Kathleen Simpkins

August 17, 1941 - September 5, 2024

Sister Kathleen Simpkins, born on August 17, 1941, in Greenwood, SC, to Thomas and Clara (Parks) Simpkins, peacefully transitioned to eternity on September 5, 2024. Sister Kathleen Simpkins was born in Greenwood, SC, as the eldest of five siblings. Growing up in a dynamic household, she embraced the responsibilities that came with being the oldest. Her parents, instilled in her strong values of faith, hard work, and resilience. These early lessons shaped her character and influenced her journey through life. Sister Simpkins graduated from Brewer High School in Greenwood, SC and furthered her education at Barbara Scotia College in Concord, NC.

In the early 1960s, seeking greater opportunities and a fresh start, Sister Kathleen Simpkins made the significant decision to migrate to Washington, DC. This transition marked a pivotal moment in her life, filled with both challenges and possibilities. Leaving her hometown behind, she embraced the bustling city with determination and hope. Upon her arrival, Sister Simpkins quickly adapted to her new environment. The vibrant culture and diverse community of Washington, DC, captivated her, and she eagerly sought employment. With a strong work ethic and a desire to contribute, she explored various job opportunities, demonstrating her resilience and tenacity.

Eventually, she secured a position with the District of Columbia government, where she would dedicate the next 30 years of her life. During her tenure, she

became an advocate for working women and their families, serving on the Women's Committee and addressing issues that resonated deeply with her own experiences. Her commitment to making a difference in the lives of others highlighted her ability to transform personal challenges into broader advocacy.

Living in the Capital also provided Sister Simpkins with a sense of empowerment. She thrived in an environment that encouraged civic engagement and community involvement. The friendships she forged and the networks she built during this time enriched her life and underscored her belief in the power of connection and support.

On September 30, 1976, Sister Simpkins joyfully welcomed twins, Evette Denise (who died at birth) and Evonne Delores. Sister Simpkins was a devoted and loving mother, finding her greatest joy in raising her daughter, Evonne Delores. The bond they shared was deep and meaningful, characterized by Sister Simpkins' unwavering support and guidance. She was not only a nurturing caregiver but also a steadfast advocate for her daughter's dreams and aspirations.

Sister Simpkins took great pride in ensuring Evonne had every opportunity to succeed, instilling in her the values of faith, perseverance, and compassion. She created a warm and loving home, filled with laughter and life lessons, where Evonne learned the importance of kindness, resilience, and maintaining a strong relationship with God.

Her role as a mother extended beyond the traditional, as she often opened her heart and home to friends and family, becoming a maternal figure to many in her community. Sister Simpkins' love knew no bounds, and her legacy of motherhood will continue to resonate in the lives of those she touched.

Sister Simpkins understood the importance of a relationship with Christ from

an early age. She was a devoted member of Flint Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Troy, SC, before joining Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Washington, DC. There, she served as President of the Missionary Circle, a member of the Trustee Board, and part of the United Voices of Grace Choir.

She is survived by her loving daughter, Evonne Powell of Washington, DC; her dear sister, Susie J. Brown of Upper Marlboro, MD; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, and other loved ones. She was preceded in death by her brothers, Thomas and Calvin Simpkins, and her sister, Ernestine Simpkins Dingle.

Sister Simpkins' life exemplified her cherished phrase, "Very Well." As Jesus said in Matthew 25:23, "Well done, good and faithful servant... enter the joy of your Lord."

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill Cemetery

4111 Pennsylvania Ave
Suitland, MD 20746

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Pope Funeral Home Forestville Chapel
5538 MARLBORO PIKE
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Funeral Service

SEP **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pope Funeral Home Forestville Chapel
5538 MARLBORO PIKE
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Tribute Wall

Pope Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Kathleen Simpkins

Pope Funeral Homes - September 26, 2024 at 02:08 PM

Sister Simpkins was a God sent Missionary to Grace Memorial Baptist Church. She greeted everyone with a beautiful smile while she listened closely to their needs. She not only listened but she created a new Missionary Project called “The Share Basket Ministry “. Through this ministry along with other saints of the church, she used this program to feed the community and for fellowship while we picked up the food from the warehouse, while we assembled the baskets of food, and while we distributed it each month. Trustee Kenner, Deacon Cofield, Deacon Jones and others helped her with this important project. Missionary Simpkins never let anyone go hungry even if she had to pay for the basket out of her money. If you ordered share baskets regularly, and she noticed you missed a month, she would call you to see if you still wanted one even if she paid for it. Her darling daughter Evonne was always there to help her Mother with Missionary duties. Bless their hearts! I had the honor and privilege to work with Missionary Simpkins, Mother Dorothy Jackson, along side my mother (the late Deacon Nettie Ball) and other members. She also was involved with scheduling a bread truck that handed out donated bread to the community. Thank you Sister Kathleen Simpkins for being a bright light here on earth to me and my family (The Ball Family) at Grace Memorial Baptist Church. We will remember you and cherish these beautiful memories for ever. Rest in Peace. Respectfully, Ms. Cheryl Ball

Cheryl Ball - September 26, 2024 at 10:54 AM

AM

Dear old friend,
When you are up there in heaven, make sure you take the right turn because I will not be there to direct you while you are looking for our friends.
I will miss getting lost with you. I will miss talking with you, I will miss you.
Your Dearest Friend,
Sister Alice Mason

Alice Mason - September 25, 2024 at 08:11 PM

JE

Kathy was a very dear friend of mine for over 40 years. I will cherish the memories of our friendship.
Sending love and prayers to Evonne and the family.
June Edwards

June Edwards - September 24, 2024 at 08:48 PM

DC

Cousin Kat, this is for you.
Of all the special gifts in life however great or small, to have you as my cousin was the greatest gift of all. May the winds of love blow softly and whisper in your ear "We love and miss you and wish that you were here". Deep in our hearts, your life is kept to love and cherish, not forget. No more tomorrows we can share but yesterdays are always there. A silent thought, a secret tear keeps your memory ever near in my heart forever. Love you

Donita Caldwell - September 23, 2024 at 07:10 PM

AC

I will never forget how I first met Ms Kathy. She was basically giving me orders over the phone. When we met in person I said to her, "whatever you did for work you must have been the boss? " and she replied with her credentials in a DC Gov agency. And I knew then she was my cup of tea. She will be missed. And to Evonne I love you.

Amber I Church - September 23, 2024 at 03:44 PM

TD

Kathleen, thank you for being another example of a strong woman of family, of faith, and always showing up for your friends even through your trials. You stood with my Mom when she married my Dad and you were with her when she brought me home as a baby. You are never far from my heart ❤️

Tracee Dillard - September 21, 2024 at 06:25 AM

DJ

Kathleen you were à loving and caring friend.. always looking out to help others. Shayla and Dorothy Jackson will miss you so much.

Dorothy Jackson - September 23, 2024 at 09:13 PM