



Ms. Vera Denise Simmons

June 16, 1955 - May 6, 2023

Vera Simmons, a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, niece, and devoted friend, transitioned from labor to reward with our Heavenly Father on Saturday, May 6, 2023. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. (II Tim. 4:7). This was Vera's testimony.

Vera was born in Newport News, VA on June 16, 1955, to the late Jerry and Magdalene Faison. She was educated in the Newport News Public School System and participated in several clubs and sang in the chorus. She graduated from Warwick High School in 1973. Her parents, Jerry and Magdalene raised Vera and her siblings in the Christian faith and attended Ivy Baptist Church, where she would later meet and marry, the late musical genius Frank A. Nelson. From that union were born two loving daughters Traci and Alana.

Vera was a hard worker and had a career in the City of Newport News as a teacher's aide and United States Postal Service in the City of Norfolk as a mail clerk. She dedicated thirty-two years of service to the post office and was blessed to be able to retire in 2018. Upon her retirement, Vera spent quality time in ministry and dedicated her time to her family and church.

Vera was loved and adored for her infectious smile and laugh, and her strong political views. She loved to talk and debate! She would challenge those she "talked" to about their political stance. She had strong Christian and moral

values and didn't mind expressing them to you whether you agreed or not. She also loved all her grandbabies and lovingly, encouraged them to be saved and covered them in prayer, and ministered to their needs.

Most of all, Vera loved Jesus Christ and serving in ministry. She was faithful and would serve in any capacity that was needed whether it was teaching Sunday school, leading praise and worship, or ushering. Her desire was to be used as a vessel by God. She was a faithful servant at El Shaddai Ministries under the leadership of Pastor Dave Young and later at Household of Faith Builders Ministries under the leadership of Pastors Leroy and Regina Gilliam. During the pandemic, Vera began attending True Vine Apostolic Church of Christ under the leadership of Bishop Jackson.

Vera was preceded in death by her parents, Jerry and Magdalene Faison, grandson, Jordan Nelson, and brothers, Edward and Jerome Faison.

She leaves to cherish her memory, daughters Traci Coleman (Travis) and Alana Nelson

(fiancé, Delfonzo Washington); nine loving grandchildren; Joshua Nelson, Jeremiah

Nelson, Jaquan Nelson, Jada Nelson, Tianna Nelson, Jessica Nelson, Dwight Hawkins Jr., D'Laysiah Hawkins, and Nia Nelson; two great-grandchildren, Kayson Nelson, and Karter Nelson; two sisters, Brenda Parker, and Renee Faison; sister-in-love, A. Renee Faison; nieces, Helen and Carolyn Faison, Melody Hardy(Anthony); great niece Melissa Stallworth(Marquis), Joanna Faison; Nephews, Darryl Faison, John Parker, and Jonathan Faison; great-nephews, Miguel Jimenez, Andres Jimenez; great-great nephews Jaden Jimenez, Marvell Stallworth and Marshall Stallworth; one Aunt Louise Patterson, a special friend, Ms. Spicer, as well as many other cousins, close relatives, and friends. She will be greatly missed!

Previous Events

Simmons Public Viewing

MAY 18. 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

M.E Fisher Funeral Home
2117 Madison Avenue
Newport News, VA 23607

Simmons Celebration Service

MAY 19. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

The Empowerment Zone
1901 E Pembroke Ave
Hampton, VA 23663

Simmons Burial

MAY 19. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Hampton Memorial Garden
155 Butler Farm Road
Hampton, VA 23666

Tribute Wall



“ *M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Vera Denise Simmons*



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - May 17, 2023 at 01:28 PM

SD

“ *Condolences to Vera's entire family. We were products of the older Ivy Baptist Church on Ivy Avenue. Sunday School and Vacation Bible School was held in different sections of the sanctuary and it was beautiful. The last time we talked in the grocery store we reminisced about some of the old days. Hold unto the great memories.*

Susan J Dale - May 23, 2023 at 05:09 PM

PC

“ *I will miss Vera at church and when we went to different church functions . Also riding the church bus and fellowship with her and with other sisters we all ate breakfast together now we missing you ! My condolences to her family 🙏*

pat clifton - May 18, 2023 at 09:18 PM

RF

Thank you!❤️

Renee Faison - May 22, 2023 at 09:27 PM

HF

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. Vera was a good friend and will truly be missed. God bless love



Her Postal Office Family - May 18, 2023 at 08:16 AM

RD

“ My sincere condolence to the family I of miss very Simmons what a beautiful person she were, love to debate

Robert Deloatch - May 17, 2023 at 09:46 PM

HF

“ Her and Lunch Group Family lit a candle in memory of Vera Simmons



Her Postal and Lunch Group Family - May 17, 2023 at 08:29 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Vera Denise Simmons.



May 17, 2023 at 05:02 PM



“ 29 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - May 17, 2023 at 01:20 PM



“ *Lavender & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Vera Denise Simmons.*



May 17, 2023 at 10:05 AM



“ *White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Vera Denise Simmons.*



May 16, 2023 at 04:01 PM

YC

“ I grew with Vera on 40th street with the Lee’s, Willis , Hayes , Townes and Anthony’s . That’s when children could be children. She was a wonderful person such a beautiful smile. Condolences to Renee and family on your loss. The Cherry Family; Jimmy, Yvonne, Darnella, Mary and Paguita.

Yvonne Cooper - May 12, 2023 at 09:39 AM

MW

I met Vera at A NARFE meeting. Three months ago she joined me and two other members at Anderson for lunch after the meeting. Prayers and condolences goes out to the family. Vera will be missed. Reflect on the memories she left behind.

Mildred Woodard - May 16, 2023 at 08:08 PM

CT

Vera was such a nice person. I worked with her and we used to walk together out at Bo Williams. This gave me a n opportunity to really get to know her. She will truly be missed.

Carrie Tucker - May 18, 2023 at 12:17 PM

RF

Thank you Yvonne and family for your thoughts and prayers! ❤️ Renee

Renee Faison - May 18, 2023 at 10:03 PM

PH

“ Vera was such a lovely person with a beautiful smile. Many days we shared and laughed together. Condolences to Alana, Tracey and family. She will be greatly missed.

Pam Harris - May 11, 2023 at 08:42 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Ms. Vera Denise Simmons.*



May 09, 2023 at 05:45 PM



“ *I was shocked and saddened to learn of Vera's passing. I grew up with Vera, Jerome and Renee in the Ivy Avenue Baptist Church in the 60s and 70s. Vera was such a sweet, humble, kind and friendly young lady. I had not seen her over the years, but have such good memories of her.*

I send my love and condolences to Vera's family. I pray that your memory of her death will be short lived and the fond and loving memories of Vera will return and last your lifetime.

Be blessed and encouraged. 💔🙏



Beulah M Davis - May 08, 2023 at 10:18 PM



So very sorry to hear of Vera's passing. I also grew up with Vera at Ivy Avenue Baptist Church where we had great mentors and made lasting memories. We shared those memories a few times as adults, and she always had that smile. My condolences to the family.

Jannie Bazemore - May 15, 2023 at 03:47 PM

HF

To the Family of Our dear friend Vera. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Vera was a good friend and co worker of Our in the Post Office . She was a help to all that needed it. She didn't have a problem lending a helping hand. We shared birthday parties and games. We will surely miss her at monthly luncheon. Know that we loved her and we will keep our memories until we meet again. God bless

Her Postal and Lunch Group Family - May 16, 2023 at 05:02 PM

PW

prayers are with the family.

pat watlington - May 20, 2023 at 08:47 PM