



Don Simms

SEP 26, 1939 - FEB 17, 2019



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Don Simms

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Donald Simms, 79, of Numa, passed away unexpectedly on February 17, 2019 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines after a fall in his home. Don was born on September 26, 1939 in Staples, Minnesota to Burton and Alice (Moberly) Simms. After leaving Mystic High School, Don entered the United States Army, serving primarily in Alaska and Greenland. Upon honorable discharge in 1959, Don married his high school sweetheart, Darlene Stickler on November 12, 1960 at the Mystic Christian Church; where his father presided over the ceremony. In his younger years, Don began working as a machinist, and became certified as a Journeyman Tool and Die Maker while a supervisor at Young Radiator. In January, 1988, Don rejoined the Iowa Steel and Wire family, and was part of the team that re-opened the plant in Centerville. Don celebrated his 30 year anniversary with the company last April, and loved to tell stories of his time there. Don enjoyed woodworking, bluegrass and gospel music, riding motorcycles, travel, camping, and spending time with his family and friends. He was very active in church activities, most recently as a member of the Cincinnati Christian Church. Don was a member of the Numa Christian Church until it's closure, and devoted a great deal of time there to youth activities in particular. He and Darlene also belonged to the Gideons. Don had a unique sense of humor and was the ultimate handyman. Don believed in doing the right thing, whatever the situation, because it's just what you do. His strength of mind and character were admired by many. Don is survived by his wife, Darlene; daughter, Lisa Simms Schmid (Tony); sisters: Alice (Bob) George, Doris (Ed) Laughery and Ramona (John) Zahn as well as several nieces, nephews and extended family members. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Burton (Joyce) Simms and sister, Laura Simms. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22, 2019 at Thomas Funeral Home in Centerville. Interment and military honors will immediately follow at Highland Cemetery in Mystic. Visitation will take



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place from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Thomas Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to First Christian Church in Cincinnati or to the family, and online condolences may be shared at www.thomasfh.com or [facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome) To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Don Simms please visit our Sympathy Store. Cemetery Details Highland Cemetery Green St.

Mystic, IA 52574 Visitation FEB 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CST) Thomas Funeral Home-Centerville 501 North 18th StreetCenterville, IA

52544<http://www.thomasfh.com> Funeral Service FEB 22. 2:00 PM (CST) Thomas Funeral Home - Centerville 501 North 18th StreetCenterville, IA 52544



Tribute Wall

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Thomas Funeral Home posted:

October 21 at 11:46 AM



Thomas Funeral Home shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 12:02 PM



Andrew Fenton posted:

I'm sure gonna miss seeing Don every morning through the work week. It was truly a pleasure having the opportunity to get to know Don for the past 20 years and hearing him share stories about back in the good ol'days. I especially liked the story of Don riding his motorcycle through the front door. I never forget you old buddy. Rest in Peace Don Simms.

February 21 at 7:00 PM



From Chris, Julie & Bryce Pharr posted:

From Chris, Julie & Bryce Pharr purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Don Simms.

February 20 at 7:00 PM



Norman And Kay Guffey posted:

Sending thoughts and prayers to Darlene and family. We pray that you find comfort and solace in the arms of our Lord. His love is always with you.

February 20 at 7:00 PM



Shirley Morlan posted:

Shirley Morlan lit a candle in memory of Don Simms

February 20 at 7:00 PM



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NK

Nancy Klum posted:

I'm so sorry for your loss. I'm in Texas so can't be there. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Nancy from Joe's.

February 20 at 7:00 PM

TR

Tammy Rick posted:

Tammy Rick lit a candle in memory of Don Simms

February 19 at 7:00 PM

VH

Virgil Hughes posted:

Don taught many things about life while working at Mc Graw Edison. The biggest thing was I should have been working for him instead of him working for me, and he knew that. A great guy.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

VH

Virgil Hughes posted:

Virgil Hughes lit a candle in memory of Don Simms

February 19 at 7:00 PM

JP

Jerry Power posted:

We are truly sorry to learn of Don's passing! Met him back in the McGraw-Edison days! He was truly a real gentleman, absolutely full of honesty and integrity! The world will miss him! Jerry and Judy Power RIP Don!!!

February 19 at 7:00 PM

LH

Linda Huber posted:

Linda Huber lit a candle in memory of Don Simms

February 19 at 7:00 PM



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LL

Love Sister Doris And Nieces Naomi And Lora Lea posted:

Love Sister Doris and Nieces Naomi and Lora Lea purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Don Simms.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

SR

Serene Retreat posted:

Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Don Simms.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

JS

Juanita F Stroud posted:

Thinking of you and your family.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

KP

Kathy Purdum posted:

So sorry to hear this thinking of you at this difficult time. Hugs and prayers to you!! Kathy Purdum

February 19 at 7:00 PM

BW

Bernie & Melody Weil And Tom & Vicky Weil posted:

Bernie & Melody Weil and Tom & Vicky Weil purchased the Written in the Stars for the family of Don Simms.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

SS

Steve Sprouse posted:

So sorry for your families loss, worked with Don at Young Radiator until he left. Was a very nice man with a great sense of humor. Steve Sprouse.

February 19 at 7:00 PM



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PF

Pastor Edgar & Andrea Foster posted:

Pastor Edgar & Andrea Foster purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Don Simms.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

EB

Emerald Garden Basket posted:

Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Don Simms.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

NT

Nellie Thomas posted:

Nellie Thomas lit a candle in memory of Don Simms

February 19 at 7:00 PM

ST

Sara Tait posted:

God will comfort you during this difficult time. Happy and loving memories of Don will help you through the days ahead. Take Care, Sara Tait

February 19 at 7:00 PM

PP

Pretty Please posted:

Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Don Simms.

February 19 at 7:00 PM

JD

Janet Demry posted:

Darlene and Lisa, I am so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you. Janet Demry

February 19 at 7:00 PM

MB

Mona Berry posted:

Sending our thoughts and prayers to Darlene and family. Randy and Mona Berry

February 19 at 7:00 PM



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TM

Tammy Michael posted:

Many thoughts and prayers for Darlene and Lisa. I have so many memories of Don when I was a child attending church services. He was such a sweet and caring man. Will miss seeing him. Love to you all

February 19 at 7:00 PM

BS

Barb Sparks posted:

Barb Sparks lit a candle in memory of Don Simms

February 18 at 7:00 PM

AU

Andy Underwood posted:

Thoughts and prayers to the family and the good ole boys at la Steel and Wire. Don is a legend of the machining world. I learned a lot from working with him. He will be greatly missed

February 18 at 7:00 PM

RA

Ramona posted:

He was the best uncle a girl could ask for, always ready with a funny story and a Smoothie. Uncle Don was always there for my parents; our family was lucky to have him. He brought light and laughter to the world. Ramona

February 18 at 7:00 PM

HH

Holly Hutton posted:

Holly Hutton lit a candle in memory of Don Simms

February 18 at 7:00 PM

RK

Ramona And Kevin posted:

Ramona and Kevin purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Don Simms.

February 18 at 7:00 PM



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Debbie Tait posted:

So heartbroken to hear this!!!!.....what a wonderful Christian man!!!!...prayprayers for you Darlene and Lisa !!!!!

February 18 at 7:00 PM



Media

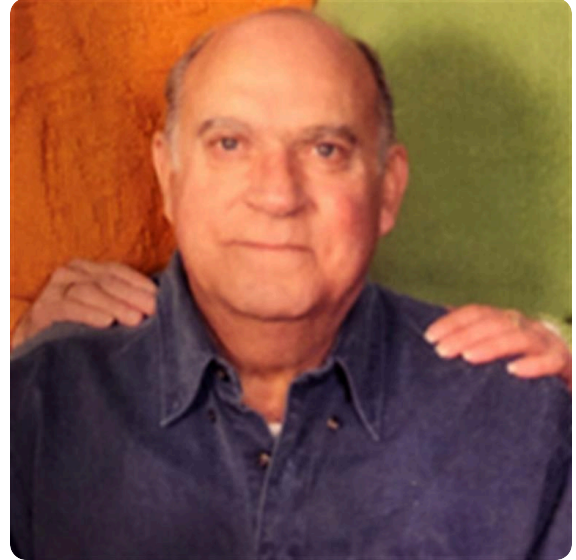
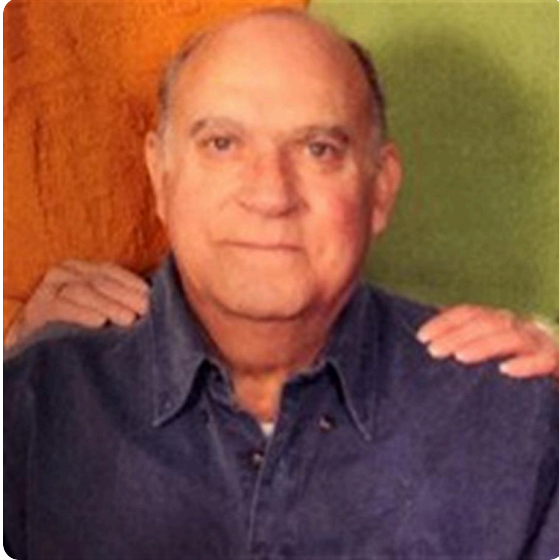
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Thomas Funeral Home shared 2 photos to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 12:02 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Don by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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