



William Robert Simmons

October 30, 1925 - January 12, 2015

William Robert Simmons – “Billy Bob” departed this life on January 12, 2015. He was born in Cass, West Virginia to Albert Lee and Laura (McCloud) Simmons on October 30, 1925--2 months premature and during a record snowstorm. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Mildred; identical twin daughters Kathryn Ann Sessler and Karen Laurie Smith; sons-in-law William Sessler and Forrest Smith. He is also survived by 4 grandchildren: Adam (Nichole) Smith, Helen Williamson, Rachel Sessler and David Sessler. His surviving brothers are Leonard (Aileen) Simmons and Clarence (Lola) Simmons of California, as well as numerous nieces and nephews, extended family and multiple friends.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, receiving a Purple Heart for injuries received when the USS Miantonomah was sunk on September 25, 1944 off the coast of France. After the end of the war, he joined the Air Force and retired in 1967 as a Major. He worked for various government agencies retiring again in 1993.

Bill joined the Masonic Lodge in Kansas in 1959. He belonged to numerous Masonic organizations in Kansas, Alabama and Virginia. He was a member of Manasseh Lodge No. 182, A.F.&A.M. in Manassas and served as Worshipful Master in 1985. He and Mildred traveled for many meetings and also enjoyed traveling the world. He was a member of Buckhall United Methodist Church and served in many leadership positions over the years. He enjoyed walking at the Mall, Bluebird Bus Tours, chances to meet people and share his large

repertoire of jokes.

Donations may be made to the Topeka Rescue Mission, PO Box 8350, Topeka, KS 66608-0350.

Arrangements are through Pierce Funeral Home in Manassas, Virginia.

Visitation is on Saturday, January 17, 2015 from 1:30 – 2:30 at Pierce Old Town Chapel, 9320 West Street, Manassas, VA. A Masonic service will be conducted at 1:30 pm. The funeral will be at 2:30 pm with interment in the Hixson Family Cemetery immediately following.

Cemetery Details

Hixson Cemetery

Buckhall Road
Manassas, VA 20111

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Pierce Old Town Chapel
9320 West Street
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-1700
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Service

JAN 17. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Pierce Old Town Chapel
9320 West Street
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-1700
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ We will always remember Billy Bob's sense of humor, he could always make us laugh!
Thinking of all you!
Love to all,
Dan and Wendy Miller

Wendy Miller - January 16, 2015 at 03:38 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of William Robert Simmons.



January 16, 2015 at 03:35 PM

EB

“ Remember me with smiles and laughter,
For that's the way I'll remember you all.
If you can only remember me with tears,
Then don't remember me at all.
~ Michael Landon

We will remember "Dad" with so many smiles. We will especially treasure all the Christmases we spent together . . . all of them since 1988 except for one. Dad was our daddy when our family of origin was hundreds of miles of away. He always welcomed us. We never felt like outsiders. He loved and encouraged just like a father does. There are tears right now but they will never be more than the happy memories.

*With our love,
Emmetri, Evan, and Jordan*

Emmetri Monica Beane - January 15, 2015 at 06:48 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of William's passing. I so enjoyed his wicked sense of humor. He leaves a tremendous legacy in your family, the church, and the Masons.

Eileen Williams - January 14, 2015 at 11:45 AM

SM

“ Aunt Mildred, Kathryn and Karen -- I'm so very sorry for the deep loss to your family. I know this will be a very difficult time for your family. Please know that you will be in our thoughts and prayers. I'm sad to say that I will not be able to join you on Saturday but send my love.

Sharon (Cornwell) Maul - January 14, 2015 at 07:02 AM

KR

“ Sorry he hear about the lost of your father. I know his memories will be with you forever. The Robison's

Kathryn Robison - January 14, 2015 at 05:46 AM