

Pallbearers

Anthony Williams
Justin Taylor
Tony Williams

Eddie Simmons, Jr.
Jason Taylor
Donald Wesley

Acknowledgement

On behalf of the entire family of our beloved Deacon Ed Simmons, Sr., we extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all who expressed sympathy and sent condolences, flowers, emails, text messages, and posts on social media expressing your love and support to us. To those who prepared and delivered food and or attended his Homegoing Celebration while we are still in this incredibly stressful time of a worldwide pandemic—we thank you for finding a way to comfort us in our time of great loss. We see it, we feel it and are overwhelmed by your kindness to us. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We love you all and pray God blesses you abundantly.

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Celebrating the Life of



DEACON
Eddie Simmons, Sr.
"THE PREACHING DEACON"

SUNRISE
July 17, 1933

SUNSET
July 4, 2021

Saturday, July 17, 2021
Viewing: 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Celebration of Life: 10:30 AM

FAITH MIRACLE TEMPLE
870 Pershall Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63137

*Bishop Larry J. Baylor, Senior Pastor
Dr. Marlon T. Baylor, Host Pastor*

Reflections of a Life Well-Lived



EDDIE SIMMONS, SR., was born on Monday, July 17, 1933, to Ms. Dorena Simmons in LeFlore, Mississippi. He was no stranger to work and was always a great provider for his family. He was a waiter at Dancon's Drive-In in Clarksdale, Mississippi, from 1948 to 1951.

On November 20, 1951, Ed enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served his country proudly until November 2, 1953. During his active-duty service, he earned both the Navy Occupation Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. After being honorably discharged from active duty, Eddie continued his military service in the United States Marine Corps Forces Reserve from November 3, 1953, through November 19, 1959. On July 2, 1953,

he was united in holy matrimony to his hometown sweetheart, Ms. Jeannie Louise Blair. To their union four children were born. Ed and Jeannie enjoyed 68

years of marital bliss and were often the longest married couple at various marriage events. They willingly shared advice and successes to their marriage longevity, which always included praying as a family and keeping God first.

Eddie moved his family from Mississippi to Alton, Illinois, in 1954. Life in Illinois was where his development as a Christian man began. He received the gift of the Holy Ghost as a young man in 1955, and was later baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. In 1966, he and his family became members of Lively Stone Church of God, under the leadership of the late Bishop Philip Lee Scott. As a member, he was ordained and served as a Deacon, Sunday School Teacher, and President of the Pastor's Aide. In his capacity as the president, he was a talented guitarist for the Pastor's Aide Choir. He was a faithful member of Lively Stone Church of God for over 40 years. He continued learning and educating himself to become more deeply rooted in the Word of God and was nicknamed "The Preaching Deacon." He took the Survey of the Bible class, taught by the late Evangelist Flossie Simpson and received a Certificate of Completion. Deacon Eddie and Jeannie Simmons later became members of Faith Miracle Temple, under the leadership of Bishop Larry Baylor and Pastor Dr. Marlon Baylor. Deacon Simmons was a member of Faith Miracle Temple until he transitioned to Glory.

Precious Memories



*Words cannot express how much I will miss you. I am who I am today because of you. Thanks for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself. Rest on, Daddy, for we will see each other again, but not right now.
Love you very much!
Love, your middle daughter, Kathy, aka Loose Lips*

*My grandfather, Eddie Simmons, taught me many things. My brothers and I affectionately called him Papa. The wisdom in how he lived his life, and the efficacy in how he communicated that wisdom helped make me the man that I am now. Under his tutelage, I learned to be observant of my surroundings, and to listen more than I speak. I gained the knowledge that one need not travel the world to gain insight on how to be a better steward and neighbor to my fellow people from all walks of life. He showed me how to persevere through life's harshest storms, and to sail those troubled waters until I reach the calming shores of success. When my Dad passed away, Papa stepped in the gap and went from his role as grandfather to a father-type role for my brothers and me. He was the epitome of strength, bravery, and most of all, humanity. Papa used to thoroughly do 400-meter laps around the track. He passed the symbolical baton to me on uplifting others through word and deed. Papa was an honorable man.
I will always love you, and I miss you, Papa.
Your first-born grandchild, Jorden Taylor, Jr.*

*Since my father went home to be with the Lord in 1982, you have been my example of a righteous man. You have shown me how to be a father, husband, and a provider. You have exemplified James 1:19, "Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath." I love you and will miss your wise counsel. Rest in the bosom of God.
Your other son, Anthony Sr.*

*Although you are gone, we will always be together, and your spirit will live in each one of us forever. I hide my tears when I say your name, but the pain in my heart is still the same. Although I smile and seem happy, I will always miss you, no matter what.
Your granddaughter, Haylee*

*To my husband of 68 years, I miss you already. I would always ask you where to find certain scriptures. Now, I'll have to find them for myself. You used to play the guitar for me, but the strings are silent now. Ed, I never thought of being separated, but now that you are with the Lord, your troubles are all over. You can rest in peace. You left me and Oreo, your four-legged daughter. I love you, but God loves you more.
Love, your wife, Jeannie*



DEAREST HUSBAND,

*I thank you with all of my heart for sharing this journey called life.
I'll be forever grateful that I was blessed to be your wife.
Grateful to have held your hand, to have loved you throughout the years,
Amidst life's joys and challenges in times of happiness and tears.
Blessed to have built a life with you, to have created a family,
for our love and that of our children means everything to me.
I can hardly bear the thought or accept you've been taken away,
Facing the future without you here after 68 years and two days.
Yet, I'm comforted, knowing how much you love us,
And I'm certain you're still watching o'er,
Staying nearby and caring for us as faithfully as before.
And though you may be gone for a season, I'll carry on.....
trusting to see you again,
Waiting till God reunites us in Heaven and brings me back to you,
My BAE and my Friend.
Until then....I thank you, Dear Husband, for all you've meant to my life.
I'm so grateful God made us a family and for the blessing of being your wife.
Your Loving Wife, Jeannie*

Deacon Simmons was known to have the most well-manicured lawn in his neighborhood, an award he was proud to be recognized for, as well as the most beautifully detailed vehicles. His talents in the meticulous detailing of vehicles were very popular when he worked for his cousin who had a professional automobile cleaning company. Eddie then became employed at the Chevrolet and Shell Plant, where he was a supervisor for many years. He later transferred to the General Motors Auto Plant and worked there from 1968 until his retirement in 2005.

Deacon Simmons was an excellent provider for his family and always wanted the best for them. He took his children to church and led his family in prayer. He was a true praise and worshipper, and he played the guitar while his son played the drums, and his daughters and wife sang praises to the Lord. He shared his love of playing the guitar with the smaller churches and was often requested to come and play for church anniversaries, revivals, and tarrying services for the late Pastors Reba Hughes, Ernestine Joshua, and Bertha Gregory. Ed and his family were trendsetters, being among the first families to host and invite others for Christmas, and New Year's breakfast with the late Bishop P. L. Scott and the Lively Stone Church family and friends. He and his family were very close-knit and family-oriented and did everything together. Their annual vacation trips and attendance at various church conventions and conferences, always included a time of praise and worship in song. The Lord Almighty, in His providence, closed the book of Deacon Eddie Simmons, Sr., on the afternoon of Sunday, July 4, 2021. God sent an angel to carry one of His children from labor to reward.

In addition to his parents, Deacon Simmons was preceded in death by his sister, Catherine Stevenson, and his son-in-love, Jorden P. Taylor, Sr.

Deacon Simmons leaves to cherish his fond memories, his devoted and loving wife of 68 years, Jeannie L. Simmons; one son, Chief of Police Eddie Simmons, Jr. (Teena); three daughters, Dr. Jeannette Taylor, Kathy Williams (Anthony), and Sandra Wesley (Donald); one goddaughter, Treneay Cherice; one half-sister, Christine Williams; one sister-in-law, Middie Jackson; one brother-in-law, Charles Frison; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, church family, and fellow Marines.

GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN

Order of Service

Processional..... *Sweeping Through the City*
Dr. Jeannette Taylor

Call to Worship..... Bishop Larry Baylor

MC Prophetess Donna Scott

Prayer

Old Testament – *Lamentations 3:21–23*..... Elder Walker

New Testament – *I Corinthians 10:13*..... Elder Donegan

Selection..... *What He’s Done for Me*
Simmons Sister

Special Remarks (Five Minutes)..... Deacon Frank Lester
Talk & Song – I’ve Got a New Home – Elder David Berry
Judge Bettye Turner

Acknowledgement and Condolences

Selection..... Faith Miracle Temple

Family Tribute Jeannette Taylor
Eddie Simmons, Jr.
Kathy Williams
Sandra Wesley
Jorden Taylor, Jr., on behalf of the grandchildren

Remarks from Pulpit

Life Reflections (Read Silently)

Selection..... *I Believe I’ll Run On*
Simmons Sister

Words of Comfort..... Apostle Larry Baylor

Parting View

Prayer of Peace and Comfort

Recessional

~INTERMENT~

Monday, July 19, 2021
Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery
2900 Sheridan Road
St. Louis, MO 63125
Leaving Baucom’s at 8:00 AM

Loving Tributes

Granddaddy, I will always be your “Good Dooby”...Rest in Heaven.
Love, Teana

Granddaddy, you were truly a representation of what a man, a father, a friend, but most of all, what a child of God should be. You will forever be missed but never forgotten.
Love, Tiffany

Daddy, you fought the good fight, you finished the race, you kept the faith! Thank you for praying for the family at 3:00 a.m., before going to work at G.M. When you could no longer pray for us, we prayed for you. Rest on, Daddy. When that Great Trumpet sounds, you will rise first, and we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet THE LORD in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Love you, Daddy, to the moon and back.
From your oldest, Jean

Granddad, you were always a great representation for what it means to be a man. I’ve learned so much from you. You instilled in me hard work and showed by example what it means to lead a family. I love you, Granddad. You were the pillar of our family, and I will miss you so much!
Tony

Granddaddy, you always put a smile on my face when you would tell me how proud you were of me, because I am a hard worker and can always find jobs. Your blood runs through my veins. I have a strong work ethic because of you. I admired you for being a child of God, and an attentive, patient, loving, and caring husband and father. You modeled how a man should care for his family while allowing the Lord to lead you. I now know what to look for in a future husband. You may no longer be present on this earth, but the lessons you taught me will forever be in my heart. I love you, Granddaddy. xoxo
Love, Brittney

To the first man I fell in love with and respected. I thank God for you. Thank you, Daddy, for raising me up in a godly home and loving me unconditionally. Even though God blessed you to live to be 87 years old, I was not ready for you to leave me. I will truly miss and cherish our special family gatherings every Tuesday and Thursday evenings. I love you so much and wanted you around a little bit longer. God loves you more and decided it was time for you to come home. Daddy, sleep well, for we’ll see each other again!
Your baby daughter, Sandra

Papa, you taught me so much about work ethic and commitment. You showed me how to manicure a yard to excellent standards. I paid close attention as you taught me the details. That is why the signature of Eddie Simmons, Sr., will be on my work. I can stand back, look at the completed work, and say, thank you for teaching me, Papa.
I will pass on what you instilled in me. I love you, Papa.
Jason

Papa, one of the things I will miss the most about you is that you would always come over to the house and say, “Justin, I’m thirsty. Can you fix me something to drink?” You would start drinking and say, “Aaaaaah! Boy, you sho do make the best Koolaid, Justin!” I miss you so much! I love you, and I will see you again!
Justin

All my life I’ve tried to imitate you, Dad. You made me the man that I am today. I will always be humbled. Love you, Dad.
Eddie Jr.