



## MAJ (Ret) LeOren Simpson

June 14, 1935 - March 18, 2019

Major (Ret.) LeOren Simpson, 83, passed away Monday, March 18, 2019, at the Kansas City Hospice House with family by his side. He was born in Springfield, Missouri on June 14, 1935, to the late Oren R. and Martha Simpson. He graduated from Richland High School in Richland, Missouri in 1953, followed by three years of service in the Army National Guard. He then attended Southwest Missouri State College in Springfield, Missouri, where he was a cadet in the ROTC program and a member of Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity. He also played college basketball and was an avid and lifelong fan of college basketball and football. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1959 and entered the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant. He served three tours in Vietnam during his 23-year career in the Army and earned several awards and commendations; some of which include: National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, along with several other awards.

After retiring in 1980, LeOren moved to Lubbock, Texas, where he lived for 33 years. During that time, he taught high school ROTC for several years. He later worked for the State of Texas as a prison guard, retiring after ten years.

LeOren enjoyed country western dancing and college football and basketball. He had a love of history, especially presidential history, and was a member of

Phi Alpha Theta history honor society. He belonged to the Grand Lodge A.F. and A.M. of Missouri and to the 16th Infantry Regiment Association. He is survived by his daughter, Tina Simpson-Collins (Ronan) of Kansas City, Missouri, his three grandchildren Ariane, Ciara and Liam, son Erik Simpson of Miami, Florida, sister Ann Simpson Edwards of Columbia, Missouri, nephews Karl and Daniel Stout, and Joseph Edwards. He was preceded in death by his niece, Dr. Karen Stout.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Veteran's Community Project, Veteran Barbers for Veterans, or any veteran's organization of choice. Many thanks to Kansas City Hospice House and to the caring staff at Brookdale Overland Park who provided comfort and friendship over the last year.

# Cemetery Details

## Oaklawn Cemetery

Richland, MO 65556

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 24.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapel of Richland  
715 E. Jefferson Avenue  
Richland, MO 65556  
(573) 765-5300  
[richlandmc@memorialchapelsandcrematory.com](mailto:richlandmc@memorialchapelsandcrematory.com)

## Service

**MAR 24.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapel of Richland  
715 E. Jefferson Avenue  
Richland, MO 65556  
(573) 765-5300  
[richlandmc@memorialchapelsandcrematory.com](mailto:richlandmc@memorialchapelsandcrematory.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of MAJ (Ret) LeOren Simpson*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - March 23, 2019 at 01:15 PM



“ *MAJ (Ret) LeOren Simpson*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Lee was a good neighbor for many years. May he Rest In Peace.*

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**Linda Crownover** - March 23, 2019 at 03:18 PM

TS

*Thank you for all your years of friendship! It always comforted him to know you were looking after things.*

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**Tina Simpson-Collins** - March 26, 2019 at 10:48 AM

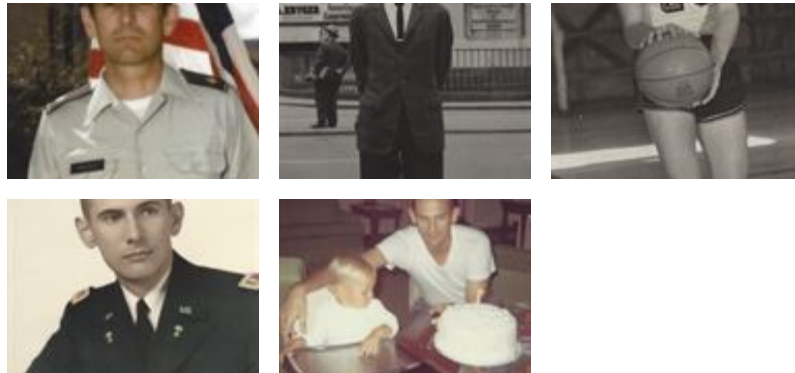
AE

“ As a young Army Lieutenant LeOren had 36 months in Vietnam as an Advisor to Vietnam units in the Mekong Delta. He worked with Vietnamize, South Korean, and U.S. officers and soldiers. His assignment and mission there was to keep the rice crops safe for the South Vietnamize and away from the Viet Cong who desperately wanted the rice. This involved constant vigilance and there were several battles. He was awarded a Purple Heart as well as other commendations. He told me that if a water buffalo was anywhere near it seemed to single him out and come after him (to the amazement of his Vietnamese officers who had to shoot the water buffalo). After retirement and moving to Lubbock, Texas he learned line dancing, Texas two-step, and other Texas type dancing and enjoyed that social activity a lot. LeOren is my brother. He is greatly missed. Ann Simpson

Ann Simpson Edwards - March 23, 2019 at 12:24 PM



“ 53 files added to the album Life Tributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - March 23, 2019 at 12:09 PM

CH

“ *LeOren was my first cousin. We had some fun times throughout the years and I treasure those memories. I am proud of LeOren and his service to our country. He served admirably at a time when our country was not very kind to returning veterans and they were not treated well when they returned. The photo posted was a nice one. My sympathy to all.*

**Cecile Hoffman** - March 22, 2019 at 04:52 PM

TS

*Thank you so much! I'd love to hear some of the stories some day.*

**Tina Simpson-Collins** - March 26, 2019 at 10:51 AM



“ *I wish the best for you family. I am so sorry for your lost. Your cousin Denese Elliott Besemer,*

**De Besemer** - March 22, 2019 at 03:22 PM

TS

*Thank you and your family for taking the time to come to his service. It means a lot to me and my family.*

**Tina Simpson-Collins** - March 26, 2019 at 10:52 AM

PG

“ *Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of MAJ (Ret) LeOren Simpson*



**Pulaski County Camp Gideons** - March 20, 2019 at 11:59 AM

MM

“ Ann, I'm so sorry you lost your sibling. I thought I had your address but couldn't find it. May God bless you & all the family. Mary Brewer Morgan

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**Mary Morgan** - March 20, 2019 at 08:27 AM

AE

*Thank you so much, Mary. In my mind you are still that darling little red head who went right to the top of the class in every subject. I would love to see you again. Ann*

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**Ann Edwards** - March 22, 2019 at 02:48 PM