

*In Loving Memory of*



*Valerie Simmons*

**April 27, 1955 - September 21, 2021**

**Sunday, October 3, 2021 - 3PM - 5PM**

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

**2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027**



# Obituary

Our beloved mother, **Valerie Simmons**, fell asleep in death on September 21, 2021, after a valiant battle with lung cancer. Valerie was a wonderful mother to her children, Carisa Raysor and Leonard Hill, Jr. (aka Leon). She enjoyed crafting, sewing, and cooking delicious meals for her family. She loved singing and dancing, and always had a song in her heart.

Valerie cared for her children full time, until she returned to the workforce in the early 2000s. Valerie was always ambitious and eager to learn, studying various subjects including fashion and dentistry throughout her life. Valerie was a serial entrepreneur; her first successful business venture was as an Avon sales representative. She would later venture into various business opportunities in travel, jewelry, health and wellness, as well as event promotions. Her infectious smile, trustworthiness, as well as her astute business sense gained her many devoted clients and friends. In addition, Valerie also spent some years working in the retail industry as a salesperson at the Children's Place. Her love for children led her to finally work as a Security Officer for the Agency for Children's Services, where she protected children placed in the agency's care.

Valerie loved to travel. She would travel with her daughter annually. She enjoyed going to the movies and theatre shows with her friends and grandchildren. Valerie loved the theatre so much that she even ventured into acting. As a student of actress Lonette McKee, she earned a small role in an off-Broadway production.

Valerie studied Jehovah throughout her life, and recently became one of Jehovah's Witnesses. During her illness, Valerie drew strength from scripture, and would often reference Isaiah 41:10 as a reminder that Jehovah was always with her.

Valerie is survived by: her two children, Carisa and Leon; her brothers, Isaiah Simmons, Jr., Arnold Simmons, Leonard Simmons and Kenneth Simmons; as well as her grandchildren, nieces, nephews, countless cousins, extended family, and friends. Valerie was generous, loving, and kind. Her courageousness, wisdom, grace, and zest for life left an indelible mark on everyone she encountered. She will truly be missed.

# *Order of Service*

Song

Opening Prayer

Reading of Obituary

Discourse

Song

Concluding Prayer

## **FINAL DISPOSITION:**

Rosehill Crematory  
Linden, New Jersey

# *Revelation 21:4, 5*

And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. And the One seated on the throne said: "Look! I am making all things new." Also he says: "Write, for these words are faithful and true.

## *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.***

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