



Colonel David Lee Sims

January 30, 1948 - August 5, 2022

Colonel David Lee Sims, US Army (Ret) of Lakeland, FL, passed away on August 5, 2022 at the age of 74, surrounded by his family. David was born on January 30, 1948 in Norfolk, VA to Jackson David Sims and Margie Mae Eubank Sims. Born into a military family, David had a deep sense of patriotism and public service and followed his father and uncles into a career in the armed services, joining the Army in 1967. He served in posts throughout the world, but always called Alabama home - he didn't follow a lot of sports, but always made time for Crimson Tide football. He retired as a colonel after 28 years of service and was a proud veteran.

A life-long learner, David read constantly and was passionate about American history and politics. He built his library into a treasure trove. In retirement, he enjoyed genealogy and delighted in sharing family stories and photographs with the many members of his extended family, all of whom he deeply loved.

David is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Ruth Smith Sims; his beloved children Arista (Michael) Kiffney of Vienna, VA and Nicholas (Stephanie) Sims of Tampa, FL; four grandchildren Sydney, Thomas, Matthew and Christalina; a brother Michael Sims, and many friends and extended family. Besides his parents, he is predeceased by his daughter, Meredith Ashley, his brother Donald Sims, and his sister Becky Storey.

“in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Wounded Warrior Project”

Tribute Wall

MT

“ Today is September 11, 2024. As Americans pause and reflect on the tragedy of this day 23 Years ago, I paused and thought about where I was and what I was doing. I remember Dave walking down the hall of our workplace and, in his always calm demeanor, he shared the events as they were unfolding. We huddled and shared thoughts about what was happening, literally before our very eyes. And so, as I reflect today I decided to try and reach out to Dave, only to learn of his passing in 2022. Dave and I were of somewhat different eras, nonetheless, I respected him and he me, even though we disagreed on some issues, mainly how our work was to be done, we were more than just cordial with one another. He evoked, not demanded, a level of decency in our interactions at work and beyond! He was a decent soul!! And so as we remember the events of 9/11 and reminisce, for me the memory of Dave Sims will be at the core of not only the tragedy of the day but the good and decency of the human spirit as shown to me through the life of Dave Sims! Belatedly, my sincere condolences to the Sims family and friends! M. Thomas

Mark Thomas - September 11, 2024 at 09:46 AM

TF

“ A donation to the Intrepid Fallen Warriors fund was made in memory of David and his many years of dedicated military service. From Mike, Sharon, Jonathan, Rachel & Jameson 🙏

The Rickels & Beveridge families - August 15, 2022 at 12:40 PM

RS

“David was one of the good guys. We always enjoyed being with him and his family. Over the years we have been able to visit him and Ruthie, Arista and Nick at many of their military homes. We also share an important date with Arista, she was born on our anniversary. We know these last years have been hard on him and the family. Hopefully he is at peace and the best memories will comfort all who was fortunate to know him. God Bless, Love Ray and Gail and Family.

RAYMOND L SMITH - August 13, 2022 at 10:35 AM

KS

“David was a great brother-in-law and also a very good friend. He will be missed.
Rest in Peace
Ken

Kenneth Smith - August 10, 2022 at 04:37 PM



“Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Colonel David Lee Sims.



August 10, 2022 at 03:08 PM