

A portrait of an elderly woman, Lillie Simmons, smiling. She has short, dark hair and is wearing a light-colored turtleneck under a patterned, textured jacket. The background of the entire card is decorated with a watercolor-style floral border featuring pink and red flowers, green leaves, and a white dove in flight.

*Sunrise*  
*January 1, 1927*

*Sunset*  
*January 30, 2023*

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

*Lillie Simmons*

**Saturday, April 15, 2023**

**Service 1:00 p.m.**

**William C. Harris Funeral Directors**

**Spanish Lake Chapel**

**1645 Redman Ave. St. Louis, MO. 63138**

# ORDER OF CELEBRATION

**Greetings and Welcome..... Charley Johnson**  
**Associate Minister St Peters A.M.E.**

**Invocation..... Honorable Duane L. Bailey**

**Liturgical Dance....."Amazing"**  
**Dancers - Sommer Harris & Che'la Rutlin Moore**

**Musical Selection....."Sweet Sweet Spirit"**  
**Episcopal Church of All Saints & Ascension Choir & Friends**

**Scripture Readings..... Shameem Clark-Hubbard**  
**Shaunn N. Simmons**

**Remarks..... Reverend Renee L. Fenner, Rector**  
**Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension**

**Musical Selection....."The Lord is My Light"**  
**Episcopal Church of All Saints & Ascension Choir & Friends**

**Acknowledgements..... Trina Dyan Clark James**  
**Nell Cheatham, 'SLLUA'**  
**Kynedra Ogunnaike, Girl Scouts of Greater St. Louis**  
**Deloise Williams, Washington School Reunion ORG**  
**Family & Friends**

**Slide Show..... "Sallie" with an I. E.**

**Remarks..... Reverend Lee Clayton Goodman**

**Closing Remarks..... Ricky Simmons**

**Musical Selection....."Acclamation"**  
**from Gospel Mass by Dr. Robert Ray**  
**Episcopal Church of All Saints & Ascension Choir & Friends**

**\*\*ALL MUSIC SELECTIONS\*\***  
**Arranged / Conducted by Kwamina Walker-Williams**  
**Pianist - Cheryl Walker**



# L I F E R E F L E C T I O N S

Sallie H. Simmons, daughter of the late Reverend Walter H. Hill, Sr. and Hattie Belle Miles, was born on January 1, 1927 in Kansas City, Missouri. She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Walter H. Hill, Jr.; Cordelia May John, Minerva Scott, and Marijane Burton.

Sallie began her basic education in St. Louis, before completion as a High School Graduate from Boulder High School, Boulder Colorado, in the Spring of 1944. The following fall she enrolled at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri. She would graduate in the Spring of 1948, with a Bachelor of Science in Education, with a major of Elementary Education. On November 6, 1949, Sallie would unite in matrimony with Richard Arnette Simmons of Jefferson City. From this union four children were born, Richelle Anette, Shirleen, Chiquita, and Richard Arnold(Ricky). Richelle and Shirleen would also precede Sallie in death.

Sallie was baptized at an early age by her father and in December 1961 she would be confirmed as an Episcopalian. She was a lifelong member of All Saints Episcopal Church(now known as All Saints Ascension). As a member she would serve in various capacities- member of the St. Ann's Altar Guild, member of the Episcopal Church Women(ECW), Vestry Board Member, and Sunday School Advisor/Teacher for the teenage youth of the church.

Sallie's professional career as an educator began in what is known as the "bootheel" of Missouri. It was there that she served as an Elementary School Teacher in the cities of Lilburn and Caruthersville. While in Caruthersville, bonds were formed with families and colleagues that would last until her death. Sallie was a contributor and active participant with the Washington School Reunion organization which documents and celebrates the history of Booker T. Washington Elementary and High School.

By September 1961, the Simmons family had relocated to St. Louis, and she began 30 years of employment with the St. Louis Public Schools. Her first assignment was at Jefferson Elementary before moving to the newly opened Hickey Elementary School in 1965. She would remain there until retirement in December 1991. Hickey School was approximately a half mile from the Simmons residence on Lexington Avenue, so her mode of transportation was to walk to and from everyday, unless weather

# L I F E R E F L E C T I O N S

would not allow her to do so. Sallie was able to impact the lives of many families through the years as a result of her presence in the neighborhood. It was not uncommon for former students to occasionally drop by the Simmons residence to chat with their teacher/neighbor. Her involvement with the St. Louis community stretched beyond her immediate neighborhood. For over 25 years Sallie would be involved with the Girl Scouts of Greater St. Louis. It began with the troops which were based out of All Saints church, but it did not take long for her to look for ways to provide more inclusion of minority girl scouts across the St. Louis Metropolitan Area. She became a recruiter, advocate, publicist, activist, or whatever role was necessary to ensure that the young ladies from All Saints, and other inner city troops would receive exposure to activities which would broaden their thinking. Outdoor Camping no doubt will be remembered by hundreds of young ladies for years to come.

Sallie was also committed to other organizations. She was a Life member of the Greater St. Louis Chapter-Lincoln University Alumni Association, Life member of the Union of Black Episcopalians(UBE), and served as a member of the African American Advisory Board for the Charles Knight Alzheimer Disease Research. Just as with her students and girl scouts, her efforts with these organizations was to bring attention and resources for the students of Lincoln, the involvement of the youth with the planning of activities for the UBE conventions, and feedback and direction to the Alzheimer Disease Research staff.

Sallie is survived by her husband Richard, daughter Chiquita, son and daughter in law- Ricky and Evon, son in law Joseph Clark Jr.(Richelle); granddaughters- Trina Dyan Clark(Pete), Shameem Clark-Hubbard(Rodney), Shaunn N. Simmons(Jason); grandsons - Abayomi Martin(Rhonda), Josef A. Clark, Richard A. Simmons "Drew", Great Grandchildren - Khalani James, Liya James, Rhadi Smith, Ayana Hubbard, Rodney Hubbard Jr., Jabari Hubbard, Attallah Hubbard, Ayishah Hubbard, Madison Simmons McNairy, Shakir Martin, Jahi Martin, and Godson William C. Harris Jr. . Her memory will also be cherished by a host of cousins, nieces, nephews from the Hill and Simmons families as well as countless friends she interacted with during her lifetime.









# I'M FREE

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.  
I'm following the path God has chosen 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've found now peace at the end of the day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
then fill it with remembered joys.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;  
Oh yes, these things, I too will I miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
look for the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much;  
good friends, good times, a loved ones touch.  
Perhaps my time seems all too brief;  
don't lengthen your time with undue grief. Lift up your  
heart and peace to thee,  
God wanted me now - He set me free.

## *Acknowledgement*

The family of SALLIE HILL SIMMONS would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone for your prayers, calls, and acts of kindness during this time of bereavement. We pray God's richest blessings upon each of you.

ARRANGEMENTS FROM  
LABOR TO REWARD WERE HANDLED BY:  
**WILLIAM C. HARRIS**  
**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**  
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"WHERE SERVICE IS AN  
UNFORGETTABLE MEMORY"

