



## Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.

January 14, 1958 - January 10, 2015

If you are about to throw away an old sandwich bag, stop!

Consider – Guy Michael Simmons, Sr. “Free Bird” who entered eternal life on January 10, 2015. His spirit is carried on by his children: Michelle Simmons of Austin, Texas, Edward (Monique) O’Rourke of Hammond, Indiana, Miketa (Brian) Warren of Vienna, Rock Jordan of Gary, Indiana, Guy (Jamie) Simmons of Buncombe, Timothy O’Rourke of Hammond, Indiana, Angel (Jason) Newman of Robinson, Della (Matt) Naese of Buncombe, and Angela (Troy) Kerley of Simpson; also the “Papa” to 13 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. Also surviving is his wife – April Simmons of Gary, Indiana; his mother – Bonnie Kerley of Vienna; his sister – Cathy (Don) Novakovich of Crown Pointe, Indiana; along with an extended family of relations and friends from every walk of life.

He was preceded in death by his father, Guy B. Simmons.

“Free Bird” was an avid motorcyclist. That big, burly biker, he rode fast and he rode hard. He had a heart of gold, always riding for a cause. If you knew him, or even if you didn’t, you knew that he preferred two wheels to four. We were blessed to learn many valuable lessons from “Free Bird” in his 56 years of life. Be crazy, have fun, love, live. Never throw away an old sandwich bag. Give it as a gift, it is the gift that keeps giving. If an opossum takes up residence in your shed, grab a BBQ brush to coax him out. If he doesn’t leave, brush him for 20 minutes and keep him as a pet. Let a dog (or two or three) share your bed. Never take anything too seriously.

“Free Bird” was known for being stubborn and raising hell for more than 5 decades. He knew how to have a good time and knew what it meant to live life to the fullest. Guy Michael Simmons is now reunited with his brother John “Ricky” Simmons.

Feel free to come and tell stories that he can no longer tell.

Visitation was conducted Wednesday evening, January 14, 2015, from 5 PM – 7 PM at the Carrier Mills Tabernacle Church. Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon, January 15, 2015, at 1 PM also at the Carrier Mills Tabernacle Church.

Burial was in the Simmons Family Cemetery, east of Ozark. Military graveside rites were accorded by the Beggs-Gurley VFW Post # 5222 and the Illinois National Guard Burial Honors Detail.

Memorials are suggested to the family.

Rest in Peace "Free Bird," for you we toke, toke, pass.

# Cemetery Details

## Simmons Family Cemetery

Ozark, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 14. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Carrier Mills Tabernacle Church  
US Route 45 North  
Carrier Mills, IL

## Service

JAN 15. 1:00 PM (CT)

Carrier Mills Tabernacle Church  
US Route 45 North  
Carrier Mills, IL

# Tribute Wall



“ *Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Sending thoughts and prayers to the friends and family of this wonderful man. Enjoy your ride and I know you will be watching over Don. So grateful to have known him. He will be missed. Hugs to all.*



**Linda Rosenski** - January 17, 2015 at 02:58 PM



“ *Sue Cagle lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



**sue cagle** - January 14, 2015 at 07:16 PM



“ *Edward Warren lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



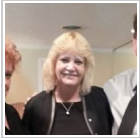
**Edward Warren** - January 14, 2015 at 12:51 AM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album *Guy and Doc's sailboat*



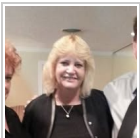
Doc - January 13, 2015 at 04:26 PM



“ *Sheryl Simmons lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



Sheryl Simmons - January 12, 2015 at 05:24 PM



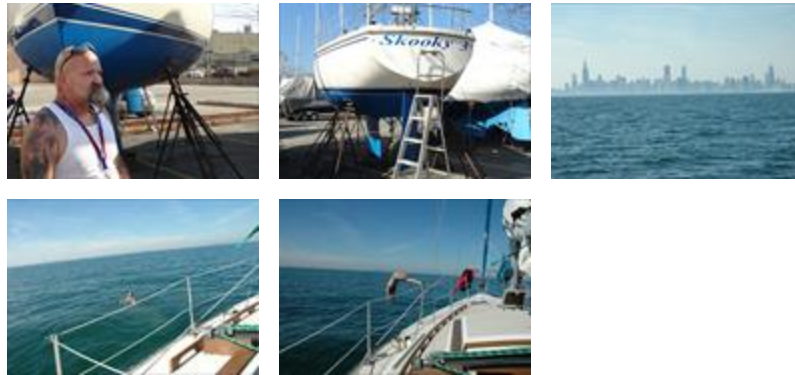
“ *Sheryl Simmons lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



Sheryl Simmons - January 12, 2015 at 05:24 PM

DO

“ 20 files added to the album Guy and Doc's sailboat



Doc - January 12, 2015 at 04:10 PM

BN

“ Guy Micheal and Makita so sorry to hear about your dad my thoughts and prayers are with you and your familys love you both Brenda

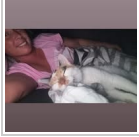
Brenda Davis Nutter - January 12, 2015 at 09:50 AM

LD

“ I am so sorry to hear that i haven't touched base with guy since this past summer but he truly was one of a kind, irreplaceable, and most defiantly could look at the brighter side of every situation. My heart is heavy for all of the kids and rand kids and of course april. I am so sorry to hear this news today my prayers are with you all during this time.



lindsey dyer - January 12, 2015 at 02:06 AM



“ Guy, papa guy, freebird, dad and all the other wonderful names we had for you. I am at a loss for words knowing I won't have that father a phone call away or my kids won't have their papa anymore ..I'm supposed to comfort my husband and children, your son and grandkids, but it seems the children are comforting us. You were such a loving caring inviting human being that brought joy and laughter to many peoples lives. Fly free with all the other angels Until we meet again I love you to the moon and back. Love baby girl Jamie Bonds-Simmons



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**Jamie Bonds** - January 11, 2015 at 10:22 PM



Glas I got the pleasure of meeting him this summer, although it was only for a few hours, i think he enjoyed his dinner, nap and watching all the kids play lol. I'm so sorry for your loss. He was a very nice and polite man. My thoughts are with you, Guy and your babies

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**Jessica Merchant** - January 12, 2015 at 09:05 AM

ER

“ I love you Free Bird. fly high and keep watching over us. ❤️

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**Emma Rae** - January 11, 2015 at 10:14 PM



“ Mike will always be my crazy cousin. He lived life on the edge. Drove his motorcycle on the edge. My first real memories of him was when him and his brother Ricky and sister Cathy would come to southern Illinois to visit. What a whirl wind it was and I'm not to sure it ever stopped. He has had a full life and I'm pretty sure he enjoyed what he did. Prayers are with the kids Guy Michael, Miiketa, Michelle, Eddy and Tim. And also with April his side kick for many many years. His mother Bonnie and sister Cathy...We love all of you and think of you often. Mikes memory will live in our hearts forever.

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**Simi Poe** - January 11, 2015 at 10:00 PM

DK

“ Could someone please tell me where there is a Simmons Cemetery on Ozark Road?  
Don Kelderman

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**Don Kelderman** - January 11, 2015 at 09:07 PM



*It is the Rushing cemetery. The cemetery would not let us bury my mother Sheilah Simmons and my sister in law Lisa Simmons when they both passed away so we just buried both on the back side of it which is our farm. Mike helped my father take the fence down to bury both and said that he wanted to be buried with all of us since we couldn't be buried inside the actual cemetery. So it is really the Rushing cemetery but on the side of our farm.*

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**Simi Poe** - January 11, 2015 at 09:48 PM

DK

*OK, thanks Simi, I know your dad (Gary), and met your mother and Jamie also a few years ago. Your dad told me the story about the Rushing cemetery at the time. I will try to visit with your dad next time I am down there doing research on my Simmons family. Sorry for your families loss. I worked and retired from the same steel mill as Guy B. Simmons, he only lived about 2 blocks from me in Griffith, Indiana.*

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**Don Kelderman** - January 12, 2015 at 04:41 PM

 Della Naese

“ *Mike was so much more than just my little brother and sisters dad, he was a part of my life since I was 5 years old. His smile and laughter will be missed!!*

Della Naese - January 11, 2015 at 08:59 PM

JE

“ *Prayers for the family!!! I did not know him but I know his daughter and she's amazing so I'm sure he was too*



jessicca - January 11, 2015 at 06:47 PM

KH

“ *My sympathy & prayers are with you all.*



KathyBlack Holt - January 11, 2015 at 05:59 PM

KC

“ *Kathy Camden lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



kathy camden - January 11, 2015 at 05:34 PM



“ *May the wind always be in your hair brother. Enjoy that ride in the sky, pick out a good spot for us to do together. We have done so much and there was so much more I would of loved to do. Thanksgiving will not be the same without my brother at my side. I love you man, Godspeed. Until we meet again you will always be in my thoughts and heart. Don.*



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**Don Rosenski** - January 11, 2015 at 04:23 PM

RG

“ *So sorry for the loss. Such a memorable man, and was loved by so many. Rest in peace Sir.*



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**Rachel Gaunt** - January 11, 2015 at 03:38 PM



“ *I love you Uncle Mike.*

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**Veneta Leonard** - January 11, 2015 at 03:22 PM

SR

“ *Sheri Robinson lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



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**Sheri Robinson** - January 11, 2015 at 01:23 PM

MM

“ *Marilyn Mick lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



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**Marilyn Mick** - January 11, 2015 at 10:39 AM

TP

“ *Teresa Pengress lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



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**Teresa Pengress** - January 11, 2015 at 09:19 AM

DO

“ *Guy was always ready to lend a hand when needed. He sure loved his motorcycles and his critters. So long old friend, I will miss you.*  
*Doc*

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**Doc** - January 11, 2015 at 02:24 AM

VJ

“ *Virginia Jones lit a candle in memory of Guy Michael Simmons, Sr.*



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**Virginia Jones** - January 10, 2015 at 10:01 PM

RA

“ april so sorry for your loss



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**robert and brenda ames** - January 10, 2015 at 05:49 PM