



Richard Simmons

May 18, 1941 - December 18, 2014

Rich Simmons of Quartz Valley died peacefully on December 18th, 2014 with his family by his side. Rich was born in Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1941 to Wray and Orpha Simmons. When Rich was a child, they moved to California. Growing up, Rich spent a lot of time at the family cabin on Cobb Mountain with his favorite person, his Uncle Marshall.

After graduating from Sir Francis Drake High School, Rich married the one and only love of his life, Linda (Linny,) in June 1960. He built them a custom home in Wood Acre, California where Rich worked in the area for Holtzinger Bros as an Operating Engineer. After retiring from there, Rich and his family moved to Santa Rosa California where Rich ran Pioneer Concrete. After 10 years, Rich retired from the Teamsters Union and moved his family to Quartz Valley in 1976 where, as a family, they built their unique, one-of-a-kind home.

Some of Rich's passions were restoration of his Stearman airplanes, his custom 57 Pan Head Harley, antique car restoration, camping, hiking, four wheeling, mining, dirt bike riding, history and architecture. Rich loved family gatherings and everything the outdoors had to offer. Those who knew him well considered him "Stronger Than Steel- the forever kind of man that nothing happens to."

Rich was a very proud, kind and devoted man who always put his family first.

He worked hard and played even harder. He leaves behind his wife of 54 years, Linda Simmons; his son, Shane Simmons and his wife, Ann Marie of Georgetown, California; his daughter, Shelly Chiles and her husband, Steve of Key West, Florida, and two grandchildren, Stevie Chiles and Shastina Chiles, also of Key West, Florida. Rich also leaves behind his two brothers, Dan and Ron Simmons, and a special family friend, Jim Gydesen. He will be dearly missed.

No services are scheduled.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ DEAR LINDA AND FAMILY,

YOU HAD A WONDERFUL HUSBAND AND FATHER.

I HAD SEEN FIRST HAND HOW RICH AND LINDA BUILT THAT BEAUTIFUL HOME THEY HAVE LIVED IN FOR YEARS. RICH COULD TAKE SOMETHING APART AND USE ALL THE PARTS IN SOMETHING ELSE. LINDA HAD A CAT THAT WOULD NOT LEAVE THE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS ALONE SO RICH HUNG THE TREE UPSIDE DOWN FROM THE CEILING AND THAT KEPT THE CAT FROM THE TREE AND IT MADE FOR ANOTHER GREAT STORY ALSO.

I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS LINDA. I'VE SAID A PRAYER FOR YOU AND I HOPE YOU CAN GET THROUGH YOUR SORROW QUICKLY AND AS PAINLESS AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOU NEED SOMETHING PLEASE CALL ME LINDA AND I WILL BE GLAD TO HELP YOU IF I CAN.

SINCERELY,

jim and georgie Blanchard

GOD LOVES YOU

james blanchard - December 24, 2014 at 01:47 AM

RE

“ To The Rich Simmons Family; I am sorry to hear of Rich's passing. He was a good man, Rich was very helpful in getting my business started. Rich was one of the most talented, versatile men I have ever met. Again, I'm sorry for your loss. Rick Evans

Rick Evans - December 23, 2014 at 12:43 PM

SS

“ Dad you will always be our hero. Thank you. Ride hard and Ride free

shane simmons - December 19, 2014 at 06:53 PM