

**Homegoing Service
Celebrating the Life of**

Irene Sims Stowers



Sunrise
July 5, 1937

Sunset
April 4, 2015

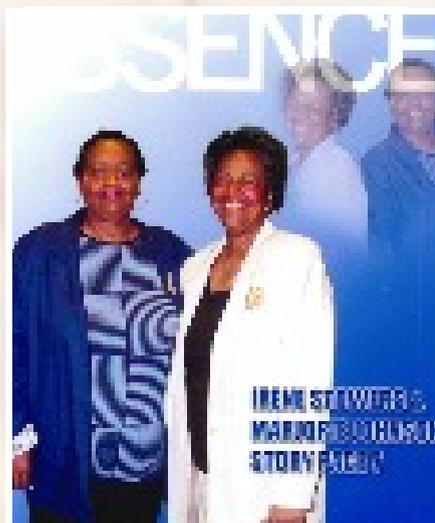
Monday, April 20, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

Union Chapel AME Church

209 Wainwright Street

Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Anthony Mitchell Sr., Pastor



Reflections of Life

***I have fought the good fight,
I have kept the faith,
I have finished the race.***

Irene Sims Stowers was born on July 5, 1937 to the late James and Marie Jakes Sims and from that union were her sisters, Selena, Marjorie, Ophelia and Sandra and her brothers, John and Winston.

Irene was married to the late John Russell Stowers, Sr. and that union was blessed with four children; Sheryl, John Jr., Ronald and Kathlene.

Educated in the Newark School system, Irene earned her undergraduate and then master's degree in Public Administration with a concentration in psychiatric care from Kean University. In her professional life as a Registered Nurse, Irene worked at various medical institutions which include East Orange General, St. Barnabas and UMDNJ just to name a few. She loved helping and caring for others. Her life was filled with doing good deeds.

Irene loved to sing God's praises. Her interest in music began at an early age. During high school she was a member of the New Jersey All State Choir. She also sang with the Albert Burke ensemble, Essex Chorale and her church choir. Her favorite songs were "Touch Somebody's Life" and "If I Can Help Somebody Along The Way, Then My Living Will Not Be In Vain".

Irene was a lifelong member of Union Chapel AME Church where she sang with the senior choir. She later joined Mt. Pisgah AME Church where she was also very active with the choir. Irene recently returned to her home church where she remained a faithful member until her health failed.

Irene was full of life and always had a funny story to tell. You could find her calling bingo at the Union Chapel Community Development senior program, telling everyone to turn up their hearing aids.

Irene was a strong woman of character who loved her family. She was a devoted grandmother and great grandmother whose presence will be missed.

Irene Sims Stowers made her transition from labor to reward on Saturday, April 4, 2015. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Sheryl; son, Ronald; sisters, Selena Brown and Ophelia Sims and brother, John Sims.

Irene's memory will be cherished by: son, Rev. John Russell Stowers, Jr. (Doretta); daughter, Kathlene Stowers; sisters, Marjorie Johnson, Sandra Slade (Solomon); brother, Winston Sims (Deborah); grandsons, John R. Stowers II (Michelle), Ronald, Joshua, Jared and Jabin; granddaughter, Jordan; great granddaughters, Leah and Jessica; daughter-in-law, Delores Stowers; and a host of nieces, nephews and others relatives and friends.

Irene will be greatly missed!!

Lovingly and Sorrowfully submitted,



Order of Service

Organ Prelude.....*Min. Steven Hill*

Processional..... *“Troubles of the World”*

Opening Hymn *“I Am Thine O’ Lord” (Hymn #283)*

Invocation

Song of Assurance *Sir Joshua Nelson*
“If I Can Help Somebody”

Reading of Gods Word

Old Testament-Psalm 139:1-8.....*Rev. H. Sparkman*

New Testament-II Corinthians 1:3-11.....*Rev. C. Jones*

Ministry of Music.....*Essex Chorale*
“We Shall Walk Through The Valley”

Prayer of Comfort.....*Rev. Anthony Mitchell, Sr.*

Words of Tribute and Remarks

Ministry of Music.....*Essex Chorale*
“Give Me Jesus”

Acknowledgements and Obituary.....*Patricia Smith*

Song of Triumph *Sir Joshua Nelson*
“How I Got Over”

Eulogy.....*Rev. John Russell Stowers Jr. (Son)*

Recessional

Interment
Glendale Cemetery
Bloomfield, New Jersey

Immediately following the interment family and friends are invited back to the church fellowship hall for a repast.

Don't

*Don't spend too much time in mourning,
Tears are for the sad;
I left to be with Jesus*

And this should make you glad.

*Don't waste your hours in grieving,
No need to feel distress;*

*I'm tired of life's frustrations
And had to get some rest.*

Don't puzzle yourself with questions

*Or try to reason why
Life here for me was ended,
It came my time to die.*

Don't lose the love I gave you

Feed it with your care;

Grow it with devotion

And spread it everywhere.

Don't fret because my leaving

Came in such a way;

We'll have another meeting

In God's eternal day.

-Author unknown

Acknowledgements

The family of Irene Sims Stowers wishes to thank all who have extended support for, spoken a kind word to, or done some act of kindness during their time of bereavement. May God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

Kyjuan T. Westry, Funeral Director-NJ Lic. No. 5065

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