



George R. Simons

May 28, 1938 - May 1, 2026

George Randolph Simons, Sr., 87, of Harrisonburg, VA, passed away peacefully on May 1, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on May 28, 1938, in Princeton, WV, George was the son of the late John Wiley Simons and Ollie Mae Caldwell Simons. A graduate of Bluefield High School and Bluefield State College, he dedicated many years to teaching in the West Virginia school system. He coached and officiated through the Black Diamond Officiating Association. He also taught the Principles of Officiating at Bluefield State College.

George was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He was known for his strong work ethic, unwavering character, and deep love for his family. After retiring from his career in education in West Virginia, he took on the role of Executive Director of the Greater Community Center, where he transformed a struggling organization into a great success story.

He was a man people could depend on—steady, hardworking, and always willing to lend a hand. Whether through his work, his guidance, or his presence, George left a lasting impression on all who knew him.

In his free time, he enjoyed traveling, cruising, watching sports, attending games, and sharing his stories. Above all, he cherished time spent with his loved ones, especially his wife, children, and grandchildren.

George is survived by his wife of 63 years, Wanda Bignotti Simons; his children, Dr. George Simons Jr. (Kristi) of Spring, Texas, with their children Evan, Braedon, and Olivia; and Scott Edward Simons (Kelly) of Whiteville,

NC, with their children, Morgan and Dawson; his sister, Kathleen Simons Schuller (John) of Cleveland, OH; and extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Gene, Billy, Dan, Gail, Garland, and Edward ("Junior"); and his sister, Bernice Simons Duncan.

Visitation will be held on May 6, 2026, at Mercer Funeral Home in Bluefield, WV, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., followed by a service at 11:00 a.m. with Fr.

Joseph Augustine as Celebrant. Burial will take place immediately following the service in the Garden of the Apostles at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Princeton, WV.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bluefield WV. <https://sacredheartcatholicchu64.flocknote.com/give/30361>

George will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who knew and loved him.

Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com

Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the Simons family.

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery

450 Courthouse Rd
Princeton, WV 24740

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 6. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel
1231 West Cumberland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

Funeral Service

MAY 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel
1231 West Cumberland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

Tribute Wall



“ *Dear Wanda,
It is May 18 and I am sorry to say that I have just seen George's obituary. Please know my heart is aching with you and your family. I have wonderful memories of George all through high school together and our last final dance at a high school reunion on the mountain top. What a wonderful person and man. May your many memories through out your many years together comfort and warm your heart during this time of grief and loss.
Love, prayers, and condolences to you and your family,
Lin Carter*

Lin Carter - May 18 at 04:28 PM



“ *Wanda, I just saw this and I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. Vicki Mason*

Vicki Mason - May 18 at 12:03 AM



“ *Memories of George is mainly through sports, especially baseball. If not coaching, he was umpiring. He would take his sons to games and his wife Wanda wasn't far behind. From Little League and Senior League in Welch, George was there. And the stories that were told about George are classics. He will and is missed from the Welch community. Troy and Jewel Hawks*

Troy Hawks - May 06 at 01:34 PM

Jl

“ So sorry for the loss of George-he and I had a lot of good days while employed by the McDowell Co Board of Education! I'll miss the telephone conversations that we had over the years . Jim DeHaven

JimDeHaven - May 05 at 08:20 AM