



## Sharon L. Thomas

November 15, 1940 - December 9, 2022

To join the livestream of Sharon's funeral service, please select the link below immediately prior to the beginning of the service, 1 PM Saturday December 17, 2022. You will be re-directed to the livestream. The ceremony will also be archived for later viewing.

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTY3MDc0MjUzMzlyNDAxNyZvbmVyb29tLWFKbWluJmNvcHlfbGluaw==>

Heaven's choir got a lot louder, their harmonies sweeter, as they welcomed Sharon to join in their singing on December 9, 2022.

Sharon Ladonna Newton Thomas was born November 15, 1940 to Elmer and Opal Marie Newton in Johnson County Illinois, the 4th of 11 children. After graduating from Vienna High School, Sharon married Dorris Gaylon Thomas of Brownfield, Illinois on her 18th birthday. They were blessed with four daughters, Twila, Trina, Teresa, and Tammy.

A skilled homemaker, Sharon spent countless hours preparing hearty meals, sewing dresses for the girls to wear to "singings", quilting, and preserving produce from their extensive garden. As the girls became more independent, Sharon went to work outside the home, first as an assistant to the Pope County Clerk, then as a secretary for the Special Education Department of the Illinois Youth Center, Illinois Department of Corrections.

Singing was the joy of Sharon's life. She could hear and sing any harmony line. She used that gift publicly with her brothers in the Newton Quartet, and

privately as she honed her breath support and range skills while hanging clothes on the clothesline to dry.

When the girls were old enough to sing (two years old is old enough, right?) she and they sang in local churches as the Thomas Family. In 1972, she joined the Echoes From Calvary Quartet, again lending her harmonies and powerful voice to the praise of her Lord, Jesus Christ. She continued to travel and sing as long as she was able. Even when disease robbed her of the ability to vocalize, she would listen to and mouth the lyrics of the hymns and gospel songs she loved so much – “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”, “The Love of God”, “I Rest My Case at the Cross”...

Sharon is welcomed to heaven by her husband, Dorris, her oldest sibling, Cliff, and her youngest sibling, Anita, who preceded her. She is survived by her daughters, Twila Staton (Rev. Mark Staton), Trina Slaughter (Lieutenant Ken Slaughter), Teresa Miller (Scott Miller), and Tammy Adkerson (Gary Adkerson); seven grandchildren – Katherine (Gib) Reynolds, Isaac Miller, Moriah (Josiah Lee) Yates, Josiah Slaughter, Madalynn Adkerson, Emmaline Adkerson, and Samuel Adkerson. She is also survived by her brothers and sisters – Harry and Ronnie Newton of Indiana, David Newton of Texas, Joy Caplinger, Jean Larrison, Susie Eddleman-Summers, Thomas Newton, and Gayla Warren all of Southern Illinois.

Sharon no longer has to longingly sing, “I’ll Have a New Body, I’ll Have a New Life”, for she is healed and whole and belting out her praises to Christ, her king!

A service honoring the life of Sharon Newton Thomas will be conducted Saturday afternoon, December 17, 2022, at 1 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Pastor Tim Green and Pastor Mark Staton will officiate.

Burial will be in the Vienna Fraternal Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Saturday, December 17, 2022, from 11 AM – 1 PM at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org) Gideon’s International, P.O. Box

14088, Nashville, TN 37214 [www.gideons.org](http://www.gideons.org) Shriners Hospital For Children,  
4400 Clayton Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110 [www.lovetotherescue.org](http://www.lovetotherescue.org) or to  
Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) Coalition, 7918 Jones Branch Drive, Suite  
300, McLean, VA 22102 [www.multiplesystematrophy.org](http://www.multiplesystematrophy.org)

For the convenience of those unable to personally attend the funeral ceremony, it will be livestreamed. You are invited to join the livestream of the funeral service by selecting the link which will be available by visiting Sharon's obituary page at [www.baileyfh.com](http://www.baileyfh.com) Additionally, the service will be archived for later viewing.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 17. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home  
705 North First Street  
PO Box 695  
Vienna, IL 62995  
(618) 658-2311  
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com  
<https://baileyfh.com>

## Service

DEC 17. 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home  
705 North First Street  
PO Box 695  
Vienna, IL 62995  
(618) 658-2311  
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com  
<https://baileyfh.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Sharon L. Thomas*



**Bailey Funeral Home** - December 21, 2022 at 09:19 AM



“ *Sharon L. Thomas*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Patsy Blankenship lit a candle in memory of Sharon L. Thomas*



**Patsy Blankenship** - December 17, 2022 at 01:18 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Thomas.*



December 14, 2022 at 11:23 AM

SH

“ Condolences to you Twila, Trina, Teresa, and Tammy . I can only imagine what the “Hallelujah Chorus “ is sounding like now that Sis Sharon has been reunited with those who have gone on before. So many that we can’t even begin to name them all. God bless all of you. You are in our prayers. Stephen, Donna and Jamie Hunt

Stephen Hunt - December 13, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Thomas.



December 13, 2022 at 12:18 AM

DM

“ So sorry to hear of your loss and send our love and sympathy to your family. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Donnie and Jolene Morris

Donnie and Jolene Morris - December 12, 2022 at 07:54 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Thomas.



December 12, 2022 at 07:32 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Thomas.* ”



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December 12, 2022 at 02:42 PM



“ *Gloria Baker lit a candle in memory of Sharon L. Thomas* ”



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**Gloria Baker** - December 12, 2022 at 01:35 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Thomas.* ”



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December 12, 2022 at 11:09 AM



“ *John Slack lit a candle in memory of Sharon L. Thomas* ”



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**John Slack** - December 12, 2022 at 07:47 AM

KA

“ *Kathy(Black)Holt lit a candle in memory of Sharon L. Thomas*



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**Kathy(Black)Holt** - December 11, 2022 at 10:40 PM

BR

“ *Bobby Rentfro lit a candle in memory of Sharon L. Thomas*



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**Bobby Rentfro** - December 11, 2022 at 01:11 AM