

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me;
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.
I know how much you care for me, and how much I care for you,
and each time that you think of me I know you'll miss me too;

But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand,
that an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand,
and said my place was ready in heaven far above,
and that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye,
for all life, I'd always thought I didn't want to die.
I had so much to live for and so much yet to do.
it seemed almost impossible that I was leaving you.
I thought of all the love we shared and all the fun we had.
If I could relive yesterday, I thought, just for a while,
I'd say goodbye and hug you and maybe see you smile.

But then I fully realized that this could never be,
for emptiness and memories would take the place of me.
And when I thought of worldly things that I'd miss come tomorrow.
I thought of you, and when I did, my heart was filled with sorrow.

But when I walked through Heaven's gates, I felt so much at home.
When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne,
He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you,
Today your life on earth is past but here it starts anew.
I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last.
and since each day's the same, there's no longing for the past.

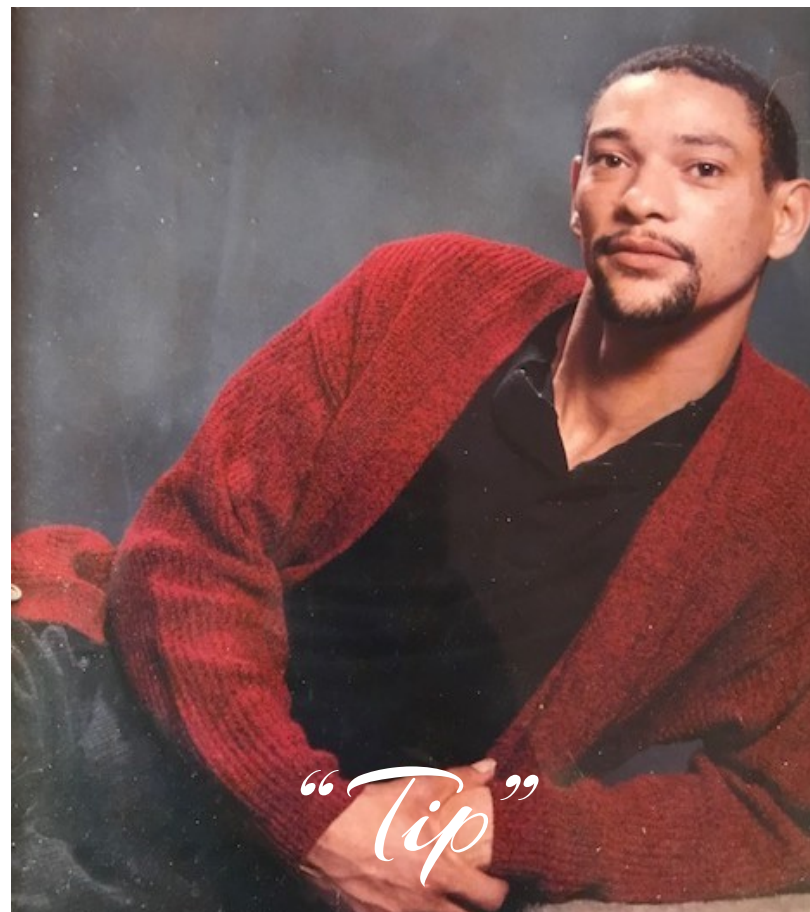
But you have been so faithful, so trusting, so true.
Though there were times you did some things you knew you shouldn't do.
And you have been forgiven and now, at last, you're free.
So won't you come and take my hand and share my life with me?"

So if tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart,
for every time you think of me, please know I'm in your heart.



485 Poors Ford Road | Rutherfordton, NC 28093 | Phone: 828-287-3800 "We
Are The Voice of Comfort In Your Hour of Grief"

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF Douglas Lee Simmons



Born into Time: September 2, 1962

Born into Eternity: July 31, 2025

Service: Saturday, August 9, 2025 1:00 pm

New Vernon Baptist Church

142 New Vernon Baptist Church Road

Bostic, North Carolina

Presiding: Dr. J. K. Miller

Dr. J.K. Miller Senior Pastor Officiating

Order of Service

The Processional

Receiving of Family and Friends

Selection....." Goodness of God"
New Vernon Baptist Choir

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Minister Donya Herring

New Testament..... Pastor Dwight Davenport

Prayer of Comfort.....Stencil Quarrels

Remarks.....Stencil Quarrels
Bobby Green
Aaron Brown

Selection....."Goin up Yonder"
Dwayne Lytle

Silent Reading of Obituary

Acknowledgement of Clergy.....Dr. J.K Miller

Selection....."I Trust in God"
New Vernon Baptist Choir

Eulogy.....Dr. J.K. Miller

Recessional

Interment

New Vernon Baptist Church Cemetery
Freeman Road
Bostic, North Carolina

Flower Bearers

Tammy Coston, Karen Gray, Tracy Hipp
Latasha Hampton, Leslie Littlejohn, Ellen Turner

Pall Bearers

Chris Dewberry, Tracy Dewberry, Jimmy Hampton
Todd Kelly, Calvin Littlejohn, Adrian Smith

Obituary

Douglas Lee Simmons "Tip" was born on September 2, 1962, to Mrs. Eunice Brooks and the late Leon Simmons.

Tip attended Burns High School in Lawndale, NC, where he displayed his talents in basketball and track and field. He became known as best all-around athlete and one of the greatest basketball players of all time. He later took his basketball talents to the University of South Carolina Lancaster.

Tip was a true outdoorsman and a jack of-all trades, who loved deer hunting, fishing, and farming. He also enjoyed cooking and was loved by his family and friends for his sweet tea, apple butter, and homemade wines. Tip began his career at Fast Food Industries and later became a butcher for Food Lion and Sammy's. He also worked at Hunnicutt Ford where he completed different tasks and maintained the Hunnicutt Farm. In his latter years, Tip worked for a family-owned business alongside his very special cousin, Troy Brown, renovating homes and more.

To know Tip was to love him. With his bright personality, full of jokes and laughs, he was a stranger to no one. He would do any and everything for anyone he encountered. Tip was the life of the party, always ready to "cut a rug" and dance the night away. He loved his family dearly, and his one and only daughter Sierra Simmons "Sie" was the light of his life.

Family

Tip is preceded in death by his father, Leon Simmons, grandparents, Reece and Ola Simmons; Charlie and Mary Lizzie Brown; two brothers, Leonard, David Simmons and one sister Vanessa Simmons.

Tip is survived by his loving wife, Tracie Simmons, his precious mother Eunice Brooks (Johnny) of Lawndale, NC; one daughter Sierra Simmons (Eugene) of Atlanta, GA; one stepsister, Monica Starr Rollins (Dell) of Cherryville, NC; two stepsons, Trashawn Davenport (Lauren) of Charlotte, NC and Malik Tabor of the home; one nephew, David Simmons Jr., two nieces, Amber Simmons and Brandie Landrum, three German Shepherds Star, Dino, and Zeke, and a host of aunts, uncles, great nephews and nieces, cousins, and other relatives and friends.

Acknowledgements

The family would like to thank each and every one of you for your acts of kindness during our time of bereavement.

A special thank you to hospice care.