



## Josephine Strong Simons

March 7, 1927 - December 21, 2024

Josephine Strong Simons, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and friend, peacefully left her Earthly form on December 21, 2024, in the comfort of her own home, surrounded by love and Christian hymns. She was born in Orlando, Florida on March 7, 1927 to Laurence and Rita Parker. She was a member of the sorority ADK and the retired Educators Association. She started as a teacher with Orange County Schools then began her career with the Sumter County School District in 1954. She taught many different grade levels and was the AP at North Sumter Intermediate and Coleman Elementary before becoming the Principal at North Sumter Immediate. She later became the school district's Human Resource Director before retiring from the Sumter County School system after 50+ years. Josephine also was a Sunday school teacher. She enjoyed cooking for family, Jazzercise, playing the piano, spending time at church, country line dancing, traveling, gardening, and swimming. She is survived by her Sons: Robert Duren Strong Jr. (Michelle) of Crystal River, Florida, Philip Joseph Strong (Candy) of Bushnell, Florida, Roc Simons of Newaygo, MI, and Trim (Kay) Simons of Newaygo, MI; Daughters: Tonya (Eldon) Howe of Newaygo, MI, and Cindy (Gledis) Simons of Newaygo, MI; Grandchildren: Rob, Nathan (Nikki), Jessica (Brad), Josie, Mark, Kris, Sherry, Sheila, Jade, Tiffani, Richard, John, Crystal, Gilbert, Kim, Kylee, Tanden, and Shantori (Chris); Brother: Donald Parker of Dade City, Florida; Sisters: Frances D. Moredock of Jacksonville, Florida and Ann Law (John) of St. Simons Island, Georgia.

She is preceded in death by her first husband, Robert Duren Strong and second husband, Leon Simons, Brothers: Willard "Bud" Parker and Stanley Parker; Daughter: Sandy (John) Crawford; Grandson: Deverin Simons; Great Granddaughter: Sofia Strong. A visitation will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2025 at Purcell Chapel in Bushnell, Florida from 6pm-8pm and the service on Friday, January 3, 2025 at Bushnell Methodist Church in Bushnell, Florida at 1:30pm. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Bushnell Methodist Church. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.purcellfuneralhome.com](http://www.purcellfuneralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home- Purcell Chapel, Bushnell, Florida.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory - Purcell Chapel  
114 W Noble Ave  
Bushnell, FL 33513  
(352) 793-4531

## Funeral Service

JAN 3. 1:30 PM (ET)

Bushnell Methodist Church  
221 W Noble Ave  
Bushnell, FL 33513

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Josephine Strong Simons* ”



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**Beyers Funeral Home** - January 02, 2025 at 09:35 AM

TP

“ *Tammy L Potter lit a candle in memory of Josephine Strong Simons* ”



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**Tammy L Potter** - January 02, 2025 at 02:39 PM

KD

“ I had the great opportunity to be in Mrs. Strong's kindergarten class when she taught kindergarten on the old Bushnell High campus in 1956-57! I then had the opportunity to work for her as my principal when I was at North Sumter Intermediate School! Josephine Strong was a very competent educator with a very "strong" personality. She was a delight to know and I last remember visiting with her when her granddaughter brought her to Chris's Beauty Shop in Lake Panasoffkee. Her appointment was around the same time of my Mom's so I got to visit with her when I brought my Mom to get her hair done! She will be missed by many. Mrs. Strong was so proud of her sons and grand kids and always loved sharing their accomplishments. She lived an adventure filled life.  
Kathy Dixon

Kathy Dixon - December 27, 2024 at 03:34 PM

JS

“ Joyce Sles lit a candle in memory of Josephine Strong Simons



Joyce Sles - December 24, 2024 at 10:39 PM

CS

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Candy Strong - December 24, 2024 at 10:14 AM

CS

“ *Candy Strong lit a candle in memory of Josephine Strong Simons*



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**Candy Strong** - December 24, 2024 at 10:02 AM