

Acknowledgment

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a flower piece, if so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you said the kindest words, that any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much - Whatever the part.

~The Family~

Pallbearers

Harry Woodson
Jamey Lemons
Kristopher Lemons
Marcus Moorehead
Randy Jones
Roderick Jones, Sr.
Michael Anderson



Final Resting Place

Lee Cemetery
Winnsboro, TX



"No Service Can Compare"

CUNNINGHAM FUNERAL HOME, LLC

600 E. MAIN ST. KILGORE, TX 75662

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RENEE' CUNNINGHAM & JESSICA CUNNINGHAM-JAMES

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CELEBRATION *Of Life*



September 18, 1949 - July 5, 2023

Virginia Jones Harper

Services

Thursday, July 13, 2023 | 11:00 A.M.

St. Luke Community United Methodist Church

5710 E R L Thornton Fwy.
Dallas, TX 75223

Reverend Richie Butler, Senior Pastor
Reverend Dr. Sharon L. Larkin, Associate Pastor | Eulogist

"I Am Gone"

**You can shed tears that I am gone,
Or you can smile because I have lived.**

**You can close your eyes and pray that I will come back,
Or you can open your eyes and see all that I have left.**

**Your heart can be empty because you can't see me,
Or you can be full of the love that we shared.**

**You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.**

**You can remember me and only that I am gone.
Or you can cherish my memory and let it live on.**

**You can cry and close your mind,
be empty and turn your back.
Or you can do what I hope for you:
smile, open your eyes, love, and go on.**

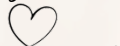
~ Virginia Jones Harper ~





Precious Memories

To My Loving Mother...

Your life has shaped my life in so many positive ways. I may never know all the sacrifices you've made or the challenges you've faced. But I do know how proud of you I am and how privileged I feel to have you as my mom. You will always be my home in my heart. – Veronica 



A Sibling Collaboration...

*About our Sisters Divine Inspiration
As we express our feelings and last thoughts
Forgive us if they are not perfect, because right now,
we are distraught....
Virginia...*

"I simply love you" - Leonard

"You were trustworthy, and always gave me good advice" - Daisy

"Your life defines evolution like a butterfly full of elegance, loving, understanding, and wisdom "
- Diane-

"You were an angel right here on earth. Very sweet, yet stern, you meant what you said and said what you meant " - Trenal

"Thanks for being a loving, kind-hearted, woman of God" - Cynthia

"Thank you for all the life lessons, and always being there for me in times of need" - Freddie

*We looked around, and you were gone...
Shocked we were, but we understand now,
God had simply called you home.*



Virginia's Life

Virginia Nell Jones Harper was born on September 18, 1949, in Amarillo, Texas, to Lenard Pete Jones and Ruby Lynn Jones. She attended elementary and junior high school in Amarillo. Virginia later moved to Winnsboro, Texas, but due to segregation, attended Frederick Douglass High School in Pittsburg her freshman year. After integration in 1965, she was able to attend Winnsboro High School for her sophomore through senior years. During high school, she excelled as a high scholar and an all-around athlete, earning her letters in basketball as a Lady Raider. Virginia graduated in the top 10 of her class and received the History Award on Senior Day. As a member of the Future Homemakers of America, she perfected her way around the kitchen; even her sewing abilities became top-notch. Her athletic skills and interests continued well into her adult years. She was also an active member at Hynson Chapel CME Church in Winnsboro. Her presence was always known as she traveled to Sunday School conventions and visited other churches.

Virginia married after graduating high school, and to this union, two children were born. They moved to Dallas, Texas, and soon after, she began her career at Southwestern Bell, working her way up from the mail room to management. In 1988, Virginia attended a Fredrick Douglas class reunion meeting where she rekindled with Rodger Harper, and they were married on June 24, 1989. She has been a faithful & active member of St. Luke United Methodist Church since 1988, where Rodger joined her after their marriage. Virginia served as a Sunrise Usher, on the Board of Trustees and Church Council. She was also a devoted care person who served in various other roles as needed and wherever God led her.

Virginia was a dedicated & devoted mother in her children's lives, from the classroom to sports and other activities. She attended all of their games and also coached their teams. She was a very enthusiastic mother offering love, compassion, guidance, support, wisdom, and even sternness.



and Legacy

In 2002, Virginia retired from Southwestern Bell but did not sit down. *No, not Virginia!* She pursued her love of baking, becoming known as the phenomenal "cookie lady" at numerous salons and barbershops throughout the Dallas metroplex. As if that wasn't enough, she opened her restaurant, Virginia's Kitchen, in 2004 and worked tirelessly for two years. Afterward, Virginia kept active by working various jobs in customer service, banking, and as an election poll worker. Post retirement, she also worked at the Small Business Administration, the State Fair of Texas, and did anything else she could do to "keep busy" and serve people.

Virginia enjoyed an abundant & vibrant life with her husband, Rodger. She took time to vacation and travel. She was presently the family's matriarch, always giving advice, helping her family and others in need. She was a very loyal person to everyone she came in contact with. What you saw was what you got. She didn't waver in her beliefs of God, faith, and family. If Virginia said she would do something, you could count it as done.

On July 5th, 2023, Virginia went home to be with the Lord. She is preceded in death by her parents, Lenard "Pete" Jones and Ruby Lynn Jones; three brothers, Billy Wayne Jones, Marcus Jones, and Billy Ray Henson; and one sister Mary Louise Jones Rodriguez (her confidant). Virginia is survived by her loving husband, Rodger Harper; son Eddie Fletcher Jr.; daughter Veronica Fletcher; bonus daughters Tomiko Morris and Adrienne Rogers; siblings Leonard Jones, Daisy Lemons, Diane Grant, Rita Rector (husband Fred), Trenal Jones, Cynthia Jones, Freddie Jones (husband Daryl), Thomas Jones and Stacy Jones; a host of nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, relatives, and friends.

To My Loving Wife...

You were my everything! – Rodger



Forever In Our Hearts



Cherished Memories

Service of Celebration for Mrs. Virginia Harper

Greeting- Officiant

Rev. Lynda Mayberry, Executive Pastor of St. Luke Community UMC

Hymn of Comfort

Voices of St. Luke

Old Testament Scripture

Ruth 3:11

New Testament Scripture

2 Timothy 4:7 & 8

Prayer

Rev. Velda M. Turnley, Pastor of Discipleship and Prayer of St. Luke Community UMC

Ministry of Music

Precious Lord performed by Highway Sigadi, Tenor

Resolution

Remarks (2 minutes)

Ron Hurdle

Leotis Ratcliff

Darlene Thomas

Obituary Reading in Silence (with Video presentation)

Ministry of Music

Voices of St. Luke

Eulogy

Reverend Dr. Sharon L. Larkin, Pastor of Congregational Care, St. Luke Community UMC

Presentation

Cunningham Directors

Closing (Final Committal)- Officiant

Recessional