lord. She leaves her legacy in life: her six surviving children, Sonia Belmore, Henry Tobb, Carol Belmore, June Belmore, Michelle Simmons and Walter Simmons, her late children, Donald Belmore, Joyce Belmore and Allison Simmons; sixteen grandchildren, twenty-six great grandchildren; and host of other family and friends, nieces, nephews, cousins, countless family and friends. What a blessing to be able to bear of the fullness of joy and to give light to so many. Ruth Belmore Simmons (Mamma) was the definition of a servant. To serve is an act of love.

<u>Order of Service</u>

Processional

Selection

Scripture

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Eulogy

Selection

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Final Disposition

Oxford Hills Crematory

Chester, New York



I'd like the memory of me To be a happy one, I'd like to leave an afterglow Of smiles when day is done. I'd like to leave an echo Whispering softly down the ways, Of happy times and laughing times And bright and sunny days. I'd like the tears of those who grieve To dry before the sun Of happy memories that I leave behind, When the day is done.

-Helen Lowrie Marshall

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kindness during a time of sorrow.

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