



## LTC Billy Gene Sims

March 22, 1929 - March 4, 2017

LTC Billy Gene Sims, (age 87)

Billy Gene Sims, husband, patriarch, homesteader, soldier, businessman, passed on March 4, 2017.

Dreamer, pioneer, he met and fell in love with Edith Hammond at a USO dance in California. Bill and Edie embarked on 65 years of adventurous life. They raised a large, loud and loving family.

Drafted into the U.S. Army he fought in the Korean War. He was a field artillery officer and master aviator who flew two Vietnam tours. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star for Valor and Purple Heart.

Bill and Edie homesteaded in Kasilof, Alaska. For 40 years they owned Antiques 'n Old Stuff at multiple locations in Washington, D.C. ,

Chambersburg, PA and Brunswick, MD. He was an auctioneer and his motto for business and life was "Specializing in Making Folks Happy."

As a founding member of Holy Family Catholic Community in Middletown, MD. he was a lector, greeter and founder of the annual church auction. He embraced those down-on-their-luck, hiring and counseling those in need -- including homeless, hitchhikers and people who wandered in off the street.

Born in Brownsboro, TX on March 22, 1929, he was six when his mother died from gangrene. At 15, he left home, hitchhiking across the country, hopping trains, and courageously forging a life. He earned a GED, then a BA from U of

MD.

Survivors include Edith, of Alexandria, VA, six children: Billy M. (Gail) Sims, Hagerstown, MD; Marcus T. (Lourdes) Sims of Clarksville, MD; Vanessa Armstrong of Fort Defiance, VA; Monica Sims Crimmins (John Hannon), Diana Sims (Keith) Snider and John D. (Theresa) Sims, all of Alexandria, VA; grandchildren Benjamin Narduzzi; Gabriel (Anna) Narduzzi; Emily (Nick) Macedonia; Bess (Chad) Sussman; Nathaniel (Katelyn) Snider; Alexander Snider; William Snider; Samuel Snider; Annalisa Sims, Marcella Sims; Johnna Sims; Billy Gene Sims; and Nourah Barden; brother William Kenneth (Nefa) Sims, numerous "adopted" family members and lifelong friends.

Visitation is 11 a.m. Saturday, March 11, 2017 at Holy Family Catholic Community, 7321 Burkittsville Road, Middletown, MD. Funeral Mass follows at 1p.m. Burial at Arlington National Cemetery to be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his honor to The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at <https://www.svdpusa.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *LTC Billy Gene Sims*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

**Jefferson Funeral Chapel** - January 28, 2019 at 09:46 AM



“ *Proud to have served as a helicopter pilot under LTC Sims.  
68th Assault Helicopter Company, 1968.  
The only company commander I can remember who played the  
guitar and sang to his men.  
RIP, Sir.  
- Gerald Barnes*

March 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thinking of all of you, with fond memories of your dad and husband  
- especially his big, generous smile  
. Jeanette Kaufmann & Rich Noonan*

March 12, 2017 at 12:00 AM



*“ We went to Bill's for furniture  
And left with the treasure of his generous heart  
which will be a part of our home  
Forever  
Keep smilin' Bill .....  
.... adventure on, George and Kim*

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March 12, 2017 at 12:00 AM



*“ We are so grateful to be part of the Sims family all these years. Bill always made each person he encountered feel special and important. His sense of humor always was contagious and he made a silver lining for each situation. His love of God family work and life is the example on how to have a happy and prosperous life. Bill and Edie have a wonderful family and their families that represent all the love and hard work they did over the years. It will continue for generations to come. Mary Colleen James Fettig*

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March 11, 2017 at 12:00 AM



*“ My family is so very sad to hear this news. We fondly remember Mr. Sims at the antique store in Brunswick and the church auctions in Jefferson.  
One particular year, there was this wonderful old Plymouth Valiant (1963?) that we won for \$210. We LOVED that car.  
Several years later, we donated the car BACK to the church auction and, if I'm not mistaken, Mr. Sims bid on and won the car for one of his grandsons for the same price of \$210.  
Such a wonderful man who was NEVER without a smile.  
Our thoughts are with your family.  
God Bless!  
The Testerman Family*

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March 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I had the privilege of getting to know Bill and Edie as a college student working at Antiques 'n Ole Stuff in Washington DC. Bill was All-American in every sense of the word - a kind you rarely see any more. I learned so much from him -- he embodied values of hard work, patriotism, & faith -- and am so very sad to hear of his passing. I still thought of him even as I got married, began a career, and raised a family. Bill just was that way. Anyone who got to know him could never forget him. My prayers to Edie and the family. I will never forget Bill and the impact he had on my life.

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March 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Edie, I would have preferred to send a card, but do not know where you presently reside. I was told you had moved from up on the hill on Valley View Road a short time ago, but don't know where you moved to. I only knew you and Bill for a short time from the Young at Heart exercise group, but found him to be "quite a fella". What adventures your marriage brought to you both. The memories are what keeps our loved ones close to us.

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March 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ This man and his wife have a special place in my heart and home. I collected many, many beautiful pieces and collectibles from them and was a tenant in their building for many years. What an amazing story of life.....God bless and many prayers to the family.

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March 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *I shall always remember this wonderfully happy man. His happiness and love of life was infectious and inspiring. My thoughts and prayers to his family.* ”

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March 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM