



## Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons

August 27, 1935 - September 23, 2019

SIMMONS, Dr. Robert Randolph - Age 84, passed away Monday, September 23, 2019 at his residence. Family hour 10:00 AM Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church, 1035 E. Carpenter Rd., with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM Pastor Patrick W. Sanders, Sr. officiating. Interment Sunset Hills Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the Church 10:00 AM Tuesday. Deacon Simmons will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and, may be viewed from 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM Monday, with the family present from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM to receive friends.

Robert Randolph Simmons, son of the late Aaron Joseph Simmons Jr. and Lou Ethel (Randolph) Higgs was born on August 27, 1935 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Robert grew up in White Plains, NY. He attended White Plains Public Schools and received a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Michigan State University. Robert later earned a Master of Arts and a Specialist in Arts from Eastern Michigan University followed by a Doctor of Education from the University of Michigan.

Robert was employed by the Flint Board of Education. He was a member of New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church where he was a member of various choirs and a member of the Deacon Board. Robert was a avid golfer. Robert Randolph Simmons departed this life on September 23, 2019 at his

residence. Robert is survived by: wife, Patricia; 2 children, Tricia and Robby, all of Flint, Michigan; 2 step-children, William (Cheryl) Payton of Mt. Morris, MI and Cynthia Payton-Hines of Grand Blanc, MI; step-daughter-in-law, Melva Payton of Byron Center, MI; 4 grandchildren, Aaron, Andrew, Robbie and Leah Simmons, all of Flint; 4 step-grandchildren, Michele Hines of Bloomfield Hills, MI, Philip Payton of Mt. Morris, MI, Cydni and Spencer Payton of Byron Center, MI; brother, Stephen (Michelle) Higgs of Suitland, MD; 4 sisters-in-law, including, Marjorie Higgs of White Plains, NY; a host of nieces nephews, other relatives and friends.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Aaron Joseph Simmons Jr. and Lou Ethel (Randolph) Higgs; brother, Thomas Higgs; 3 sisters, Jean (Hilbert) Townsend, Geraldine Higgs and Betty (Harold) Bennett; 2 aunts, mother and father-in-law; step-son; 2 brothers-in-law; and 3 sisters-in-law.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Hills Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.  
Flint, MI 48504

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

SEP 30. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, Inc., Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-6666  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<https://lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Family Present

SEP 30. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, Inc., Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-6666  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<https://lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## **Family hour**

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OCT 1. 10:00 AM (ET)

New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church  
1035 E. Carpenter Rd.  
Flint, MI 48505

## **Service**

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OCT 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church  
1035 E. Carpenter Rd.  
Flint, MI 48505

# Tribute Wall



LW

“ Me and my family extend condolences to Bobby's family. His dad Aaron married my grandmother Margie. My mom Annie was Margie's daughter. As a kid I idealized Bobby as a big brother not as an uncle. Haven't seen or heard from him in many years may he rest peacefully. I was acquainted with Thomas Higgs but had no idea they were brothers until after Tommy passed. email id leroydwi@yahoo.com. This photo is just as I thought he would look..

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**Leroy Williams** - February 16 at 02:12 PM



LJ

“ Condolences to family and friends of Mr Robert Simmons. I only remembered him as Principal of Dort Elementary School in the 70s. I forgot his name after left Dort Elementary and began Junior High School and High School.

One day after church Mr Simmons said to me " You don't remember me. It's been many years since you'd seen me". I couldn't remember who he was. I remember his face but I couldn't remember his name. But now I know. He was once the Principal of Dort Elementary School when I was in the fourth, fifth and sixth grade in the years of 1971 to 1974. The kids always said he name at school. "Mr Simmons".

May Mr Robert Simmons rest in the Lord God in Jesus Christ name. John 17:3 Holy Bible.

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**Linda Jennings** - January 16 at 12:33 AM



“ Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons

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October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM

CA

“ I just learned of Dr. Simmons passing today. I offer the family my sincere condolences for their loss. Dr. Simmons was a very fair principal when it came to my niece; considering all the behavioral challenges that came with her academic experience at Stewart Elementary School. He was a good person who took pride in all the students' success. May he RIP.

Carlyn Adams-Afriyie - October 07, 2019 at 09:34 AM

BG

“ Brenda J. Duckett Greer lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Brenda J. Duckett Greer - October 02, 2019 at 03:21 PM

CW

“ Craig Woodward lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Craig Woodward - October 01, 2019 at 10:28 AM

VM

“ Veronica Mastin lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Veronica Mastin - October 01, 2019 at 06:51 AM

NN

“ *Natasha Nesbitt lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Natasha Nesbitt** - September 30, 2019 at 04:36 PM

SE

“ *Sandra Epps sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Sandra Epps** - September 30, 2019 at 03:33 PM

VL

“ *Vincent Lipford lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Vincent lipford** - September 29, 2019 at 11:05 PM

FC

“ *From :Tricia Simmon's Edge Team Colleagues purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons.*



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**From :Tricia Simmon's Edge Team Colleagues** - September 29, 2019 at 09:56 PM

LK

“ Gary and I are so sorry for your loss.

Linda and Gary Kuiper - September 29, 2019 at 05:42 PM

DM

“ Deborah Milling lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Deborah Milling - September 29, 2019 at 04:15 PM

VL

“ Our prayers are with the family of our dear brother in the Deacon ministry. Dr. Simmons was truly a man of God that had great leadership and organizational skills. We will miss his physical presence here on earth with us, but we know according to the scriptures, we will see him again. The NJFGBC Deacon Board.

Vincent lipford - September 29, 2019 at 02:53 PM

VL

“ May the LORD show Himself Mighty and Strong especially at this time to the family of Dr. Simmons. "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand"



Vincent lipford - September 29, 2019 at 02:45 PM

JM

“ John McCoy lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



John McCoy - September 29, 2019 at 11:56 AM

KC

“ Kim Creel-Jones lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Kim Creel-Jones - September 28, 2019 at 06:13 PM

CS

“ Charles, Donnetta, Dashundra, Sheree lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Charles, Donnetta, Dashundra, Sheree - September 28, 2019 at 10:41 AM

MB

“ Melody Bondon-McGee lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Melody Bondon-McGee - September 27, 2019 at 06:08 PM

MM

“ *Maxine Murray lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Maxine Murray** - September 27, 2019 at 05:57 PM

TM

“ *Theresa McQuiddy lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Theresa McQuiddy** - September 27, 2019 at 04:22 PM

LB

“ *I'm sending my deepest sympathy to Mrs Pat Simmons and the children and grandchildren of Dr. Robert Simmons words cant say what his passing has me feeling right now Dr Simmons was the most compassionate and encouraging boss I've ever had, I worked for him in the Flint Schools for many years and after moving to Georgia he stayed in touch giving me biblical scriptures and advice to keep following my dreams Melinda Anderson and myself will always be forever grateful for the things he has done pushing us and encouraging us to continue helping others with our God given gifts, rest on my friend, and brother in Christ, your labor down here was not in vain. Dr Simmons well done, well done.*



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**Laurice Bryant** - September 27, 2019 at 04:20 PM

LB

“ Laurice Bryant lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Laurice Bryant - September 27, 2019 at 04:02 PM

AS

“ Annette Sanders lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Annette Sanders - September 27, 2019 at 03:45 PM

DH

“ Deborah Harris lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Deborah Harris - September 27, 2019 at 10:30 AM

DM

“ Duwanda Moman lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Duwanda Moman - September 27, 2019 at 12:17 AM

GM

“ *GLORIA MOSES-COLEN lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**GLORIA MOSES-COLEN** - September 26, 2019 at 11:52 PM

SL

“ *Shirley Lynn lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Shirley Lynn** - September 26, 2019 at 11:11 PM



“ *Kimberly Hall-Miller sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Kimberly Hall-Miller** - September 26, 2019 at 05:59 PM

CH

“ *Cecelia Hussey lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Cecelia Hussey** - September 26, 2019 at 05:25 PM

CR

“ Cynthia Reeves lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



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Cynthia Reeves - September 26, 2019 at 04:30 PM

CG

“ Carol Gardner sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



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Carol Gardner - September 26, 2019 at 02:29 PM

RM

“ Rev Phyllis McCree lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



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Rev Phyllis McCree - September 26, 2019 at 12:17 PM

KA

“ Dr. Bob's presence will be missed in the choir stand and in the halls of the New Jerusalem. He always had a warm hello and a smile for me and the boys. He was a dedicated Deacon, choir member and man of God. The heavenly choir just got another member. He's singing in the face of the Saviour now. Our prayers to you family. May the God of all peace guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Love The Allen Family

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Ketesa Allen - September 26, 2019 at 11:11 AM



“ *Bridget Thomas lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Bridget Thomas** - September 26, 2019 at 07:39 AM

DA

“ *Doris Allen lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Doris Allen** - September 26, 2019 at 06:20 AM

TP

“ *Tonya Price lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Tonya Price** - September 26, 2019 at 12:02 AM

GM

“ *Geraldine Mays-Moore lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Geraldine Mays-Moore** - September 25, 2019 at 10:17 PM

KD

“ *Keella Dukes lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Keella Dukes** - September 25, 2019 at 09:59 PM



“ *I was sorry to hear about the passing of Dr. Simmons. I knew him from Flint Community Schools. Dr. Simmons was a principal of principals. If you were a Flint principal during the 1980s and 90s, you called upon this man when you had a problem. He was my mentor when I was a principal at Martin Elementary School. Whenever I called on Dr. Simmons, he was able to advise me on how to best deal with the situation at hand. Dr. Simmons was one of a kind. Though he is no longer of this earth, he has left an indelible mark on his students, staff, and community. RIH Dr. Simmons!*

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**Wanda Bady** - September 25, 2019 at 09:30 PM

MW

*Yes he was a Great Principal even back in the 60's. Great respect was given to Mr. Simmons, and all the teachers. You hit the nail on the head.*

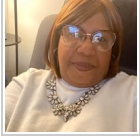
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**Mr. G. Wilson** - September 27, 2019 at 11:56 AM

JG

“ *Julia Gamble sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Julia Gamble** - September 25, 2019 at 08:22 PM



“ *ReGina Adams lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**ReGina Adams** - September 25, 2019 at 07:30 PM



“ *I never forget your leadership at Stewart School. Robbie you and your family have my condolences.*



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**T. Cavette** - September 25, 2019 at 06:30 PM



“ *Rahsheem Covington lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Rahsheem Covington** - September 25, 2019 at 05:58 PM

DS

“ My prayers are with the family of Dr. Robert Simmons during this difficult time. He touched the lives of many adults and children, including my late husband and my sons, during his years as principal at Stewart Elementary. He was also one of the best instructors I had when I was taking graduate classes. May he rest in peace.  
Dr. Dana Smith Simmons



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**Dana Simmons** - September 25, 2019 at 05:45 PM


JM

“ Lit a candle in memory of Deacon Robert Randolph Simmons.



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**Joan McKinnie-Sanders** - September 25, 2019 at 04:21 PM

 Sarah Houston

“ He was HANDS DOWN the BEST principal EVER!!! He was my elementary school principal Stewart School.... I remember the 1st of the only 2 times I got sent to the office (fighting the same boy both times) first question....well...did u win???? Me: Yeah..... Him: Well what u fight him for u knew u was gonna win.. . Lol.... wow you were really great Mr. Simmons!!! Thank u so much for your years of dedication and service and love for our Flint kids!!! We lost a gem....much love.Rest Forever in His arms

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**Sarah Houston** - September 25, 2019 at 04:05 PM

CD

“ *Cawanna Dukes lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



**Cawanna Dukes** - September 25, 2019 at 03:16 PM



“ *Tonia Walker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



**Tonia Walker** - September 25, 2019 at 03:07 PM

SP

“ *Sandra Payne lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



**Sandra Payne** - September 25, 2019 at 02:23 PM

CE

“ *Carletta Evans lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



**Carletta Evans** - September 25, 2019 at 01:51 PM

JA

“ *Josalyn Austin lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Josalyn Austin** - September 25, 2019 at 01:31 PM

MD

“ *Michele Davis sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Michele Davis** - September 25, 2019 at 01:09 PM

BS

“ *Barbara Sykes lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Barbara Sykes** - September 25, 2019 at 11:56 AM

MP

“ *MINISTER PAM sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**MINISTER PAM** - September 25, 2019 at 10:40 AM

JM

“ Jeannie Mayberry sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Jeannie Mayberry - September 25, 2019 at 10:38 AM

RR

“ Rodney Richardson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Rodney Richardson - September 25, 2019 at 10:03 AM

MP

“ MINISTER PAM sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



MINISTER PAM - September 25, 2019 at 07:50 AM

DM

“ Douglas And Mayrene McGruder lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons



Douglas and Mayrene McGruder - September 24, 2019 at 08:21 PM

MA

“ *Melinda Anderson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



Melinda Anderson - September 24, 2019 at 05:22 PM

CH

“ *Calvin & Pamela Hightower lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*

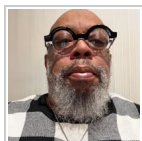


Calvin & Pamela Hightower - September 24, 2019 at 03:49 PM

DH

“ *Your dedication, leadership & service shall remain forever in our memories. We are praying for your family the peace of life beyond today! We will love you forever*  
*Deacon Daniel & Sister Rene Hall*

Deacon Daniel Hall - September 24, 2019 at 03:04 PM



“ *"Dr. Bob" was president of my church choir for many years. He was sincere, dedicated, and an awesome example of leadership. I can count the rehearsals he missed easily---- none. Always present; always ready to sing, always ready to do whatever he could to enhance the Kingdom of God. Rest, Dr. Robert M. Simmons.*



A Jeffrey LaValley - September 24, 2019 at 12:20 PM

DW

“ *Diane Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Dr. Robert Randolph Simmons*



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**Diane Williams** - September 24, 2019 at 10:13 AM