



Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons

June 15, 1941 - January 27, 2021

The staff of Bailey Funeral Home extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Mayor Jon A. Simmons. Obituary and service information will be posted on our website. Arrangements are under the direction of Meyer Funeral Home in Newton, Illinois.

Vienna Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons, age 79 years, of Vienna, Illinois, passed away at 11:00 AM - Wednesday January 27, 2021, at his home.

Funeral services celebrating the life of Jon will be held at 11:00AM - Monday, February 1, 2021, at the Shawnee Worship Center, 98 Oliver Street, Vienna, Illinois, with Pastor Richard Swiney and Pastor Casey Pollard officiating. Burial will be in the Vienna Fraternal Cemetery in Vienna, Illinois, with full military rites. Visitation will be held from 5:00–8:00 PM - Sunday, January 31, 2021, at the church. Masonic rites will be accorded at 8:00 PM Sunday. In loving memory of Jon, memorials may be made to the Simmons Family, and may be left at the church or mailed to the family at P.O. Box 421, Vienna, IL 62995.

Jon Arthur was born on June 15, 1941, in Goreville Township, Johnson County, Illinois, the youngest son of John and Veneta (Hudgens) Simmons. He graduated from Vienna High School in 1959. Four years later, on November 27, 1963, he was drafted in to the United States Army, serving

during the Vietnam War. He was honorably discharged on November 26, 1965.

Jon became an auctioneer in 1974, and he traveled all over Southern Illinois, conducting auctions. His slogan was "Auction means action and we guarantee satisfaction" and people with whom he interacted throughout the years would agree. He loved to conduct auctions and loved to visit with auction followers. He also owned and operated Linda's Tavern in Vienna for several years.

Jon was united in marriage to his best friend of over 35 years, Jessie Jean Goins on June 22, 2012, in Vienna, Illinois.

Jon was the current Mayor of the City of Vienna, a position he had held for the past 12 years. He loved Vienna and it's people and was always a reliable, helping hand to whomever was in need.

Jon was a member of Faith Harvest Assembly Church in Vienna, life member Saline Masonic Lodge # 339 A.F. & A.M. in Goreville, and was a life-member of the Beggs-Gurley VFW Post # 5222, and the Ainad Shrine temple.

Jon was an avid sports fan and loved to attend all sporting events, especially Vienna Eagles boys and girls basketball games. He was always there for the kids and was their #1 fan. Jon was also an avid St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan. In years past, Jon enjoyed rabbit and quail hunting.

Jon is survived by his wife, Jean Simmons, of Vienna, Illinois; sons - Frank Towns (Tashia Culp) of Vienna, Illinois and Jason (Lisa) Meyer of Newton, Illinois; grandchildren – Ryker James Towns and Electa Ann Meyer; a brother – Gary Simmons of Ozark, Illinois; as well as several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Jon was preceded in death by his parents, brothers – Guy B. Simmons and Max Simmons; his father-in-law and mother-in-law – James and Maude Goins.

Those attending the visitation and service are reminded to observe customarily accepted social distancing guidelines. The wearing of a face mask or covering is strongly encouraged.

To share a memory of Jon or to leave an online message of condolence for his family, please visit www.meyerfh.com

Arrangements have been entrusted to Meyer Funeral Home in Newton, Illinois.

Cemetery Details

Vienna Fraternal Cemetery

N. 6th Street
Vienna, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Shawnee Worship Center
98 Oliver St
Vienna, IL 62995-1694
(618) 658-8559

Masonic Rites

JAN 31. 8:00 PM (CT)

Shawnee Worship Center
98 Oliver St
Vienna, IL 62995-1694
(618) 658-8559

Service

FEB 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Shawnee Worship Center
98 Oliver St
Vienna, IL 62995-1694
(618) 658-8559

Tribute Wall



“ *Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Gary & Janet Hacker lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Gary & Janet Hacker - February 01, 2021 at 10:12 PM



“ *Steve & Jeannie Housewright lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Steve & Jeannie Housewright - January 31, 2021 at 01:38 PM



“ *Angie Street lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Angie Street - January 30, 2021 at 06:18 PM

KH

“ *KathyBlack Holt lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



KathyBlack Holt - January 30, 2021 at 01:16 AM

SH

“ *R.I.P. my ole friend*



Scott Hunsaker - January 29, 2021 at 08:13 PM

MV

“ *We are both so sorry to hear of Jon's passing. Jean, we are praying for you and the family, for the weeks ahead. We will miss his smile, his wit and humor but most of all we will miss his friendship. He was always a true friend to us and always loved to make others laugh. Even know I remember a time when Jon and Ivan met at the 4 way and they both, at the same time put down their windows and stuck their fists out at each other, yelling and screaming, all in fun of course but by the next day it was all over town that they were trying to kill each other. We laughed about that for weeks.*



Ivan and Maria Vaughn

maria Vaughn - January 29, 2021 at 07:52 PM

MM

“ *Condolences to Jean and his family members. He was wonderful to me and the Library, making me welcome at all City activities. We will miss him and his great sense of humor!*



Margaret Mathis - January 29, 2021 at 04:40 PM

CG

“ *Carol & Randy George lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Carol & Randy George - January 29, 2021 at 01:10 PM

RF

“ *Jean we,re so sorry for your loss. Jon was a great man and will be greatly missed. Prayers for you and family. The Moore and Madlock family.*

Ruby & Earl Moore and Family - January 29, 2021 at 10:35 AM

JT

“ *Janis Tapley lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Janis Tapley - January 29, 2021 at 09:20 AM

LH

“ *Larry & Brenda Hogg lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Larry & Brenda Hogg - January 29, 2021 at 08:58 AM

LH

Prayers for all in this time and the days ahead. Jon will be missed dearly.

Larry & Brenda Hogg - January 29, 2021 at 09:00 AM

GG

“ *We are so sorry to hear about Jon. He was a good friend to me and my wife. I had the privilege of serving under Mayor Simmons as a City Councilman for several years and enjoyed his dedication to the city of Vienna. Condolences go out to his family.*



Greg and Twyla Gorden - January 29, 2021 at 06:56 AM

DM

I am very sorry to hear about Jons passing definitely a good friend and fine fellow

danny millis - January 29, 2021 at 07:50 PM

JA

“ *So sorry for your loss.*



Jeff Aly - January 28, 2021 at 11:57 PM

JW

“ I first met Jon when I was 16. He was a true, life-long friend. He gave much to our country during the Vietnam conflict, to our county as Johnson County Treasure, and to our Vienna community during his tenure as mayor. He was also a great auctioneer. Jon will truly be missed. Judge James R. and Debbie Williamson

James R. and Debbie Williamson - January 28, 2021 at 11:22 PM

KG

“ Kenny And Sue Goddard lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Kenny and Sue Goddard - January 28, 2021 at 09:29 PM

PS

“ Jean, you have my sincere sympathy for your loss. Jon Arthur was a wonderful family friend. He cherished his family, city and country. Never met a stranger, Reminds me so much of his Mother's Uncle Arthur, who he was named after.
Peggy Jean Smoot



Peggy Jean Smoot - January 28, 2021 at 09:18 PM

RS

“ Rev. Richard & Vickey Swiney lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Rev. Richard & Vickey Swiney - January 28, 2021 at 06:18 PM

GW

“ We will miss you cousin in our extended family.. also seeing you sitting at the mid court line at Goreville-Vienna basketball games.

Glenn Webb - January 28, 2021 at 04:26 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons.



January 28, 2021 at 03:01 PM

EH

“ Ernie Henshaw lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Ernie Henshaw - January 28, 2021 at 02:51 PM



“ Debbie Stewart sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Debbie Stewart - January 28, 2021 at 01:47 PM

PM

“ *Patty Morse sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Patty Morse - January 28, 2021 at 12:47 PM



“ *Linda Simmons lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Linda Simmons - January 28, 2021 at 12:46 PM

FM

“ *Faye Mize lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Faye Mize - January 28, 2021 at 12:42 PM

JA

“ *Your Brothers and Sisters at Beggs-Gurley VFW Auxiliary send condolences and prayers to Jean and your family. Jon will be missed.*



Jo Lynn K Altvatter - January 28, 2021 at 11:19 AM

BR

“ *RIP good friend and VHS classmate.*



Bobby Rentfro - January 28, 2021 at 09:24 AM

CW

“ *Carl Wells lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Carl Wells - January 28, 2021 at 08:34 AM

CH

“ *CharlAs & Cindy Harner sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



CharlAs & Cindy Harner - January 28, 2021 at 08:34 AM

JS

“ *John Slack sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



John Slack - January 28, 2021 at 12:01 AM



“ *Billie Richardson Mahoney lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Billie Richardson Mahoney - January 27, 2021 at 11:13 PM

JP

“ *Jerry Palmer sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Jerry Palmer - January 27, 2021 at 10:56 PM

JP

“ *Jean and family, So sorry for your loss and extend our deepest sympathy, May the Lord bring you comfort and peace in the days ahead. Sincerely, Jerry, Judy and Jay Phelps.*



JPhelps - January 27, 2021 at 10:07 PM

SL

“ *Steve&Kathy(Whiteside) Lay lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Steve&Kathy(Whiteside) Lay - January 27, 2021 at 09:52 PM

VM

“ *Virgil D. & Arlene Miles lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Virgil D. & Arlene Miles - January 27, 2021 at 08:16 PM

JT

“ *Jerry & Ann Toler lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Jerry & Ann Toler - January 27, 2021 at 08:07 PM

JK

“ *Jason and your mother Jean -We extend our deepest sympathy for your loss! We remember Jon being around town when we would come to the Junque Jamboree Festival on the square. We are sure he will be sadly missed. Jim & Barb King T-Town*

Jim King - January 27, 2021 at 08:01 PM

ES

“ *Jon was a wonderful man, and an amazing friend to my grandparents.*



Elaina Scerena - January 27, 2021 at 07:55 PM

NW

“ Noble And Mary Jane White lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Noble and Mary Jane White - January 27, 2021 at 07:39 PM

LM

“ Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Larry and Carolyn McGill - January 27, 2021 at 07:29 PM

LM

will miss my friend

Larry and Carolyn McGill - January 27, 2021 at 07:30 PM

DE

“ Debbie(Stevens)Poe lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Debbie(Stevens)Poe - January 27, 2021 at 07:23 PM

MA

“ *Mitzie Nichols Augustus lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Mitzie Nichols Augustus - January 27, 2021 at 07:21 PM

CH

“ *Charlie And Cindy Harmet sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Charlie and Cindy Harmet - January 27, 2021 at 07:10 PM

DB

“ *Danny Gage Boles And Linda Boles lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Danny Gage Boles and Linda Boles - January 27, 2021 at 07:00 PM

LM

“ *Linda And Jeff Mathis lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Linda and Jeff Mathis - January 27, 2021 at 06:51 PM

SJ

“ Steve & Darla Jones lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Steve & Darla Jones - January 27, 2021 at 06:31 PM

TH

“ Tara Evans Hobbs lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Tara Evans Hobbs - January 27, 2021 at 06:05 PM



“ Mike Crews lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Mike Crews - January 27, 2021 at 06:05 PM

DB

“ Dorothy Bacon lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Dorothy Bacon - January 27, 2021 at 05:54 PM

LH

“ *Lonnie Hinton lit a candle in memory of Mayor
Jon Arthur Simmons*



Lonnie Hinton - January 27, 2021 at 05:39 PM

LK

“ *Linda Koehler lit a candle in memory of Mayor
Jon Arthur Simmons*



Linda Koehler - January 27, 2021 at 05:34 PM

TR

“ *Teresa Richerson lit a candle in memory of
Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Teresa Richerson - January 27, 2021 at 05:24 PM

DP

“ *Davis And Pat Prewitt lit a candle in memory
of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Davis and Pat Prewitt - January 27, 2021 at 05:19 PM

DP

Jean and Jason, we are so sorry for your loss. You and yours are in our prayers.

Davis and Pat Prewitt - January 27, 2021 at 05:24 PM

TM

“ I'm So Sorry for Your Loss Heaven just gained a Wonderful Angel.... Will Miss his laughs and going on with Me..... Sending Prayers and Thoughts to ALL of the Family



Theresa Mckenzie-Trovillion - January 27, 2021 at 05:17 PM

MP

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and yours.

Matthew Prewitt - January 27, 2021 at 05:16 PM

TP

“ Jon will be greatly missed. My condolences to his family, friends, and community. RIP Jon.



Teresa Pearl - January 27, 2021 at 05:06 PM

KB

“ Karen Brumley lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons



Karen Brumley - January 27, 2021 at 04:56 PM

CT

“ *Carla Tapley lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Carla Tapley - January 27, 2021 at 04:46 PM

SR

“ *Jon will be greatly missed he always had to give me a hard time my condolece to the family prayers for comfort at this time and days to come*



Sherry Reighard - January 27, 2021 at 04:00 PM

NB

“ *Nancy Breeden lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Nancy Breeden - January 27, 2021 at 04:00 PM

VF

“ *VFW5222 lit a candle in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



VFW5222 - January 27, 2021 at 03:48 PM



“ *Jeannie McCall sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Jeannie McCall - January 27, 2021 at 03:40 PM



“ *Dallas And Charlene Harner sent a virtual gift in memory of Mayor Jon Arthur Simmons*



Dallas and Charlene Harner - January 27, 2021 at 03:36 PM