



## Mrs. Earnestine Watkins

October 5, 1935 - February 26, 2025

Mrs. Earnestine Watkins, 89, of Peoria, IL, passed away at 8:25 am on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at her residence.

Earnestine was born in Newport, AR on October 5, 1935 to Earnest and Willie Mae (Mitchell) Howard. She married Walter Watkins.

Earnestine worked as a personal assistant at DORS.

Earnestine leaves to cherish her most precious memory, her significant other for over 45 years, Luis Castellanos of Peoria, IL; three sons, Larry Riddle, Walter Watkins and Robert Burnside all of Peoria, IL; four daughters, Sylvia Watkins, Diane Burnside, Mary Jo Howard all of Peoria, IL and Mary Harris of Indianapolis, IN; two sisters, Myrtle Stevenson of Peoria, IL and Alice Howard of Inglewood, CA; a host of grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband and three daughters, Stephanie Burnside, Sheila Burnside and Cheryl Cox.

Funeral services will be held at 11 am on Monday, March 17, 2025 at Simons Mortuary Chapel with a visitation one-hour prior beginning at 10 am.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](http://SimonsMortuary.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Lutheran Cemetery

914 S Pleasant St  
Peoria, IL 61604-5954

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Simons Mortuary Chapel  
912 W. John H. Gwynn, Jr. Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61605  
(309) 674-2638  
info@simonsmortuary.com  
<https://simonsmortuary.com>

## Funeral Service

MAR 17. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Simons Mortuary Chapel  
912 W. John H. Gwynn, Jr. Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61605  
(309) 674-2638  
info@simonsmortuary.com  
<https://simonsmortuary.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Earnestine Watkins*



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**Simons Mortuary** - March 14, 2025 at 04:55 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Earnestine Watkins*



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**Simons Mortuary** - March 12, 2025 at 06:11 PM

MP

“ *Mancy Pittman sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Watkins*



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**Mancy Pittman** - March 16, 2025 at 05:41 PM

KT

“ *Karla J Taylor lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Watkins*



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**Karla J Taylor** - March 13, 2025 at 09:45 PM

CB

“ Mrs Ernestine was a Wonderful Mother and Friend, Gonna miss you Ernie Gert, Love you Always!



Cynthia Ann Barnes - March 11, 2025 at 01:48 PM

KC

“ Kathy collins lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Watkins



Kathy collins - March 10, 2025 at 11:04 PM

SR

“ Shirley Robertson lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Watkins



Shirley Robertson - March 10, 2025 at 04:09 PM

MH

Thanks you we appreciate your kindness from the Watkins family 🙏

Mary Harris - March 11, 2025 at 10:50 AM