



St. John 14:1-6 (KJV)
Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

PALLBEARERS

Margaret Mae Simmons Williams Grandsons
 Johnnie Johnson, Marcus Johnson, Michael Williams
 Taliaferro Alexander, Kellen Alexander, Terrance Alexander

FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Friends of the Family

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Margaret Simmons Williams wishes to express our deep appreciation for the outpouring of love, prayers, and support shown to us during our loved one's transition. We are especially grateful for the clergy, staff, family, friends, Community Hospice and members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church of Fernandina Beach, Florida, and St. Peter's Episcopal Church by the River in Jacksonville, Florida, whose faith-filled presence, visits, meals, calls, and countless acts of kindness have been a true reflection of Christ's love to our family. Your generosity has strengthened us and honored the faith that meant everything to our mother, and we thank God for each of you.

INTERMENT

St. Peter's Episcopal Cemetery
 North 8th Street and Alachua Street | Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

REPAST

St. Peter's Episcopal Church (Burns Hall)
 801 Atlantic Avenue | Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

Q.L. DOUGLAS
 FUNERAL HOME

QUINTON L. DOUGLAS, L.F.D.I.C.

MIXON TOWN CHAPEL
 2403 EDISON AVENUE | JACKSONVILLE, FL 32204
 (904) 683-3044

WWW.QLDOUGLASFUNERALHOME.COM



Sunrise:
 May 1, 1932

CELEBRATION
 OF LIFE FOR

Sunset:
 May 14, 2026

MARGARET
 MAE SIMMONS
WILLIAMS

MEMORIES OF
MARGARET

Saturday, May 23, 2026 • 11:00 A.M.
 St. Peter's Episcopal Church
 801 Atlantic Avenue
 Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034
 Reverend Natalie Blasco, Officiating

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MARGARET

Margaret Mae Simmons Williams was born May 1, 1932, in Fernandina Beach, Florida to Willie Simmons and Elnora Way Jenkins.

She was educated in the public schools of Nassau County and graduated from Peck High School in 1950. On May 28, 1953, Margaret graduated from Edward Waters College with an Associate of Arts degree and in 1958, graduated from Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina, with a Bachelor of Education degree.

She retired from the State of Florida after working 27 years as a social worker. She was also a teacher in the State of Florida, Nassau County for 11 years.

In her early years, Margaret attended Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal Church of Fernandina, located at 233 S. Third Street, Fernandina Beach, Florida. Upon marriage, she joined St. Peter's Episcopal Church, located at 801 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach, Florida. After moving to Jacksonville, Florida, with her family, she attended St. Peter's Episcopal Church, often known as St. Peter's by the River, located at 5042 Timuquana Road, Jacksonville, Florida as well as St. Peter's in Fernandina Beach.

Margaret was a devoted Episcopalian whose life was grounded in faith, prayer, and service. She was a faithful member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church and The Order of the Daughters of the King, as well as the Glory Circle. She also served her wider community through her involvement with the Nassau County Community Development Corporation (NCCDC), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and the Florida Retired Educators Association (FREA).

Margaret began and ended each day in prayer and with the reading of Scripture. She was known at St. Peter's as a prayer warrior who carried many people in her heart before God, faithfully praying for family, friends, and all those in need. Her handwritten prayer lists, kept over many years, named loved ones, neighbors, and others who were going through difficult times. When it became too difficult to write out her requests each week, she ensured that her standing prayer list was emailed to the church so that the prayers would continue. She taught her children, family, and all who knew her the importance of prayer and faith, always leading by example.

Education, creativity, and care for others were central to Margaret's vocation and character. She taught in the Nassau County, Florida school system for 11 years, fostering a love of learning in her students. Her grandchildren who grew up in or near her home were surrounded by books and learned to read early because of her diligence and dedication to early childhood education. She then transitioned into social work, a calling she faithfully fulfilled for 27 years until her retirement, treating every person with dignity and respect, regardless of their circumstances. Margaret also expressed her creativity through cake decorating and flower arranging, skills she joyfully shared at family gatherings and birthdays.

Margaret loved her community and gladly poured her time and energy into it. She participated in activities at the Senior Center, where she built friendships, encouraged others, and continued to learn new things. She chose organizations and activities that reflected her values and gave herself fully wherever she served. Above all, she loved God. Her daily life—her words, choices, and relationships—reflected a deep and abiding faith. Prayer was the rhythm of her days: she woke up praying, ended her day in prayer, and prayed continually in between.

She was also committed to caring for her body and staying active. Margaret was very fond of going to the gym and maintained a membership at Curves from her 60s into her late 80s, attending six days a week. Even when traveling, she would find a Curves location near her destination—including during a trip to Hawaii. Her dedication to exercise mirrored the dedication she showed in every area of her life. She stopped attending public gyms when the last Curves in Jacksonville closed and with the onset of the COVID pandemic, but she continued to stay active at home. She also kept her mind sharp by playing Solitaire on her tablet, working crossword puzzles, and watching game shows.

Margaret dearly loved her family—her parents, siblings, children, grandchildren, and extended family. She was intentional about staying connected, calling loved ones on their birthdays to sing “Happy Birthday,” a tradition she continued into her final days. She wanted everyone to know that God loved them, and that she did too. She leaves a legacy of grace, kindness, faithfulness, and those cherished birthday calls that will be deeply missed.

In her later years, Margaret spent her days fellowshiping with family and friends, checking in with others by phone, and enjoying her favorite television programs such as “Let's Make a Deal,” “Wheel of Fortune,” “The Price is Right,” “The Voice,” and Dr. Charles Stanley's messages. Most of all, she continued to read Scripture and to pray for others, especially those going through hard times. Her life was a testimony to the power of steadfast faith, a loving heart, and a servant's spirit.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Willie Simmons and Elnora Way Jenkins, daughter, Pamela R. Forbes, grandsons, Stephen A. Williams, IV and Thomas D. Johnson, granddaughter, Sierra S. Williams, great-granddaughter, Kyrie M. Johnson, sisters, Fathia Williams, Bettye Williams, Lucinda Jenkins, and Barbara Williams, brother, Vaughn Jenkins.

She leaves to cherish her life, her children, Steve A. Williams III, Stephanie Williams Johnson, Elnora D. Alexander, Margaret Patrice Williams, and Sheila A. Taylor (Russell); her grandchildren, Melissa Henry Mills (Robert), Michael Williams, Zayza Grant, Tia Grant, Johnnie Johnson, Marcus Johnson (Charity), Abrey Forbes Jr, Antonio Forbes (Kassandra), Taliaferro Alexander (Jennifer), Kellen Alexander, Terrance (Kayla), Timothy Johnson Jr., Thaddeus Johnson, Virtuous Taylor, and Valor Taylor; 16 great grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchildren; siblings, Willie Jenkins, Jr. (Beate), Sarah Edwards, Susie Jenkins Thompson (Cyril), and Ludie Jenkins Covelli; 37 nieces/nephews, with a special relationship with her niece/daughter, Sheryl Green and Ida Anderson; 61 great nieces/nephews and 49 great-great nieces/nephews; sister-in-Law, Elsie Green; cousin, Edith Coleman; lifelong friends, Marilyn Harris, Lavina Williams, Cecelia Norman, and Beverly Williams; Glory Circle Sisters, Marilyn Whiddon, Anne Weeks, and Daughters of the King members; Fernandina Beach North Side and 10th Street family and a host of other relatives and friends.

*Please follow the Order of Services
Provided in the Church Bulletin
for
Margaret Mae Simmons Williams*



A LIFE OF PRAYER AND LOVING HANDS

*She walked with Christ in quiet ways,
in whispered prayers at break of day,
in Scriptures read with steady faith,
in every humble word she prayed.*

*She bent her knees for those in need,
spoke every name before the Lord,
and trusted that His gracious heart
would answer every whispered word.*

*She taught us how to live in love,
to serve, to listen, to forgive,
to let God's kindness shine through us
in every place we work and live.*

*She opened books in small, young hands,
and hope in hearts that felt alone;
she poured out patience, care, and grace
until that love became our own.*

*Her days were filled with simple things—
a call, a song, a gentle smile—
yet in those quiet, faithful acts
she walked with Jesus all the while.*

*And though we grieve and say goodbye,
we know her journey is not done;
by God's great mercy, she now rests
in perfect peace with Christ, the Son.*

*Her prayers still wrap around our hearts,
her faith still lights our path today;
her life of love and steadfast hope
will guide us as we learn to pray.*