



Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims

September 19, 1949 - June 14, 2021

Dr. Yvonne Elizabeth Bethea Sims, 71, entered eternal life with the Lord on June 14, 2021. She was born in Petersburg, Virginia on September 19, 1949. She moved to Northampton County (Town of Jackson), North Carolina in 1997.

She was the daughter of Thelma Bethea and the late Herbert L. Bethea, Jr. Along with her father, she was preceded in death by her brother, Wyman Bethea, Sr.

Yvonne received Christ at an early age as a member of the First Baptist Church of Petersburg, Virginia. She was later a member of the Greater Faith AME Zion Church of Petersburg, Virginia. For more than 20 years, she has been a dedicated and active member of St. Matthew AME Church in Weldon, North Carolina. There she served on the Steward Board, Usher Board and Missionary Society.

Yvonne was educated in the Petersburg Public School System, Petersburg, VA and was a graduate of Peabody High School in 1967. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a Master's degree in Earth Science from Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA. She also earned a postgraduate certification in Earth and Environmental Science from The Ohio State University and a Medical Assistance certificate from National

Educational Centers. And, with her love of education and being a lifetime learner of God's word, she earned her Doctoral Degree in Biblical Studies from Grace Bible College and Theological Seminary in 2017. After her retirement, she continued to support the community as a substitute teacher, mentor, and tutor - occasionally teaching college courses.

Education was her life's passion. She enjoyed a career as a science teacher and administrator for more than 36 years. Yvonne worked in Dinwiddie County Public Schools, Petersburg Public Schools, Northampton County Public Schools and Bertie County Schools, North Carolina, she also worked at Virtual High School, Virginia State University and Fortis College - Richmond. She loved her students and helping them work to create better lives for themselves. Yvonne received many accolades as an educator and secured several grants to support science programs for her students. And, in addition to teaching, she spent many years as a Medical Assistant for MedCare Clinic in Chester, VA.

She was a member of the former Benedict Civic Club in Petersburg and the Order of the Eastern Star. She was an active member of the National Association of University Women (NAUW) - Northampton (NC) Chapter until the time of her passing.

She is survived by a loving and dedicated family: including her mother, Thelma Bethea of Prince George, VA; two sisters, Yvette Carter (Brian Jackson) of Hopewell, VA and Terri Morse Ceasar of Petersburg, VA; her husband of 30 years, Elmer Sims of Chesterfield, VA; her sons, Lance Sims of Chester, VA and LaMar Sims (Nina) of North Chesterfield, VA; three grandchildren, Kendall Sims of Washington, DC, Lauryn and Nathan Sims of North Chesterfield, VA; her loving Rottweiler "Bear"; three brothers-in-law, Lorenzo and Ben Sims of Spotsylvania, VA and Isaac Sims of Denver, CO; six nephews, Wyman Bethea, Jr. (Amy), Melvin Carter, III, Corey and LaJuan

Sims, Terrell Ceasar (Genia) and Wade Bethea; five nieces, Monica, Ayanna and Meredith Sims (Lee Perna), Candace Hicks (Jamal) and Whitney Ceasar; bonus mom, Rebecca Bethea; devoted friends, Vernice Kier, Dewanda Dawson and Shirley Ellsworth; and a host of additional family, friends, classmates, colleagues, students and community members.

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Yvonne will be held 11:00 A.M., Saturday, June 19, 2021 at Tucker & Fisher Celebration of Life Chapel, 415 Halifax St., Petersburg, VA. The service will be live streamed.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the Dr. Yvonne B. Sims Scholarship Fund at St. Mathew AME Church, P.O. Box 605 Weldon, NC 27890.

Previous Events

Sims Celebration of Life

JUN **19**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Tucker and Fisher Funeral Home
415 Halifax Street
Petersburg, VA 23803

Tribute Wall



“ *M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. created a [Click Here For Live Stream](#) in memory of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims*



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - June 18, 2021 at 11:33 PM



“ *M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. created a [Tribute Video](#) in memory of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims*



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - June 18, 2021 at 10:20 PM

A(

*My condolences to you and your family.
Adella , levar bell. (Mom)*

Adella, levar bell (mom) - June 19, 2021 at 10:47 AM

DN

My condolences to the Bethea and Sims family. I will always remember Ms. Sims as a great person and Great sponsor as we marched with the P.H.S. Band for many years.

Danielle Newman

Danielle Newman - June 23, 2021 at 01:49 PM



“ So glad I had the opportunity to talk with you during our 50th class reunion. Seems like no time had past despite it had been 5 decades. See you on the other side.



Francyne Anderson - June 21, 2021 at 04:28 PM

IE

“ *Ida J. Edwards lit a candle in memory of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims*



ida J. Edwards - June 19, 2021 at 10:45 AM

VK

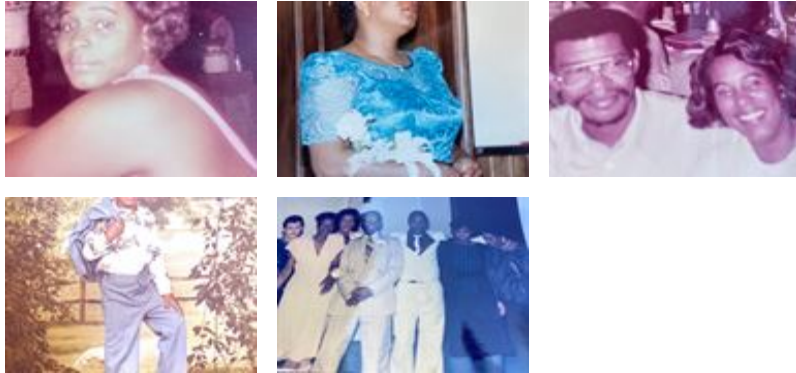
“ *Lance, Lamar,Ms Thelma and Yvette Although I am not there today my thoughts and prayers are with you. Love to you all. Yvonne will always be in my thoughts and the memories we shared.She was more than a friend. She was a sister to me.*
Vernice



Vernice Kier - June 19, 2021 at 10:45 AM



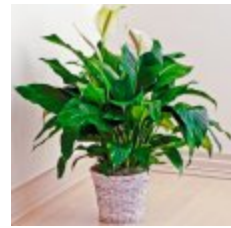
“ 37 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - June 18, 2021 at 10:13 PM

JM

“ *Judith M. purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims.*



Judith M. - June 18, 2021 at 03:31 PM

YF

“ *Your eCMMS Family purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims.*



Your eCMMS Family - June 18, 2021 at 12:51 PM

PV

“ PRISCILLA P VINCENT lit a candle in memory of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims



PRISCILLA P VINCENT - June 18, 2021 at 12:28 PM

GH

“ My condolences to the family for your loss of Dr. Yvonne. Love and Peace.

Gail Hinton-Copeland - June 18, 2021 at 11:37 AM

L(

“ Lamar, Lance, Ms. Thelma, and Yvette,

So many precious memories of family times and Bunkerhill times! What a blessing that Yvonne took hold of life and it's opportunities to live, laugh, love and learn. She accomplished so much in her lifetime, of that you all can be proud! My heartfelt sympathy and love to each of you!

Lynne' (Binky) - June 18, 2021 at 10:12 AM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims.



June 18, 2021 at 07:40 AM

RL

“ *My condolence to the family of Dr. Yvonne Sims.*



Rev. Evelyn K. Lee - June 17, 2021 at 05:58 PM

RL

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family of Dr. Yvonne Sims. She was my co-worker at NCHSW. Dr. Sims was always kind, thoughtful, very knowledgeable in her discipline, very helpful, always smiling, always knew what to say to lift your spirit, humble and a jewel to work with. Family, please know that you are in my heart, thoughts and prayers at this most heart breaking time. Yvonne is at her eternal home in that mansion with her Lord. For the Bible reads, to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Thank God for the life and legacy of Dr. Yvonne Elizabeth Bethea Sims*



Rev. E. K. Lee - June 17, 2021 at 05:54 PM

BP

Yvonne Sims I will miss that smile. You had a smile that makes you smile. Our trip together was wonderful. The talks we had when we were in our cabin I enjoyed. It was funny when the boys were looking for us on the cruise trying to keep up with us. I know you were a strong woman of God and I loved that about you but you also had a fun-loving side. I shall miss you God pick a beautiful flower. Rest On My Friend

Brenda Powell - June 17, 2021 at 08:33 PM



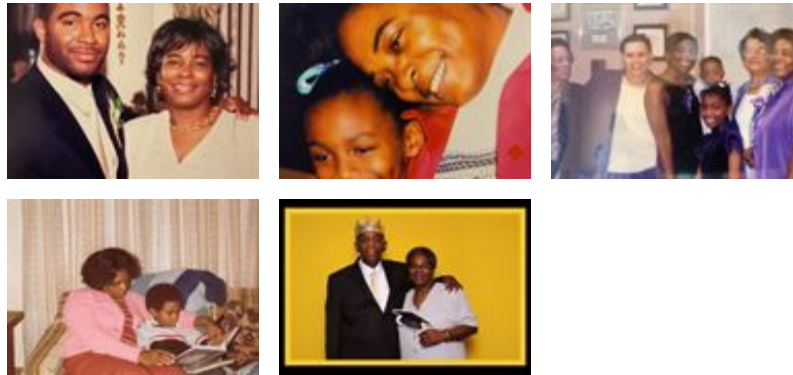
“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Yvonne Bethea Sims.*



June 17, 2021 at 02:26 PM



“ *38 files added to the album Life Tributes*



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - June 17, 2021 at 09:30 AM



“ *Dear Lance First Lady and I are deeply shocked at hearing about your Mother's passing. We truly want you to know our prayers are going up for you and your family. Your mother was a warm and caring lady. The times we met her will always be dear to us. May God strengthen you and give you peace and healing. As you know the Union Baptist family will always be here for you!*

Respectfully,

Pastor Johnson, Rev. Towanda, and the Union Baptist Family

Pastor John E Johnson Jr - June 16, 2021 at 04:49 PM

MB

“ *Lance, We are praying with your family and you.*

*Pastor & Lady Barfield
First Baptist Church of Conway, Conway, NC*

Mark A. Barfield - June 16, 2021 at 12:06 PM

AC

Lamar, Nina, Lance, and family, my sincere condolences to you and your family. My continued prayers cover you all as you lay your Mom to rest.

*Allene R. Campbell,
Mcdonough, Georgia*

Allene R. Campbell - June 17, 2021 at 08:55 AM

MA

“ *Lamar, Nina, and Family, please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this time and always.*



Machelle - June 16, 2021 at 08:57 AM