



## Mrs. Virginia Owens

August 10, 1940 - May 21, 2020

Virginia Owens, of Peoria, Illinois, dedicated her life to her family and community moved to her heavenly home on May 21st at the age of 79 in Hahnville, LA with her family by her side. She was born to late Luvan and Mildred Kyle on August 10, 1940 in Peoria, Illinois. She relocated to Hahnville to be with her daughter in 2016.

Virginia accepted God at the age of 10 and was baptized at St. Paul Baptist Church in Peoria, Illinois. She attended Peoria High School and obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Human Services and a Master of Social Work from the University of Illinois. Virginia was a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and employed by the State of Illinois most of her professional career. She worked for the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Corrections (Juvenile Division) and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). After retirement from the state, she worked for a nationally recognized addiction recovery program. Virginia developed a private social work practice and worked for community agencies where she championed the rights of those most in need.

Virginia was committed to life-long learning and believed in providing opportunities for African Americans. Her commitment to activism led her to charter a Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women in Peoria where the late Dorothy Height attended the inaugural event. She was a member of several professional and civic organizations. Because she believed in the power of teaching, Virginia and Louis Owens endowed a scholarship at Illinois

Central College, ROOTS Raising Our Own Teachers for African American students pursuing degrees in education.

Virginia married James Polk and born to that union were Kevin and Karen.

Virginia married Louis Owens in 1978. Virginia was preceded in death by her son Kevin Polk, parent Luvan and Mildred Kyle, brothers Earl Kyle, Luvan Kyle, Jr. James Thompson and her husband Louis. She is survived by her daughter Karen Raymond (Billy); her sister Janet Wyatt of Rockford, IL, grandchildren, Wilson Polk, Lexana Polk of Peoria, IL, Vernard Henley, III of New Orleans, LA and Zachary Henley of Orlando, FL, six great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews.

A private funeral service will be held at Mount Airy Baptist Church, 13635 Old Spanish Trail, Boutte, LA on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Reverend Clyde Staes, Pastor, Officiating. Interment St. Charles Cemetery, Luling, LA. Robottom Mortuary providing services.

Online condolences may also be made at [simonsmortuary.com](http://simonsmortuary.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Virginia Owens*

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mrs. Virginia Owens*

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *Karen my deepest sympathies to you and your family Virginia was a great client of mine for many years I will never forget how special she was and how much she poured into my life that was a great Lady I truly loved her*

**Robin Burns** - June 05, 2020 at 04:13 PM



“ *To Karen and all the family, Crystal and I could not be with you to celebrate Virginia's homegoing due to health and this COVID but we do send our most sincere peace and love. Virginia always met us at the door with her warm smile. She always calm us when the storm seemed over whelming. She made our father not only happy but protected when he was most vulnerable. I will forever be thankful and know that she rest well in that heavenly home.  
Rita and Crystal*

**Rita Hinton** - May 29, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ *I have lost a cousin and a friend who I will always love.💕💕*

**Lillian Miller** - May 27, 2020 at 11:06 PM

MH

“ Karen, I enjoyed spending time with your mother she was funny and had a wonderful smile - I remember she, Jutaun and I had girls trip and to our disappointment it rained we watched movies, laughed and ate - meeting you I see you have the same quality she had kind and intelligent - you were a good daughter to her - you have my sincerest sympathy God Bless

Marcia Hinton - May 27, 2020 at 08:50 PM

MH

“ Marcia Hinton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia Owens



Marcia Hinton - May 27, 2020 at 08:42 PM

KS

“ Karen, my heart goes out to you and the family with the lost of your Mom Virginia "Gin". In my memory of her, she was always friendly and a classy lady to me. What a joy having her here on earth and what a joy she will be in heaven, another angel. I always thought it was cool because your mom, you and me all have August birthdays but me and you always thought it was even cooler, because our birthday are so close and we both are Virgos. Virginia and my mom, Peggy, were both Leo's. Oh, I know heaven is going to just adore and enjoy her. She is there with other family members that she adores too. An ole family reunion. Karen, God's Peace to you and with all my heart I love you, my dear cousin Virginia you rest now. Love you.



Kim Sallis - May 27, 2020 at 02:00 PM

SM

“ *When the Lord calls our loved ones home, he leaves a gift of memories in exchange. I will always remember my fun time with my Cousin. I got a chance to sing a little of our favorite song to her a week before her passing. Karen, I will always be here for you. Praying for the family. Missing Gin so much.*

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**Sherry Mason** - May 26, 2020 at 12:05 AM



“ *In loving memory of our precious cousin Virginia. She was a dear friend and a loving sister in Christ. May the beauty of her spirit live on in all whose lives she touched. Our deepest condolences to the family and friends. God bless!*

*The children of Gilbert and Marie Kyle Sr.*

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**Janina Johnson** - May 25, 2020 at 05:59 PM

BT

“ *Karen and other family members. This is a sad day for me. Your mother and I were friends (as was Lu) and Co-Workers until I left Peoria permanently in 1974. If I remember correctly you were a wonderful baby-sitter for me a number of times. Your mother was a very professional and compassionate person. Even though I didn't see her in later years , I will miss her just knowing she is no longer here. My hugs and love go out to you and other family members. Be healthy and safe. My e-mail: rae216743@aol.com. Beverly Leatherwood Travis.*

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**Beverly Leatherwood Travis** - May 24, 2020 at 07:08 PM

JB

“ *Joanie Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia Owens*



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**Joanie Brown** - May 24, 2020 at 12:45 PM

PC

“ *To the family of Mrs. Virginia Owens:*

*The pastor and members of the Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ would like to extend to you and your entire family our deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one. Although our hearts are saddened, we pray that the Lord will comfort you in your time of sorrow. We also pray that the Lord comfort your hearts and bless you with endearing memories that you will always treasure.*

*He is with you even in this time of sorrow too deep for words.*

*God be with you,*

*Pastor Henry L. Bolden II  
Lady Marcia J. Bolden  
and the PCJC Church Family*

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**Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ** - May 24, 2020 at 10:19 AM



“Gin has been one of my life long friends. We grew upon 5th Street & graduated from Peoria (central) High School. We remained friends & shared good times & bad times. I remember at a New Year party, Gin, Louie, Noverta & Lou did an interpretation of Gladys Knight & The Pips *Midnight Train To Georgia* that was hilarious. She was so giving to the community. Karen I know your heart is aching & I am truly sorry for your loss as I am the loss of a lifetime friend. Remember God will take care of you.



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**Evelyn Tate-Clayton** - May 23, 2020 at 11:18 PM



“She was my Mother's best friend when I was a child living on 5th Street in Peoria, Illinois.

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**Cheryl Candie Simms** - May 23, 2020 at 03:53 PM



*Gin was a life, long, best friend and also my sister-in-law. I loved her like a sister because we would travel together, and experience new things together. She encouraged me to marry my husband Sam Polk, and she was my matron of honor at my wedding. When ICC first opened its doors, Gin and I was one of the first students to attend. Gin stood by me through a lot of the happiness and heart aches that I experienced. I shall always have fond and loving memories of our times together.*

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**Jean Polk** - May 24, 2020 at 05:42 PM