



The Life of Helen Marie Sipuel Huggins

This precious life began in Chickasha, Oklahoma on July 25, 1926, when Helen Marie was born the fourth of four children (Samuel, Lemuel and Ada Lois) to Bishop Travis Bruce and Martha Bell Smith Sipuel. Helen's strong family structure, religious beliefs, moral values, and her love of God set the foundation for her life. From early childhood until her death on May 13, 2019. Helen remained committed to Christian principles and the doctrines of the Church of God in Christ.

Overseer T. B. Sipuel served as the second Bishop of the COGIC in Oklahoma. Almost every week, the family was involved in a variety of religious activities including Sunday YPWW, Wednesday evening Bible Band, and special programs that took her to various churches around Chickasha and to statewide Convocation services.

At the age of six, she entered the first grade at Lincoln Elementary- the only black school in Chickasha, OK. She graduated in 1944 from Lincoln High School and attended Langston University, Langston OK. She then moved to Chicago, IL where she completed studies at a business school in Chicago.

On the eve of December 31st, 1947, Helen met Howard Jr Huggins in Chicago, Illinois at a "watch meeting" church service in Chicago IL. After just six months of courtship, they were married on June 19, 1948. Howard became the center of her life, and she became *THE WIND BENEATH HIS WINGS!* She worked quietly and diligently behind the scenes as her husband was a respected Elder throughout the state of Oklahoma. Referred to as Sister Huggins, Missionary Huggins, Mother Huggins: this pastor's wife shared her life and children with COGIC congregations in Frederick, and in Geary, OK: Green Pastures Church in Spencer, OK. More than twenty years of ministry touched the lives of many at Madison Street COGIC. She was President of the State Purity Class, and also Executive Secretary of Women's Department, SE. As President of the State Ministers Wives Circle, SE Jurisdiction of COGIC, she mentored young wives of ministers.

Helen's work career started as a seamstress in Frederick, OK, as a Lab Technician at Grady Memorial Hospital in Chickasha, OK; General Electric Corp., Oklahoma City; and retired after 15 years from Tinker Field Air Force Base, Oklahoma City. She worked as a Foster Grandparent at Tulakes Elementary School and served as board member with the Southeast Area Health Center.

Helen Huggins *As a Wife — She loved and was loved in return. As a Mother — Always taught by example. As a Friend — Always offering a willing hand. A fond embrace. An open ear. An encouraging word.* Helen was never given to loud talk or course gestures, she had a gentle spirit and unpretentious manner. It should be noted that with her soft spoken quiet demeanor, she was also a very strong-willed, well spoken woman that stood her ground when needed. She spoke of her endeavor "*Where Christ leads me, I will follow..... I'll go all the way*".

Sister Huggins was preceded in death by her parents, Bishop T.B. Sipuel and Martha Bell Smith Sipuel; her husband of forty-nine years, Howard Jr. Huggins; two brothers, Samuel and Lemuel Sipuel; one sister, Ada Lois and brother-in-law, Warren W. Fisher; and one daughter, Tana DeNise Huggins Bradford.

She leaves to mourn, one daughter, Beverly Jean (Lawrence) of Oklahoma City, OK; four sons: Howard III (Linda) of Oklahoma City, OK, James Travis (Jo) of Sacramento, CA, Orville Thurston (LaDonna) of Dallas, TX, and Wendell Ray (Gwen) of Fayetteville, AR; "Grandma" and/or "Granny Huggins" left her love with eleven grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren. Helen's sister's children: Charlene W. Fisher Factory and Bruce T. Fisher have supported, mourned and loved "Aunt Helen" ever so dearly.



Order of Service



Processional	Ministers, Funeral Directors, and Family
Instrumental Selection	Demetrius O. Thomas, Musician
Scripture Reading	
Old Testament	Elder Melvin Jackson, Pastor Madison Street Church of God In Christ
New Testament	Minister Wendell R. Huggins Christian Life Cathedral, Fayetteville, AR
Prayer	Dr. M. L. Jemison, Sr. Pastor St. John Missionary Baptist Church
Resolutions/Acknowledgment	Mrs. Marsha Lyons
Ecumenical Reflections	Bishop Malcolm W. Coby, Ph.D. Southeast Oklahoma Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
	Dr. Patricia A. Crisp, Jurisdictional Supervisor of Women Oklahoma Southeast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
Remarks (<i>Please limit to two minutes</i>)	Designated Family Members and Friends Designated Church and Community Individuals
Musical Selection	Ms. Siani Johnson, Soloist
Eulogy	Dr. Lawrence C. Kirk
Video Tribute	
Parting View	Temple & Sons Funeral Directors
Recessional	Ministers, Funeral Directors, Family



Mother

No nobler thought
my soul may claim,
No softer word
my tongue may frame,
Than just that one word ~

Mother

All of Compassion,
Of Goodness,
Of Love,
All of the sweetness
Of Heaven above,
God has richly blessed the name of
Our Mama ~

Helen Marie Sipuel Huggins

A Legacy Quote from Big Mama . . .

Fear God,
Get an education,
Be courageous,
You can accomplish your goals in life
(The Sipuel-Fisher-Huggins Family Motto)



For Mother Huggins

The circle of life is complete. Long ago,
she made her peace with God and has
taken her leave.

Though surrounded by her loving family,
she lay alone as we all must do. Ashes to
ashes and dust to dust. She has safely
crossed over to life's other shore, God has
received her home!

It would certainly please us for her to be
alive and well; but it is in God's never-
ending love that we take comfort in know-
ing She is at peace in heaven above.

*"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give
unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto
you. Let not your heart be troubles, neither
let it be afraid. — John 14:27 (KJV)*



*Helen Marie
Sipuel Huggins*

Active Pallbearers

Anthony L. Kirk • Jerome Factory • Jermaine Factory
Emake Fisher • Reginald Carter • Robert Wilson • Payton Ford V

Honorary Pallbearers

Howard Huggins III • James T. Huggins • Orville T. Huggins
Wendell R. Huggins • Bruce T. Fisher • Rashaad D. Huggins
Anthony Clarke • Jabril Clay • Kornell Shabazz • Robert Wilson

Flower Bearers

Madison Street COGIC, Oklahoma City, OK

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Services under the direction of:

TEMPLE & SONS FUNERAL DIRECTORS, INC.

2801 North Kelley Avenue • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111
(405) 427-8321 • "We Care" — II Timothy 4:8

Acknowledgment

The family of Mrs. Helen M. Huggins acknowledges with grateful hearts the many expressions of love and care during this time of bereavement. Your prayers, telephone calls, cards, flowers and other expressions of concern have strengthened us during our loss. May God's richest blessings continue to abound in your lives.

*A Life of Love
... A Life of Service
A Thankful Celebration
of the Proverbial
Life Legacy of*

SERVICES

Saturday, May 18, 2019 — 11:00 a.m.

EARL M. TEMPLE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

2801 North Kelley Avenue
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dr. Lawrence C. Kirk
Officiating

SUNRISE

July 25, 1926

SUNSET

May 13, 2019