



Dr. Gary Marc James Simmons

January 8, 1950 - February 27, 2024

Dr. Gary Marc James Simmons (74) passed away on February 27, 2024 in Tallahassee, Florida where he has called home for nearly 35 years. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to parents Frank Kiddoo Simmons and Frances Flynn Simmons on January 8, 1950. He enlisted in the United States Army and reached the rank of Specialist 5 upon his honorable discharge.

Gary attended University of Central Florida (B.A. in Psychology), Georgia State University (M.S. in Community Counseling), and University of Southern Mississippi (Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology). After earning his doctorate degree, he became a licensed psychologist. He most recently worked at Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee, Florida where he undoubtedly impacted countless lives, including his co-worker's lives and his patient's lives, through his calling as a psychologist. He dedicated a total of 34 years at the hospital.

All that knew Gary will remember him for his sunny disposition, incredible wit and infallible sense of humor. He had the ability to put you at ease in any conversation and even after the first time meeting him, you already felt like an old friend. Even when faced with extreme adversity or illness, Gary's gift of making any situation humorous remained. When he wasn't working or spending time with his family, he enjoyed biking, working out, playing the guitar or learning more about the Bible and the Lord.

Survivors include his beloved wife, Beverly V. Simmons; children Marc Simmons (Kati) and Rebekah Simmons-Todd (Michael); grandchildren Christina, Hazley and Sebastian; sister, Lori Burbank (Tom). Gary was preceded in passing by his parents as well as his father's longtime partner, Kathe Krazeise.

A memorial service will be held at Gary's church home, Calvary Chapel, on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 4:00 pm. There will be a potluck style dinner following, so please bring your favorite dish. In lieu of flowers, Beverly is asking for people to donate blood in his honor. He will be privately interred at Tallahassee National Cemetery.

Breanna Green of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the family with their arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Tallahassee National Cemetery

5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 16. 4:00 PM (ET)

Calvary Chapel
8614 Mahan Drive
TALLAHASSEE, FL

Tribute Wall

EB

“ During the summer of 2001, at a time when I was feeling neither particularly too good nor confident about myself, Gary graciously accepted me under his tutelage for my Master’s Internship at MRDP. I learned a hell of a lot from him. He was a master at his craft, drawing insight from innumerable influences. He demonstrated impeccable compassion with every patient and staff with whom he worked. He was also a great conversationalist, intelligent, funny, and kind (I miss our conversations, Gary). He was the “shot in the arm” I needed to believe in myself again. I will forever be appreciative of our time together.

Gary was also a true friend to my mom; God rest her soul. They were kindred spirits who would occasionally play music together at FSH. Mama thought the world of him.

If I could sum up Gary Simmons in one sentence, I would say that he was a beautiful human being, full of God’s love and grace. We will miss you, Gary!

Love,

Elliott Brown

Elliott Brown - April 01, 2024 at 02:33 PM

JA

“ I worked for the Public Defender for many years as a Investigator, I had many many dealings with Dr. Simmons, and we would sometime talk for yours. I am truly saddened to see his passing. His positive and cordial attitude with wit will be missed. Most definitely one of the finest people you could meet , and he left a lasting impression on my life indeed.....See later Gary....

Jeffrey Atteberry - March 16, 2024 at 11:23 AM

DC

“ David and Monica Clay planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Gary Marc James Simmons.

David and Monica Clay - March 08, 2024 at 07:26 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Gary Marc James Simmons.



March 08, 2024 at 07:26 PM

AL

“ I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Simmons at the state hospital for a few years and he was as genuine as they come. He had the best disposition and treated everyone with kindness and respect. My heart goes out to his family during this difficult time. Thoughts and prayers are with you all. April Landrum

April Landrum - March 08, 2024 at 11:58 AM

PE

“ My condolences to all the families. I worked with Gary Simmons at Florida State Hospital. As the obituary said Gary made you feel as if you had been a friend all your life. With sadness. Pete Whiddon

Pete - March 06, 2024 at 09:48 AM