



Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons

February 16, 1927 - August 13, 2023

Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons, 96, transitioned to her heavenly home at 11:17 pm on Sunday, August 13, 2023 at her residence surrounded by her family. Ellora E. Lyons, was born on February 16, 1927 in Eufaula, OK to Charles and Roberta Derrick. She graduated from Dubois High School in Muskogee, OK. Ellora married the love of her life, Alphonso Lyons, Sr., from that union seven children were born. She worked at Fleming & Potter, Inc. for 30 years as a Label Sampler. After retiring, she volunteered at Methodist Hospital for 25 years. She received an award for more than 4000 volunteer service hours.

She was affectionately nicknamed "Pigeon" by an uncle because of how fast she rode a horse when she was a young girl and because of how her feet pointed inward when she walked. That nicknamed carried into her adult life. The only people that called her "Pigeon" were her siblings and late husband.

Ellora was a faithful member of Grace Baptist Church for more than 60 years. She was instrumental in the kitchen and providing culinary service for programs at the church. Her heart was missionary work. She exemplified this love with the Women's Mission and the United Christian Mission. Through the United Christian Mission she and her late husband and several members of Grace Baptist Church would visit nursing home residents every Saturday. Once a year the United Christian Mission hosted an annual dinner for all nursing home residents in Peoria. A tradition she continued for forty years

until her health no longer allowed her.

Ellora leaves to cherish her most precious memories, three sons, Michael Lyons of Richmond, CA, Don (Annie) Lyons of Sumpter, SC and Curtis Lyons of Peoria, IL; three daughters, Charla (Rev. James) Flemming, Cheryll (Keith) Boswell and Ruthie Lyons all of Peoria, IL; and daughter-in-law, Charlene Lyons of Peoria, IL; two brothers, John Derrick of Muskogee, OK and MacArthur Derrick of Joplin, MO; two sisters, Lois Rush of Muskogee, Ok and Pearl Brewer of Peoria, IL, ten grandchildren, a host of great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family and friends who loved her. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, one son, Rev. Alphonso Lyons, Jr., six brothers, Leo Derrick, Bonnie Derrick, Atchielee Derrick, L.C. Derrick and George Derrick and one sister, Mattie Diles.

Funeral services will be at 11 am on Thursday, August 24, 2023 at Grace Baptist Church with a visitation beginning at 10 am. Pastor Claude White, Jr. will be the host pastor and Pastor Jeffrey Foreman will officiate. Mother Lyons will be laid to rest at Lutheran Cemetery.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at SimonsMortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Lutheran Cemetery

914 S Pleasant St
Peoria, IL 61604-5954

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **24**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Baptist Church
405 N. Richard Pryor Place
Peoria, IL 61605

Funeral Service

AUG **24**. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Grace Baptist Church
405 N. Richard Pryor Place
Peoria, IL 61605

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons*



Simons Mortuary - August 24, 2023 at 02:30 PM

JS

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Mrs Lyons she was a wonderful person I knew the whole family I ate at their table a many times always would give me something I always was welcome I went to church with Mrs Lyons I really appreciated that I will always remember the family kindness my deepest sympathy to the family*

James shelton - August 19, 2025 at 02:56 PM

MD

“ *Praise God for Mo. Lyons being a strong Woman Of God who provided so much love, comfort, and assistance to anyone that crossed her path. She loved everyone unconditionally with strings attached. We share in your loss and you all have our deepest condolences in the loss of a Great Woman Of God whose life and legacy will forever be a permanent part of our heart. Melvin and Marjorie Kay Douglas*



Marjorie Kay Douglas - August 31, 2023 at 11:48 AM



“ 8 files added to the album Funeral Program



Simons Mortuary - August 24, 2023 at 03:16 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Burial at Lutheran Cemetery



Simons Mortuary - August 24, 2023 at 02:31 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons.



August 23, 2023 at 10:29 AM

TF

“ *The Westbrook Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons*



The Westbrook family - August 23, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons.*



August 23, 2023 at 08:22 AM

RH

“ *Rena Horton lit a candle in memory of Ellora Lyons*



Rena Webster Horton - August 23, 2023 at 01:16 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons.*



August 22, 2023 at 08:30 PM

LF

“ Linda Faulkner sent a virtual gift in memory of Ellora Lyons



Linda Faulkner - August 22, 2023 at 12:03 PM

LF

“ One of the sweetest women you ever want to know my other mother. I will miss and love her dearly! I will keep you guys in my prayers!

Linda Faulkner - August 22, 2023 at 12:01 PM

RG

“ Regina Graham lit a candle in memory of Ellora Lyons



Regina Graham - August 21, 2023 at 09:32 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons.



August 21, 2023 at 01:03 PM

TM

“ *My God continue to provide Comfort to my friend Ruthie and family.
From Theresa McAfee*

Theresa McAfee - August 21, 2023 at 10:43 AM

CP

“ *Elora was and is one of the kindest, dedicated, God loving women I
have had the privilege of meeting. We rejoice knowing that on one
fine day we will meet again on that bright shining shore... Till then
we bask in the warm memories she brought us.*

Charles Powell - August 21, 2023 at 10:10 AM

PJ

“ *Pauline Jones lit a candle in memory of Ellora
Lyons*



Pauline Jones - August 20, 2023 at 01:40 PM

PJ

“ *Our prayers are with the family at this time*

Pauline Jones - August 20, 2023 at 01:39 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family
of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons.*



August 19, 2023 at 05:39 PM

AL

“ *Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Ellora Lyons*



Annette Lucy - August 18, 2023 at 02:25 AM

RN

“ *Rufus Kim Nelson lit a candle in memory of Ellora Lyons*



Rufus and Kim Nelson - August 17, 2023 at 11:29 AM

CG

Forever in my heart! A strong beautiful wise woman. 🙏❤️

Collette Gatlin - August 24, 2023 at 03:57 PM

RB

“ *Roslyn Bond lit a candle in memory of Ellora Lyons*



Roslyn Bond - August 17, 2023 at 10:47 AM

RB

“ *My Condolences to the family sending prayers and love* ❤️ 🙏



Rhonda Brown - August 17, 2023 at 09:28 AM

PH

“ *Phillip Hickman lit a candle in memory of Ellora Lyons*



Phillip E. Hickman - August 17, 2023 at 07:18 AM

WN

“ *Our condolences to the Lyons Family in the passing of Mother Lyons. She always had a smile that lit up a room upon her entrance. But most of all, she was a Godly woman who served her fellow's man with compassion, kindness and with agape' love for all.*



Willie&Debra Newman - August 17, 2023 at 06:58 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ellora Esteen Lyons.*



August 16, 2023 at 11:55 PM

MA

“ Sending condolences to the Lyons family (Mr. & Mrs. Agbara Bryson)



Margaret - August 16, 2023 at 03:33 PM

MA

“ Sending condolences to the Lyons family. (The Chandler family)



Margaret - August 16, 2023 at 03:28 PM

JJ

“ I am praying for the family

Jessica Johnson - August 16, 2023 at 10:41 AM