



Mr. A. Terry Sims

September 29, 1940 - January 25, 2018

On January 25, 2018, the family of Arthur Terrance “Terry” Sims lost their beloved Poppy. It seems impossible to write an obituary for this man, whose heart beat with love and generosity for everyone he met. He and Brenda Mosley Sims, his wife of 56 years, opened their home to so many in times of joy and sorrow, or simply in friendship. All of us who knew him feel blessed that he was in our lives, grateful that he has gone to a place without pain, but selfishly wish that we could have kept him with us for a little longer.

Terry was born on September 29, 1940, in Excel, Monroe County, Alabama. He was the seventh of nine children of Wilburn “Red” Sims and Lois Watson Sims. The family moved to Mobile when Terry was a child, where his parents ran a grocery store. He often shared stories of fond memories of growing up in the shadow of that store, and the generosity of spirit he learned from his parents and the community surrounding them.

Although too young to serve in the Korean War, Terry served his country in the Marine Reserves, earning the rank of Lance Corporal. The training and camaraderie with his brothers at arms were a source of great pride for him his entire life. He credited the Marines with instilling in him many of the qualities he cherished most in himself -- his dignity, his strength through hardship, his rational mind and clarity of purpose, and most of all his sense of service to others. He used his military experience to build a career in shipping logistics, serving in management at the Alabama State Docks for Ryan Walsh Inc., and the Port of Little Rock for SSA Marine.

Terry’s greatest joy in life, even more than fishing and Alabama football, came from children -- his own and any others he happened to encounter. No child was a stranger to him, and he was “Poppy” to his own grandchildren and great-grands, as well as the children of neighbors, friends, co-workers, nieces and nephews. He kept a bowl of candy always at hand, and children from miles around knew they could wander into Poppy’s house for a piece and a sip of ice water anytime they wanted. Grown men of no relation to the Sims family still think of him as their Poppy today, and teach their own children to call him such.

Terry is preceded in death by his parents, and two brothers: Artemus (Patsy) and Maxie (Margaret). He is survived by his beloved wife Brenda; two brothers Harry Sims of Mobile and Charles Sims (Pat) of Citronelle; four sisters Louise Locke (Paul), Madeline Leonard

(Tony), Dianne Crawford, and Pam Roberts, all of Mobile; two daughters Robin Prior (John) of Fairfax, Virginia, Debra Michelle Bodle of Loxley; one son Brad Sims (Carmen) of Little Rock, Arkansas; two granddaughters (Mclaine and Aubry Prior), six grandsons (Josh, Peyton, and Zach Bodle, and Luca, Bird, and Ike Sims), two granddaughters-in-law (Sarah and Kimmie Bodle), three great-grandchildren (Karsyn, Jaxon, and Charlotte Bodle), and dozens of nieces, nephews, neighbors, and friends. We are all better people for knowing him, and he will be missed profoundly.

A memorial service to celebrate Terry's life will be held on Monday, January 29, 2018, 6:00 pm, at 3 Circle Church, HWY 104, Fairhope Alabama. Come as you are. Reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations of any amount be made in Terry's name to the Weeks Bay Foundation at <https://weeksbay.org> or by mail to 11401 U.S. Highway 98, Fairhope, Alabama 36532.

Events

JAN **Celebration of Life Service**06:00PM

29

3 Circle Church

Highway 104, Fairhope, AL, US

Comments



“ Tammy King Martin lit a candle in memory of Mr. A. Terry Sims



Tammy King Martin - February 06, 2018 at 04:03 PM



“ I always enjoyed visiting with the Sims. I felt like a family member-an extra sister to Robin and Michelle. I love this sweet family ! I cannot express my sorrow adequately. I meant to stop in for a visit recently, but never got around to it...now he's gone...hard to believe he is not there ... I give y'all my sincerest love and prayers.
Tammy King Martin

Tammy King Martin - February 06, 2018 at 04:02 PM



“ My sincerest sympathy Sims family, may your faith be your strength during this time of grief. Brad, know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers- Janea Snyder



Janea Snyder - January 30, 2018 at 01:27 PM



“ I would like to offer the Sims Family my condolences and prayers during this time of grief.

Carol O'Gwynn Wilkinson



Carol O'Gwynn Wilkinson - January 29, 2018 at 01:15 AM



“ Brenda and family,
Words fail to convey the deepest thoughts that we want to share in times like this! But please know we are thinking of you and your loss. The obituary captured his essence of his life beautifully but I will add that above all, he was an honest and hardworking individual who loved his family intensely and always had their welfare foremost in his mind.

With love,
Paul and Rosalie Revis



Paul N. Revis - January 28, 2018 at 04:32 PM



“ Terry inspired a lot of folks in Little Rock. He was well thought of by his customers who became friends. As a friend and business partner he was a pleasure and helpful to all. He will be missed. Brenda and family Jean and my prayers and thoughts are with you.

Charles Volpert - January 28, 2018 at 04:25 PM



“ On the day my son was born, while my husband held our son and my hand in the operating room, his beeper started going off in his pocket, it was Mr.Terry wanting to know if Paul was born and if I was o.k. By the time I got back to my room that they put you in for labor, Brenda and Terry was there checking Paul out and taking

pictures. I remember Terry walking up to my bed and telling me "You did a fine job Pam, that is one fine boy you got there" He was so proud and he couldn't wait to get his hands on him. Terry and Brenda will always hold a special place in our hearts for all the love and kindness that they gave us. Love and prayers to Brenda and family. We will miss him forever. The Shiremans



Pam Shireman - January 28, 2018 at 04:19 PM



“ The past couple days I've found myself walking in circles. Those who know me know I move in a non stop forward direction. I've been walking in circles lost in thought of the loss of my good friend, father like figure and lastly grandfather to mine and Angee Miller's 2 sons. From the day we met poppy and his wonderful wife, we were treated as if we were part of the family. As I woke up this morning I felt as if poppy was sitting on the back porch with me, hand on my shoulder giving me what he liked to call his two sense. I felt a sense of direction once again. Thank you poppy for all you have done for all of us. We love you so much.

Mark Miller - January 28, 2018 at 12:14 PM



“ Poppy was one of a kind. Everyone he came in contact with loved him and he treated everyone like family. For 9 years he served a a father figure to me and most importantly a grandfather to my boys. Nothing can replace the knowledge he shared with me, the warm hugs and smiles he gave my family or the openness of his love he so generously shared. He will live on through all the people he touched. I am grateful his family shared this wonderful man with mine. Fish on Poppy! And every time I see a wild bird or fishing pole my heart will know you are near.

Angee Miller - January 27, 2018 at 06:00 PM