

A TRIBUTE

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God has laid you see
I took God's hand when I heard His call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
to laugh, to love, to work or play,
tasks left undone must stay that way
I found peace at the close of the day.*

*If my parting has created a void,
then fill it with remembered joys.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, oh yes,
these things I too shall miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps this time seemed all too brief,
don't lengthen it now with undo grief.
Lift up your heart, and peace to thee
God wanted me now, He has set me free.*

*—Lovingly Submitted —
The Family*

IN APPRECIATION

We are indeed profoundly grateful for your many acts of kindness during this sad time. The passing of our dear, mother has been painful. Your expressions of love and support have sustained us. Your calls, cards, visits and your prayers have strengthened us. May God forever bless and keep each one of you.

—The Family



PALMER MEMORIAL CHAPEL

304 South Main Street
Sumter, S.C. 29150
(803) 773-3381

1200 Fontaine Place
Columbia, S.C. 29202
(803) 786-6300

Homegoing Service for

Mrs. Thelma Sumter Farmer



**Saturday, May 24, 1997 • 12:00 Noon
Emmanuel United Methodist Church
421 S. Main Street, Sumter, SC**

*The Rev. Lee C. Bines, Minister
The Rev. Kenneth Bobo, District Superintendent
The Rev. James L. McCleskey, Resident Bishop*

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

- The Prelude Music "It Is Well With My Soul"
"Amazing Grace"
- The Processional Hymn #733 "Marching to Zion"
(Congregation standing/singing)
- The Invocation Rev. H.J. Murray
- The Hymn of Praise #369 "Blessed Assurance"
- The Scripture Lesson
The Old Testament: Psalm 91 The Rev. John Dicks
The New Testament: Revelation 21:1-4 Rev. Earl Galloway
- The Solo Ms. Monique Waldon
- The Affirmation of Faith #881 (The Apostle's Creed)
- The Gloria Patri #71
- The Solo Ms. Monique Waldon
- The Remarks Mrs. Beverly Dicks
- The Acknowledgement Ms. Sandra Sumter
- Special Words of Appreciation Lt. Sean K. Hunter, US Army
- The Hymn of Preparation #507 "Through It All"
- The Message of Comfort The Rev. Lee C. Bines
- The Commendation
- The First Benediction Rev. Willie Dicks
- The Processional #155 "All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name"
(Audience standing/singing)
- Interment Hill Side Memorial Park
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| Active Flower Bearers | Active Pall Bearers |
| Communion Stewards and
United Methodist Women | United Methodist Men and
Friends of the Family |
- Honorary Pall Bearer/Flower Bearer: Grandchildren**

OBITUARY

Mrs. Thelma Lou Sumter Farmer, a devoted mother, grandmother and great grandmother quietly departed this earthly life on Wednesday, May 21, 1997 at the Tuomey Regional Medical Center in Sumter, South Carolina. Born in Sumter County on February 7, 1917, Mrs. Farmer was a daughter of the late Mr. James Eugene (Skip) and Mrs. Sara Myers Sumter.

Mrs. Farmer was a life-long member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church and served faithfully in many capacities including: the Senior Choir, the United Methodist Women, the Stewardess Board and also the Elizabeth Tent #57 Order of Eastern Star. She was a graduate of Lincoln High School and attended Morris College. For over fifteen years, Mrs. Farmer was employed by Sumter School District Seventeen and later by Wateree Community Action Agency Head Start for twenty five years.

She was married to the late Mr. Alfray R. Farmer, Sr. In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by two children, Joyce Farmer and Alfray R. Farmer, Jr.; three brothers, Hollis Sumter, Willie Van Sumter and Eugene Sumter and a sister, Vera Sumter.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory; four daughters, Mrs. Velma Farmer (Reginald) Banks, Mrs. Constance Farmer (David) Weston and Mrs. Selena Farmer (George) Washington all of Sumter, SC and Mrs. Barbara Farmer (Lee) Dorsey of Marion, SC; four sons, Mr. Earl A. Parker of Columbia, SC, Mr. Willie Van (Sandra) Farmer of Ormond Beach, Florida, Mr. Deric L. (Julese) Farmer and Mr. Quincy Farmer both of Sumter, SC; twenty six grandchildren; twenty great grandchildren; a foster grandson, Mr. Sean K. Hunter of Bosnia; a loving god-son, Mr. Coley White, Jr. of Sumter, SC; a foster daughter, Mrs. Beverly Dicks, Marion, SC; a god-daughter, Mrs. Gladys A. McLeod of Sumter; one sister-in-law, Mrs. Thomsenia (Timothy) Dickerson of Patterson, NJ; a special niece, Mrs. Thelma Conyers of Sumter; special cousins, Mrs. Zenobia S. Brown, Summerville, SC and Mrs. Bryne Sumter, Sumter, SC; her former daughter-in-law, Ms. Celestine W. Parker, Columbia, SC; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.