



Mrs. Maureen Lutoria Simmons Thomas

August 29, 1950 - August 1, 2024

On August 29, 1950, Malcolm M. and Mary Augusta McPherson Simmons welcomed their 6th child, me, MAUREEN LUTORIA SIMMONS, into our family in Fayetteville, NC. There were 3 more siblings after me and with the fortitude of all 9 of us, we managed to gather together during my lifetime so that I could be able to actually sit down and write about the good, bad, hilarious and strange times that we experienced during our growing up years. It took me 12 years to "travel" chapter to chapter, but it was finally published as "Just One Unbeatable Family" (my sister Ida's suggestion).

Joining Beaver Creek AME Zion Church (Renamed Simon Temple) at age 13, I ended up working for the Lord in quite a few church functions. Helped committee for years that sponsored Christmas, Easter & Black History programs. Served over 20 years as an usher and for over 25 years I was the Assistant Vacation Bible School Director. I worked faithfully for years as the recording secretary for the Missionary Society, the Christian Education Dept. and our Church Sunday School.

Had labored for 35 years with the local Telephone Company and after retiring from that place in 2003, worked for 10 years with the Fort Bragg School System.

My loved ones who have gone on before me were: my parents, "Mac" & "Gussie" Simmons; 3 of my brothers: Tony, Terry & William Simmons; and 1

sister-cousin Flora Seaford Mclver.

Praying for those whom I left behind: my husband Franklin; my sisters: Maggie Smith, Kathy Simmons and Ira LeGrande (Lloyd); my brothers: Hubert Simmons (Beverly) and Malcolm A. Sr. (Marcella); 4 more sisters-in-law: Linda Yearn, Dell

McKoy, Barbara and Marie Simmons; and a bunch of wonderful nieces, nephews, cousins & friends. To all: Work, for the night is coming!

Previous Events

Viewing

AUG 12. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel
2010 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28311

Funeral

AUG 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Church
5760 Yadkin Rd.
Fayetteville, NC

Burial

AUG 13 (ET)

Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Church
5760 Yadkin Rd.
Fayetteville, NC

Tribute Wall



“ *Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Maureen Lutoria Simmons Thomas*



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - August 16, 2024 at 03:19 PM



“ *I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith.*
2 Timothy 4:7

Cynthia Swinson Leeks - August 13, 2024 at 02:14 PM



“ *Mrs. Maureen absolutely loved her community and loved attending the Seabrook-Broadell NW meetings. She was admitted about choosing the best yard for our Yard of the Month initiative! Several times, she came to our meetings just to feel the joy in her heart. We're gonna miss her beautiful smile and personality. May she rest in Heaven.*
Sincere condolences to her family.
Seabrook-Broadell Neighborhood Watch
Cynthia Leeks, President

Cynthia Swinson Leeks - August 13, 2024 at 02:03 PM

PM

“ Pamela Mclaughlin lit a candle in memory of Maureen Simmons Thomas



Pamela Mclaughlin - August 13, 2024 at 01:23 PM

GG

“ My condolences to the family of Maureen. I enjoyed reading her book. A great classmate.

George Graves - August 12, 2024 at 09:48 PM

BS

“ BSmith sent a virtual gift in memory of Maureen Simmons Thomas



BSmith - August 12, 2024 at 08:07 PM

LB

“ My prayers to the Simmons-Thomas family. Maureen was a rare flower in God's



Linda Bushrod - August 12, 2024 at 04:22 PM

MF

“ Remember Maureen from High School as my classmate William Simmons younger sister. She was always so nice and friendly. I truly enjoyed reading her book about growing up in the Sibona area. Family be blessed for you have lost a jewel, but God is still good.



Mary Fennell-Williamson - August 12, 2024 at 11:55 AM

CK

“ My Condolences To The Simmons and Thomas Families



Cynthia Kelly - August 11, 2024 at 06:06 PM

AE

“ Audrey Elliott lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maureen Lutoria Simmons Thomas



Audrey Elliott - August 11, 2024 at 12:24 AM

SA

“ My condolences to the family. Maureen was a very sweet and loving person. She was very dedicated to her work in the church. She was the first person to welcome me to Simon Temple. If there was something that she could do for you she would. Rest in peace!

Shirley Aiken - August 10, 2024 at 09:29 PM

CM

“ *Deepest Sympathy to the Simmons family. Maureen will truly be missed.* ”



Carolyn J Monroe - August 10, 2024 at 10:05 AM

RB

“ *Sending sincere condolences to the family from my husband Percy Bethea and myself. Percy was Maureen’s classmate, c/o 1968, at Anne Chesnutt. He always expressed how very smart she was in school. May God keep you in perfect peace.* ”

Percy & Rosa Bethea

Rosa Bethea - August 10, 2024 at 09:28 AM

HG

To the family of Maureen Simmons Thomas. We offer our sincerest Condolences and Prayers to the family for the transition 🙏❤️ of my dear and precious friend, Maureen! She has been a wonderful Blessing and steadfast person trying always to do what is right. In Elementary School, High School, and beyond, we never lost contact nor the bond that held us together in the beginning of our Friendship, that Bond was Jesus! Let us hold to our Priceless Memories developed down through the years until now. My Dear Friend, Maureen, is already being missed in so many capacities! Take Your Rest Friend, God has chosen the Best! RIP! 🙏🙏🙏

Helen Gilchrist - August 10, 2024 at 06:00 PM

DF

*From our family to your family, just know that we are standing in the gap and lifting the family of Maureen Simmons Thomas before God knowing that God is Almighty and He is our refuge! Lean and Depend on God, He will carry you through!
We are 🙏 Praying for the family! David and Helen Gilchrist and Family*

David and Helen Gilchrist and Family - August 10, 2024 at 06:17 PM

JJ

Maureen, we miss your warm smile and sweet spirit already. Praying the peace that comes from God to your family and friends.

Janice Jackson - August 11, 2024 at 09:05 PM

MB

To: Maureen Simmons Thomas Family. Sending our condolences, we are so sorry, to hear, of a Maureen passing, Maureen, will surely be missed, she always greeted you with a smile, at the door. Maureen, was a willing worker, in church doing whatever task, that needed, to be done. Maureen., always, had a calming spirit, a welcoming smile!!! MAUREEN SIMMONS THOMAS, take your rest, it's well deserved!!! You will truly, be missed.

*, TO THE FAMILY:
I pray. THAT GOD GIVES
STRENGTH, PEACE LOVE, AND UNDERSTANDING, !!!
May, GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOUR FAMILY!!!
From the Burrus Family.
Marcia, Ernestine, Renita.*

, we Maureen. Had a humble spirit,

Marcia Burrus - August 13, 2024 at 06:07 AM

EG

“ *Ella Watson Goodson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maureen Lutoria Simmons Thomas*



Ella Watson Goodson - August 10, 2024 at 08:41 AM

RJ

“ *My Condolences to the Simmons family. We grew up in the Cross Creek Community at Skibo, Fayetteville NC. My grandmother Mrs. Scelia Williams lived across the railroad tracks from the Simmons, Manuels families. We were one big family leaning on each other. You will be missed but, never forgotten. Hubert was my classmate. May God the father of consolation and peace keep you as your minds stay on Him. The author and finisher of our faith. Rest in God's loving care Maureen* ❤️ ❤️ 🙏

Rosa Lee Farmer Jones - August 09, 2024 at 11:54 PM

HS

“ 3 files added to the album Maureen Photos 1



Hubert Simmons - August 09, 2024 at 11:35 PM

EH

“ *Effie Pone Hill lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maureen Lutoria Simmons Thomas*



Effie Pone Hill - August 09, 2024 at 08:36 PM

JF

“ *Maureen was just a natural, loving, lady whom my family held dear to our hearts ..My Mother" Lutisha Ray McNeill", loved her spirit and her kindness to all of her grandchildren while they were growing up in Simon Temple.. They were in the Voices Of Hope Choir and she always saw to it that they attended Bible School many summers.. We all send our Love to the family...*

Joyce Ray and Family - August 08, 2024 at 10:52 PM

WL

“ *of Our condolences to the family. Maureen was a beautiful and caring person. very dedicated and active member of the Simon Temple Church. Prayers to all the members of her family.*

William and Sarah lowe - August 08, 2024 at 08:04 PM

BM

“ *Belinda Melvin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maureen Lutoria Simmons Thomas*



Belinda Melvin - August 08, 2024 at 07:29 PM

BC

“ *May beautiful memories bring you peace during this difficult time. So sorry for your loss.*

Brenda Crittenden



Brenda Crittenden - August 08, 2024 at 04:43 PM

DP

“Maureen was a beautiful lady who became family when she met and married our cousin, Franklin Thomas. We are praying for the family and thank God for the opportunity to call her a friend.



Deborah Purcell - August 08, 2024 at 04:31 PM

JM

“Maureen had the kindest heart of anyone I have ever met. I still remember her teaching us songs when we were younger. She we be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Joyce McAllister - August 08, 2024 at 11:02 AM



“I did not know Maureen personally, but I read her book, and enjoyed it. She's in our family by marriage, therefore, indirectly I knew her. Also her brother and I were in the same classes in Lewis Chapel School. My deepest sympathy is extended to the family and all of her loved ones.

Ellen C. McNeill - August 08, 2024 at 08:13 AM

IM

“Maureen was one of the sweetest person o know, She always greeted you with a big hey Bae and a smile just as big. A heart of gold. She will be missed. Prayers for the families. She held her sisters dear to her heart.
Iris Murray

Iris Murray - August 07, 2024 at 10:41 PM

WG

“ Words are not sufficient to describe our Cousin Maureen. I have known her all my life. She was kind, happy, and always willing. She was a model for her younger cousins. She lived from her “heart”. I was so sad to hear about her sickness and passing. It’s one of those times you ask Why, and remember that a greater reward awaits her at the gate on the other side. May Maureen’s laughter and candidness remain a blessing to us all!

Wilmer J Graham - August 07, 2024 at 09:05 PM

FG

“ Our deepest sympathy. Gone But Not Forgotten. She was a dear friend of mine. In the Anne Chesnutt H.S.Alumni Class of 1968

Frances Genfi - August 07, 2024 at 07:28 PM

EC

She was a classmate we graduated together

Edna Mc Millian Cameron - August 12, 2024 at 09:35 PM

VG

“ Victoria Mckethan Giles lit a candle in memory of Maureen Thomas



Victoria Mckethan Giles - August 07, 2024 at 06:02 PM

VT

“ With deepest condolences our hearts goes out to the family. My GOD keep your all locked in his arms. We will be praying for you all.

James Garrett and Jean Thomas of Houston ,Texas



Velma Thomas - August 07, 2024 at 05:02 PM

MM

“ We were so sorry to hear of Maureen's passing. She is our first cousin, and we would always look forward to seeing her at church when we would go home and at our family reunions. She was such a kind and happy person always greeting us with a smile. She will surely be missed. We will miss those beautiful Christmas cards that she sent. We will be praying for her immediate family.

Love.

Cousins Pat and Robert McLean

Marian P Mclean - August 07, 2024 at 03:34 PM

VG

I am so sorry to hear of Maureen's passing. She was the epitome of kindness and a gentle spirit. I worked with Maureen in the early 70's at Carolina Telephone Company. Sending prayers to her family and friends.

*Sincere condolences,
Victoria Mckethan Giles*

Victoria Mckethan Giles - August 07, 2024 at 06:09 PM

FJ

“ I worked with Maureen at the phone company and it was a joy to work with her, she will be truly missed, we have worked together in the church, she was a woman who stood behind her word, rest in peace.

Frances Jones - August 07, 2024 at 01:29 PM

EM

“ My deepest sympathy and condolences for the family of Maureen. We worked together as telephone operators and clerks at Carolina Telephone Company for many years. Maureen was definitely one of a kind very generous and kind to everyone. Her ways were beyond reproach once she made up her mind to do something even when her checkbook was off by a penny. I offered her the penny she said no I can't take that I have to find out where the penny deficit is. That's Maureen. In later years I have not seen her but read her book and always inquired about her from various people who still moved in her circle. I was so glad to hear that she finally got married. She will be sorely missed by many.

Evelyn Johnson Moody - August 07, 2024 at 12:24 PM

JM

What was name of her book Id love to read it

Joyce Black Mccabe - August 07, 2024 at 02:35 PM

VT

With deepest condolences our hearts and prayers are with your family. May GOD forever keep his loving arms around you all. We will never forget. We love you. James Garrett and Jean Thomas of Houston, Tx

Velma Thomas - August 07, 2024 at 05:16 PM

DJ

Maureen and I worked at Carolina Telephone. A kind and Christian person, friendly and very thoughtful. After we retired I became her hairstylist and the friendship continued every 3rd thursday. We shared news about our phone company friends. I will miss her sweet spirit. May God give the family peace during this time. Delorice James

Delorice James - August 07, 2024 at 06:26 PM

MM

*My cousin Maureen was such a loving and caring person. Whenever I saw her at church, she always greeted me with a smile. She took her responsibility of Sunday school duty seriously. Even when she first got sick, she wanted to make sure that someone was there to help in her absence. I know that she loved the LORD, and I know she is at peace. I will miss your smile Maureen.
My heartfelt condolences to her immediate family.*

*Love,
Mary Alice McDonald*

Mary Alice McDonald - August 07, 2024 at 06:27 PM

CP

My deepest condolences goes out to Maureen family she was such a special person i met maureen when i transferred to Fayetteville from the Southern Pines office of Carolina Telephone we became friends and continue our friendship over the years we kept in touch she always called me C.J. and we had the same birthday month God has gained a Special Angel I WILL MISS YOU MY FRIEND

Carolyn J Person - August 07, 2024 at 08:35 PM

SM

I have so many fond memories of Maureen as I grew up at Simon Temple AME Zion Church. Maureen had an impact on my life through Sunday School, VBS and Christian Education. She taught me how to be faithful and committed to ministry. She always had a smile and was special to me. Anytime I saw her in the community she greeted me with love. She will be missed. My prayers are with her family and the Simon Temple family.

Sheila McLaughlin - August 08, 2024 at 07:00 PM

AB

My sympathy goes out to the family of my dear friend Maureen, I will miss her dearly. Maureen and I met at Carolina Telephone. She was there when I came. I moved from SC to live with my sister. Maureen and I became friends, and remained friends, after I moved back to SC to get married. I could say so much, always loving and kind. My prayers go out to the family. May God continue to bless all of you. Evangelist, Annie N. Burns

Annie N. Burns - August 09, 2024 at 09:20 PM

AB

Annie N. Burns

Annie N. Burns - August 09, 2024 at 09:22 PM

MW

Maureen, we texted July 7 @7:16 and you said your legs don't want to work with you. So you go rest now precious one. Your life in eternity has just begun. Now you can walk, your legs are brand new. All of heaven is now in your view. Look all around, it's all in your sight. There will never be another dark night. Flowers and jewels, the streets of gold, and all of the things that have been told. I can just imagine the smile on your face, as you walk all around in that beautiful place. Greeting your love ones as you walk alone, while singing heaven's most beautiful song. This is so very hard, but it will be okay, it isn't goodbye, we'll see you one day. I love you and will miss you and at times it will be tough, but as with everything, God's grace will be enough. Your Friend & Coworker, Marian McLean Womack

Marian McLean Womack - August 12, 2024 at 01:00 PM