



Dr. James "Jim" Harold Simmons, Jr.

December 25, 2018

Obituary

Dr. James "Jim" Harold Simmons Jr., Lt. Colonel in the US Army, died peacefully after a battle with ALS in Rogers, Arkansas at Mercy Medical Center on 12/25/2018, at the age of 73.

Survivors include his wife Bettie Simmons of 29 years, and daughter, Nikki Lester. He is also survived by his former spouse, Ann Greenwood, and their 3 children, Dr. John Simmons, Harold Simmons, and Bethany Simmons Vaughn. Jim is also survived by sister, Pat Minnick of New Jersey, along with 10 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Jim was born in 1945 in Davenport, Iowa to James Harold Simmons Sr. and Gladys Simmons. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Davenport High School in 1963. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Augustana College in 1967. He then achieved his medical degree from The University of Iowa Medical School in 1972 followed by an internship in Michigan, and completed residency training at Spartanburg General Hospital in South Carolina. He had a diverse medical career in many arenas starting with private practice family medicine for a decade in Taylorsville, North Carolina. His 5 years in Crossville, Tennessee were involved with both family practice and emergency medicine. Since his relocation to Northwest Arkansas in 1988, he worked primarily at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in both emergency medicine and primary care until his retirement. In his later years, he worked in prison medicine and also served as summer camp physician at both Camp Dream Street Pediatric Oncology Camp and Kanakuk's Camp Rainbow. He is remembered fondly by his colleagues, co-workers, and patients for his sense of humor, compassion, and his smile.

Jim enjoyed traveling and had a relentless desire to unravel the mysteries of the world. He was an avid runner and enjoyed the outdoors. He completed the Hogeye Marathon and enjoyed whitewater rafting. He earned his Black Belt in Taekwondo. As a youth, he participated in Boy Scouts and achieved the rank of Life Scout. Jim was a member of

Fellowship Bible Church in Rogers, AR and an active participant in the Mosaic congregation and Celebrate Recovery. He enjoyed mission work in countries to include Guatemala and Honduras.

A funeral is scheduled for 10 AM on January 4th at Fellowship Bible Church Training Center Chapel located in Rogers, AR at 1051 W. Pleasant Grove Road. Mark Schatzman and Rodney Holmstrom will officiate the ceremony. There will also be a viewing in the same location Thursday, January 3rd from 5-7 PM. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Jim's life. In lieu of flowers, the family ask that memorials be directed to The ALS Foundation local chapter of Rogers, Arkansas Chapter located at <http://webar.alsa.org>.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Dr. James "Jim" Harold Simmons, Jr., please visit our floral store.

Comments



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Thomas Clayton - August 18, 2019 at 09:31 PM



“ We were friends and worked together in Crossville TN. He was a great guy and I always remembered him for his great compassion and professional skills.

Thomas E. Clayton, MD - August 18, 2019 at 09:25 PM



“ Thank you so much for attending the viewing and showing your support. You have been an angel to me during this difficult time. -Bethany

Bethany Simmons Vaughn - January 03, 2019 at 10:07 PM



“ We send our regards in your time of loss. So many years pass so fast, I remember the Simmons family gatherings in our younger years with good memories. Unfortunately all these years passed with no contact with Jim. Our family hopes that the Blessing of God will strengthen you.

Gary and Barbara Huff - January 02, 2019 at 10:16 PM



“ We were very sad when we heard the news. Jim, and the entire Simmons family are in our thoughts and prayers, David & Kathy Huff

David & Kathy Huff - January 02, 2019 at 08:12 PM



“ Bethany - My heart is heavy for your loss. May the love and peace of the Lord comfort you and your family.

Michele Love - January 02, 2019 at 05:08 PM