

Home Going Celebration for



Sylvia R. Simmons

"The best wife, mother, and grandmother one could ask for."

January 20, 1942 - April 19, 2013

Service

Saturday, April 27, 2013 - 11:00 a.m.

WHIGHAM FUNERAL HOME

580 Martin Luther King Blvd. • Newark, New Jersey

Reverend Rodney Brooks, Officiating

Kelly Tuner, Organist

Obituary

Sylvia Romona Simmons was born on January 20, 1942 in Newark, New Jersey to the late Mary and John Rogers (Joao Baptiste Rodrigues). She has been a life-long resident of Newark, New Jersey although she spent a lot of time in North Carolina as a child and adult. *Sylvia* grew up as a fun loving girl with a smile that was as bright as the sun. She was a woman who always put family first.

Mrs. Sylvia Simmons attended St. Mary's Catholic School for the duration of her formal elementary education and later went on to attend her high school years at East Side High in Newark. Years later she completed a Certification program in Home Health Aide at Essex County Business School. *Sylvia* always made sacrifices to create a path for a better life for her children.

On September 9, 1977, she married Moses Simmons of Gordon, Georgia. The two would always serenade each other with one of their favorite songs by Otis Redding, "Sitting on the Dock of the Bay," and "Island in the Stream" by Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers. Two particular favorite songs of *Sylvia's* were, "Love After Life" by Cher and "Caught in the Trap" by Elvis Presley.

In 1985, she was employed by Speedmark Corporation and worked there for approximately twenty years. After retirement, she became a foster grandparent volunteer at Babyland Family Services in Newark. This was one of her ways of giving back to the community.

Sylvia had many hobbies and interest. They included: caring for her grandchildren, reading, completing cross word puzzles, and answering the "Daily Double" question from the game show Jeopardy. She loved her grandchildren unconditionally. She would take off a day of work just to watch and nurture her "grand-babies." She was enthusiastic about reading her favorite genre which is mystery. Her favorite author was Lillian Jackson Braun of the Cat Mystery Series. In addition, *Sylvia* enjoyed traveling; especially to North Carolina and Georgia. She loved talking on the phone with her cousins about the latest news.

Sylvia was preceded in death by: her late son, Michael "Yusef" Jackson, her brother, John Rogers Jr. and sister, Katherine Kirkland.

Her lively spirit will be survived by: her husband, Moses of thirty-five years; seven children, Gary, Darryl, Robert, Robin, Melissa, Moses Jr. and Sylvia; one daughter-in-law, Treacy Watson-Rogers; nine grandchildren, Kamara, Michael, Chantell, Yusuf, Todja, Matthew, Vanasia, Jalen and Al-Qaadir; and two great-grandchildren, Zymir and Aaziyah; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, close cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Opening Hymn Organist Kelly Turner
Scripture Reading (Proverbs 31:26-31 NIV) Reverend Rodney Brooks
Prayer Reverend Rodney Brooks
Selection Organist Kelly Turner
Obituary Reading..... Treacy Watson-Rogers
Reflections (2 minutes please) Family and Friends
Solo Patrimah Drew (*Cousin*)
Eulogy Minister Ikimah Drew (*Cousin*)
Final Viewing
Benediction Reverend Rodney Brooks
Recessional

Interment
Fairmount Cemetery
Newark, New Jersey

Following the service, the family will receive family and friends at:

Oscar Miles Community Center
190 Court Street
Newark, NJ 07103

Until We Are Reunited



Mother,

We thank GOD for you. We are grateful that you were delivered to us and blessed us with your presence for seventy-one years. You were truly every Superwoman.

Acknowledgement

The family of *Sylvia Simmons* wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude. They are thankful for each prayer, act of love, kindness, and generosity shown to them during this time of bereavement. May God bless each of you!

Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

