

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Vernon Simmons*



**October 28, 1960 - August 16, 2021**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2021 - 11:00 A.M.**

**Cotton Funeral Service**

**1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey**

# Obituary

Vernon Simmons began his life's journey in Saint George, Dorchester County, South Carolina. He was the youngest child of eighteen children born to the late Joe Sr and Lucille Jones Simmons on October 28, 1960. His father, Joe passed when he was two. In 1967, when he was seven, his mother, Lucille came to New York for a short time then relocated to Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey. He attended the Jersey City Public School System. He graduated from P.S.#32 (now known as Dr. Ronald E McNair Academic High School) Following his graduation he enrolled in a vocational training program at Occupational Center of Hudson County (now known as Hudson Community Enterprise, Inc), Jersey City from January 1978 to July 1978. In 1978, Vernon and his mother returned to South Carolina.

After the passing of his mother, Vernon returned to Jersey City. He traveled with the carnival up and down the eastern seaboard of the United States in his teenager years. He served as an operator, game trailer and security guard about three years. His career as a handyman started. He was always willing to assisted others in his community. Vernon was humanitarian. He knew his purpose in life and it was helping others.

Vernon was taught Christian values by his mother in his young years. His mother always taught him to have respect for others. In the early 80's began fellowship with Calvary Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Jersey City. It was here in the early 90's that he received, accepted Christ as his Personal Savior and baptized under the

leadership of Rev. James Patrick Key. While at Calvary he assisted the late Bro. Richard Mack, church custodian. Bro. Simmons was a faithful tither. He was also a supporter of the Evan B Farrior Ministries, Jersey City. He moved on to Mt. Zion Fire Baptized Holiness Church, Jersey City under the leadership of Elder Willie Clark. While at Mt Zion he joined the Male Chorus. Then he went on to fellowship with Miracle Temple Churches of America, Inc, Jersey City under the leadership of Senior Pastor Earlene McCollum. He served as an usher and worked in the Food & Clothing Ministry serving the community. During this period of life, he helped and assisted his sister, Betty Washington with her daycare. Bro. Simmons loved children. His great joy was when his daughter, Vernetta Hunter was born. He also has a great love for his nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and great great nieces.

Vernon moved to Windsor, Bertie County, North Carolina to assist the Williams. While assisting the Williams he became the caregiver of the late Mary Mice. He became a volunteer firefighter for Windsor Fire Department serving the town of Windsor and Bertie County, North Carolina. Vernon was one of few African Americans serving as a volunteer. He was a proud volunteer firefighter for his community and county. Vernon attended church regularly there in Windsor.

In 2018, he moved to Lewisburg, PA in 2018 to lives with his brother, Bubba because of his illness. It wasn't too long that Vernon decided to live independently on his own. Vernon was a caring, compassion, friendly, and loving. He was always willing to help others that came into his path. He loved attending church services, dancing, playing cards, watching tv, raising dogs and doing word search puzzle. Vernon was a particular dresser and housekeeper.

God called Vernon to eternal home, Monday afternoon, August 16, 2021, at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, Pennsylvania. He is preceded in death by his father, Joe Simmons Jr, his mother, Lucille, numbers of sisters and his brother, Robert Simmons Sr. He leaves to cherish his memories his daughter, Vernetta Hunter, granddaughter, Delores Hunter, surrogate father, Min. Evan B Farrior, six sisters, Betty Washington and Cora McCord of Atlanta, GA, Josephine Brownlee, Lillie Ann Simmons, Peach Mae Simmons, all of Charleston, SC, Mary Simmons of Savannah, GA, two brothers, Joseph "Bubba" Simmons Jr. of Lewisburg, PA and Thomas Simmons of Brooklyn, NY, one sister-in-law, Pastor Evett Simmons, a loving niece, Latanya Williams, a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, great-great nieces, cousins and friends.

# Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks

(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Recessional

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery

Linden, New Jersey



# Acknowledgement

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern*

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE  
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1025 Bergen Street  
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