



James H. Simmons Jr.

June 10, 1940 - June 6, 2020

OBITUARY

Sunrise Sunset

June 10, 1940 June 6, 2020

James H. Simmons Jr., better known as Jerry to many, lived a happy and rewarding life which came to a close on the afternoon of Saturday, June 6, 2020. He was surrounded by his family when he transitioned from his earthly life to be with his heavenly Father.

James, an only child, was born on June 10, 1940, in Rutherford, Alabama to his parents, the late Jessie Mokins and James H. Simmons, Sr. During his formative years he was raised in a loving home that included his grandfather Richard Mokins, who provided an early foundation of Christian Values.

The family later relocated to Columbus, Georgia where he received his education in the public-school system. Upon graduating from Spencer High School, James honorably served in the United States Navy for ten years. His tours of duty included many international locations. While stationed in Key West, Florida, he met and married his wife of 54 years, Glenda (nee Bennett).

After departing the military James enrolled in RCA Technical Institute in

Cherry Hill, New Jersey and in 1969, graduated with a specialty in Electronics Technology. Over the course of his career, he also earned additional technology certifications and attended Rutgers University.

Prior to retiring in 2002, James worked as a Field Service Engineer for thirty-four years maintaining large scale mainframe computers, networks, and computer peripheral equipment. He began his career in New York City at General Electric Corporation's Computer Division and later worked for Honeywell and several of its subsidiaries. While employed, he received several awards for his outstanding performance, including the National Field Engineer of the Year award.

Known for his sense of humor, James would often lighten the mood with a joke when needed. He was gregarious and kind. He leaves a legacy of dedicated, selfless service to the church, his family and friends.

More than 27 years ago, when the late Rev. Harroldean Ashton served as Priest-in-Charge at St. Alban's Church, New Brunswick, NJ, James made a spiritual commitment at his confirmation. Since then his unwavering faith in God sustained him while serving in various capacities at St. Alban's. He has served as the Jr. Warden with responsibility for church properties and founder and Manager of the Thrift Shop. In the past, James transported food twice a week for distribution at the church's Food Pantry, was a member of the Sunday finance team, the Men's Club and served as an usher and an acolyte. Additionally, in 2006, he was co-chair of Men's Day. James was active with many of the church's fundraising activities that include coordinating the semi-annual yard sales and serving as "chef" at his famous fish frys.

He received the Community Service award from the Ebony Suburbanites of Middlesex and Somerset Counties for his efforts with their Annual Debutante Cotillions. He was also acknowledged by the Canon John H. Reece

Scholarship Fund for his assistance with their endeavors to provide scholarships to minority youth in Key West, Florida.

James was preceded in death by his parents. His memory will forever be cherished by his wife, Glenda; son, James Simmons, III and wife, Bernirene Ramos of New York, NY; daughter, Janae Tucker and husband, Thomas of Delaware, Ohio; grandchildren, Jaedyn and Jai Tucker of Delaware, Ohio; and Logan and James Simmons of New York, NY; sister-in-law, June Joseph of Monroe, NJ; brother-in law, Robert Bennett and wife, Susie of Leisure City, FL; two devoted cousins, Syndon Cunningham of Columbus, Ohio and The Rev. Viola Clay of Warner Robbins, Georgia, numerous family members and a host of coveted friends.

Cemetery Details

Franklin Memorial Park

1800 Route 27
North Brunswick, NJ

Tribute Wall



“ *James H. Simmons Jr.*

September 22, 2022 at 02:41 PM



“ *Prayers and fond memories are what we have to remember our dearly departed. May the love of family and friends comfort you during these difficult days, my most heartfelt condolences.*

Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman

Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman - July 11, 2020 at 11:12 AM



“ *Jerry, Germaine, Shawna and I will always remember your dedication to your family and to St. Alban's Episcopal Church. I will ALWAYS remember our man to man talks and jokes about our days in the military. Know that we will miss your style, your smile and your outlook on life. Rest in Heavenly Peace.*

Jim & Germaine Pinckney - Cary, NC.

Shawna L. Pinckney, Alexandria, VA.

James, Germaine & Shawna Pinckney - June 22, 2020 at 08:34 PM

KA

“ Dear Ms. Simmons,
Praying that the comfort of God keeps you during this very difficult time. Alex and I will miss Mr. Simmons greatly. He always brought great joy and laughter to our hearts. Now he is telling his jokes in heaven making the angles laugh.
Love,
Kisha

Kisha Adkins - June 20, 2020 at 09:29 PM

AM

“ Sending our deepest condolences to the Simmons family from Sylvia (Yvonne), Faruq, Sal, and Audra. May Jerry rest is heavenly peace.



Audra Mickens - June 12, 2020 at 08:57 AM

LF

*Glenda and family Hold On To God's Unchanging Hand
From Linda Freeman and family Key West Fla.*

Linda Freeman - June 14, 2020 at 07:38 PM

KT

“ Karen Towns-Worsley lit a candle in memory of James H. Simmons Jr.



Karen Towns-Worsley - June 11, 2020 at 10:23 PM

WM

“ *Wanda Mitchell lit a candle in memory of James H. Simmons Jr.*



Wanda Mitchell - June 11, 2020 at 09:49 PM

GK

We are so sorry for your lost, sending our deepest condolences. Sylvester & Gladys Key, Sherry Sanders & Sheryl Reaves.

Gladys Key - June 16, 2020 at 08:16 PM

RA

“ *Rick & Maczine Allen lit a candle in memory of James H. Simmons Jr.*



Rick & Maczine Allen - June 11, 2020 at 08:41 PM

CM

“ *Curtis And Gilda Moore lit a candle in memory of James H. Simmons Jr.*



Curtis and Gilda Moore - June 10, 2020 at 03:36 PM