



*In Loving  
Memory  
of*

*Tirshatha Simone McCants*

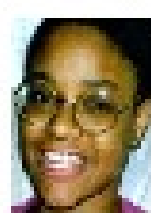
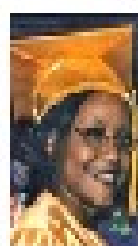
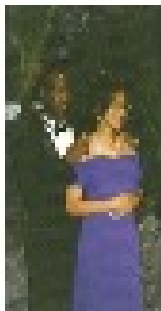
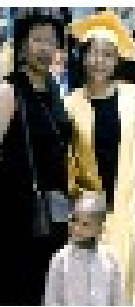
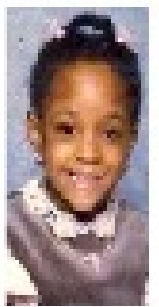
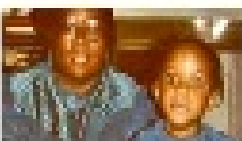
*Sunrise*  
September 3, 1980

*Sunset*  
February 7, 2013

Service

Thursday, February 14, 2013 - 12:00 Noon

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS INC.**  
2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY  
*Rev. Tory Liferidge, Officiating*  
*Bobby Arrington, Organist*



## Obituary

**Tirshatha “Simone” McCants**, thirty-two, passed away on Wednesday, February 7, 2013, at New York-Presbyterian Hospital after a courageous life-long battle with sickle cell anemia (SCA). She was the beloved daughter of Joyce Ribí and the late Eddie Johnson, and since the age of 5, beloved stepdaughter of Sylvanus Ribí. She has one brother, Sylvanus “Mensah” Ribí Jr., and a loving son, Jaden Tyler McCants-Ribí.

Simone was born in New York City on September 3, 1980. She grew up in Manhattan and graduated from Martin Luther King High School in 1999. She enjoyed music, cooking, scary movies, and caring for animals, and she was the best in the family at playing Scrabble. Simone also cherished spending time with family and friends, and she especially loved hanging out with her life-long friend, Vernon Jenkins.

A shining light came into Simone’s life on July 25, 2006 with the birth of her son, Jaden. Simone was a very caring and loving mother. The two of them looked so much alike that Jaden would often see photos of a young Simone and think it was him!

One of Simone’s ambitions was to become a doctor. Due to her illness, Simone was very familiar with the demands and challenges of the medical profession. So bright and sensitive, Simone learned from a young age to manage, handle and deal with her disease with grace and bravery. Always by her side were her cousins, Rhodie Mitchell, Glennie Montgomery, and Ethel Montgomery of New York City and Catherine McCants of Akron, Ohio, and their families. The doctors and nurses who came to know and care for Simone over the years have expressed their sincere emotions of loss to the family.

Simone spent time with extended family in Alabama and Florida and was a “favorite” niece. Preceding her in death was her grandmother, Carrie McCants. Simone is survived by: her grandfather, Roosevelt (Dorothy) Broadnax of Pensacola, FL; great aunts, Rosie Lee Nettles of Birmingham, AL, Sarah Hazzard of Akron, OH, and Edna Grant of Atmore, AL; also, great uncles, Richard McCants of Ocala, FL and George (Deloris) McCants of Newark, NJ; also mourning Simone's passing are her aunts, Valeria (Emanuel) Jackson and Monica Broadnax of Pensacola, FL, uncles, Karl (Stephanie) Broadnax of Pensacola, FL, Roosevelt Broadnax Jr., of Pensacola, FL, Elbert Johnson of Atmore, AL, Clifford Johnson of Detroit, MI and John Henry (Patricia) Johnson of Detroit, MI; her godmother, Mary Ann Young of New York, NY; and numerous relatives and close friends.

# *May I go now?*

May I go now?

Do you think the time is right?  
May I say goodbye to pain filled days  
and endless lonely nights?

I lived my life and done my best,  
an example I've tried to be  
So can I take that step beyond the light  
and set my spirit free?

I didn't want to go at first,  
I fought with all my might.  
But something seems to draw me now  
to that warm and loving light.

I want to go, I really do,  
it's difficult to stay.  
But I will try as best I can  
to live just one more day.

To give you time to care for me  
and share your love and fears.  
I know you're sad and are afraid,  
because I see your tears.

I'll not be far, I promise that,  
and I hope you'll always know.  
That my spirit will be close to you  
Where ever you may go.

Thank you so for loving me  
and know that I love you too.  
That's why it's hard to say goodbye  
and end this life with you.

So hold me now just one more time  
and let me hear you say,  
"Because you care so much for me,  
you'll let me go today."

Susan A. Jackson

