

*Homegoing Celebration*  
*For*  
*James Benjamin Simmons, Jr.*  
*"Jim"*

**Sunrise**  
October 28, 1949

**Sunset**  
September 1, 2015



**Service**

Thursday, September 10, 2015 ~ 11:00 am

**Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church**  
253 Central Avenue  
Rahway, New Jersey  
*The Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford, Pastor*

# Order of Service

Musical Prelude.....Organist

Processional.....Clergy

Opening Selection. "Tis a Sweet and Glorious Thought" #514

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Paul Davis

Scripture Readings.....Reverend Michael McLeod  
*Old Testament*  
*New Testament*

Solo.....Brother William McLeod

Acknowledgements/Resolutions  
Sister Helene McLeod-Shearer

Reflections/Remarks

Silent Reading of Obituary

Solo.....Sister Leslie Ferrell

Eulogy.....Reverend Dr. Erika D. Crawford

Recessional

**Interment**  
Rosehill Cemetery  
Linden, New Jersey

**Pallbearers**

Family and Friends of **James Benjamin Simmons, Jr.**

*Immediately following the Interment, the Family will receive  
Friends in the Fellowship Hall for a Repast.*

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*Services Entrusted To:*

**G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC**

206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203

www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

*"Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service"*

# Reflections of Life

*James "Jim" Benjamin Simmons, Jr.* was born on October 28, 1949 in Brunswick, Georgia to the late James Benjamin Simmons, Sr. and Willie Ruth Perry Simmons. "Jim," as he was affectionately called by his family and friends, was raised in Brunswick, Georgia. When he was 5 years old, he moved to Madison, New Jersey to live with his father, James Benjamin Simmons, Sr. and step-mother, Arlene V. Simmons. He was educated in the Madison Public School system. After graduation, he attended the University of Wyoming.

He was employed as a Claims Adjuster at Home Life Insurance in Piscataway, New Jersey for 20 years. He retired from Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Newark, New Jersey in 2014, after ten years of service.

Jim was a member of Ebenezer A.M.E. Church of Rahway, New Jersey where he sang in the Men's Chorus, drove the Church van, cooked at the church cookouts and helped with the Sons of Allen. Jim was a Sunday school Teacher and helped wherever he was needed.

He was a member of Centennial Lodge of Westfield, New Jersey. He enjoyed playing golf, reading and watching television.

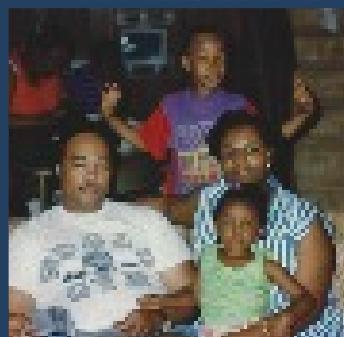
On Tuesday September 1, 2015, James Benjamin Simmons, Jr. departed this life at home at the age of 65.

Jim was predeceased by his mother, Willie Ruth Perry Simmons; stepmother, Arlene V. Simmons; and father, James Benjamin Simmons, Sr.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 31 years, Adrienne McLeod Simmons; 4 children: Yvette Simmons, Erica Simmons, Omar James Simmons, and Jamel Simmons; 5 grandchildren: Krystal Simmons, Bryan Henderson, Rekekah Drosdak, Michael Simmons and Lowell Henderson; great-grandson, Demetre Dickerson; 3 sisters: Denise Richardson, Angie Simmons and Carol Simmons; brother, Mark Simmons; mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary McLeod; sister-in-law, Helene McLeod-Shearer (Steadman); 3 brothers-in-law: Walter McLeod (Patty), Rev. Michael McLeod (Laura) and Gregory McLeod (Wykita); and a host of nieces, nephews, dear relatives and friends.

Humbly submitted,  
The Family

# Precious Memories



# *The Master Called*

*I'm sorry I had to leave you  
My loved ones  
But you see,  
the Master called me,  
His voice was very clear!  
I had made my reservation  
A heaven bound ticket for one,  
And I knew that  
He would call me  
When He felt my work was done.  
I know that your  
hearts are heavy  
Because I have gone away  
But when the Master calls you,  
You know that you can not stay.  
Yes, I've crossed  
on over to glory  
And to you all I say  
Just say in the hands of Jesus  
And we'll meet again someday.*



## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day.  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it up with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh, you these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much.  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free!  
~Author unknown*

## *Acknowledgement*

The family of **James Benjamin Simmons, Jr.** acknowledges with sincere appreciation every thought and act of kindness expressed to us during this our hour of bereavement.

We will always keep you in our prayers. May God continue to richly bless you.

