



## Lottie Jane Neely Simms

January 30, 1942 - December 23, 2017

Lottie Jane Neely Simms, 75, of Huntington, W.Va., passed to her eternal home Saturday, December 23, 2017 in Las Vegas, NV. To know Lottie was to know that she believed in helping others. Not only was she an awesome mother, great teacher, great role model and a leader in her community, she left a legacy of children and grandchildren who will follow her footsteps. Funeral service will be conducted 3:30 p.m. Friday, January 19, 2018, at Christ Temple Church in Huntington, WV, with Pastor Chuck Lawrence officiating. Interment will follow on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at White Chapel Gardens. Lottie was born January 30, 1942 in Huntington, W.Va., a daughter of the late Willie L. and Grace Buckingham Neely. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her daughter, Grace Davenport, brothers James Browder and John Neely and her sister, Bessie Smith. Lottie led an amazing life growing up with Polio; breaking the race barrier as one of the first African American students to attend Huntington High School on to becoming the first female African American principal in the Cabell County School District where she touched the lives of thousands of young people. She was also a servant in her community where she served on the board of directors for the Cabell County Public Library, the Universal Federal Credit Union, and the City of Huntington Foundation. She also served as president of the Elementary Principal's Association. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Evelyn and Dayo Adelaja of Las Vegas, and her son and daughter-in-law, Donald and Melissa Simms of Huntington; her grandchildren, Natalie and Christine Adelaja, Isaiah Davenport, Matthew, Ian, William, Elijah, and Laylah Simms, Georgia and Chase Browning, Mykaela Napier, a great granddaughter, Aria Leilani, and a host of nieces and nephews. The family wishes to express their deepest gratitude to all who knew her, for it gave her great joy to be with and serve people. It is through you that she was able to accomplish her greatest triumph – to serve God with all her heart, mind and soul. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, January 18, 2018, at Henson & Kitchen Mortuary, 6357 East Pea Ridge Road in Huntington. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.hensonandkitchen.com](http://www.hensonandkitchen.com).

# Cemetery

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## White Chapel Memorial Gardens

Route 60 East

Barboursville, WV, 25504

# Events

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**JAN** **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

**18**

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Henson and Kitchen Mortuary

6357 East Pea Ridge Road, Huntington, WV, US,  
25705

**JAN** **Service** 03:30PM

**19**

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Christ Temple Church

2400 Johnstown Road, Huntington, WV, US, 25701

**JAN** **Graveside Service** 10:00AM

**20**

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White Chapel Memorial Gardens

Route 60 East, Barboursville, WV, US, 25504

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Henson and Kitchen Mortuary and Cremation Services** - January 17, 2018 at 02:49 PM



“ To, The Simms and Smith Families. We all have lost a wonderful lady. Mrs Simms was a mother to so many of us. She was a kind and gentle soul and will be missed greatly. Treasure the memories and always strive to be the best. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Felicia and Alex

**Felicia Montgomery** - January 19, 2018 at 07:30 AM

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“ During her time as principal of Highlawn Elementary, Lottie always had a smile and a kind word for everyone. She truly cared about the students and her staff. We were blessed to work with her. May God give you strength and comfort in the days ahead. May you cherish your memories of her.

Thoughts and prayers,  
Mary Lopez, Vicki Halstead, and Charlotte Smith

**C. Smith** - January 20, 2018 at 02:22 PM

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“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Lottie Jane Neely Simms.



January 18, 2018 at 09:05 PM

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“ The Adefesos Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Lottie Jane Neely Simms.



The Adefesos Family - January 18, 2018 at 11:21 AM

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“ 63 files added to the album LifeTributes



Henson and Kitchen Mortuary and Cremation Services - January 17, 2018 at 01:36 PM

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“ I remember Lottie as a lady that was always most pleasant with a beautiful smile and offering everyone an understanding spirit. My father Charles Thompson who has been deceased for many years also through the Cabell County Education thought very highly of Lottie. Heaven has gained a precious jewel. Our prayers are with her family.



Marcia Thompson Kitchen - January 17, 2018 at 04:09 AM

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“ DFS Specialized Permanency purchased the Sentimental Dreams for the family of Lottie Jane Neely Simms.



DFS Specialized Permanency - January 15, 2018 at 06:58 PM

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“ I was an educator in Cabell County for a long time and had the privilege of knowing Lottie. She always had a smile and a kind word for everyone. She was a pleasure to be around and a true example of Christ-like love. I know she must be smiling now as she visits with Jesus!  
Sally Piepenbrink

Sally Piepenbrink - January 15, 2018 at 12:01 PM

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“ Mrs Simms was a wonderful person and I admired her. I worked with her at Highlawn Elem. Prayers for the family.



Gerri Collins - January 13, 2018 at 06:17 PM

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“ She was very instrumental in saving our sister's through Ebenezer medical Outreach Center of breast cancer survivor very very sweet lady and very intelligent lady I miss her

Teresa Stevens - January 13, 2018 at 03:20 PM

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“ Tremendous Lady. Truly honored to have known her. Jim and Melissa Wyatt

**James E. Wyatt** - January 12, 2018 at 11:34 AM

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“ Sending prayers for peace & comfort. Lottie was a gentle & kindhearted lady. I appreciate her sweetness as my principal and her friendship. God bless.

**Lisa Shuler** - January 11, 2018 at 09:24 PM

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“ Mrs. Simms was my first school Principal. She showered each of us with compassion, attentiveness, and love. I visited the office a lot because she always made me feel better, but also because I loved to see her. She was the happiest face at Johnston Elementary, and her smile will stay with me forever.

**Jeanette Johnson Boggs** - January 11, 2018 at 08:31 PM

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“ Mrs. Simms was the first principal for both of my children. I believe Donald was about the same age as my son. She was such a sweet, loving, lady. As a principal, she was the best and I suspect she was the same as a person. We need more educators like her.

**Jo Ann Marcum** - January 09, 2018 at 08:47 PM

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“ I was a classmate of Lottie and liked her. I sat with her at a reunion and heard her talk about her experiences when Huntington High School was integrated. Even in high school, Lottie was a serious person. I am proud to have know her and graduated with her.

**Patricia Dillon Rohrbaugh** - January 09, 2018 at 08:12 AM



“ As a Cabell County teacher, I was once asked to serve on a team to evaluate the school where Mrs. Simms was principal. I was indeed impressed with her calm and pleasant demeanor, the friendliness in her voice, and a smile that made me feel welcome in her school. For years following my initial meeting Mrs. Simms, she was always the same as the first day of our meeting. What a fine lady, and it saddens me to hear about her passing. Many blessings to all her family members.

David L. Thompson, Retired Teacher  
Cabell County Public Schools

**David L. Thompson** - January 10, 2018 at 11:53 AM