



## John Simpkins

June 23, 1952 - January 10, 2025

John Simpkins, 72, of Forest Hills, Kentucky departed from this life on Friday, January 10, 2025 while at the Greg and Noreen Hospice Care Center in Hazard, Kentucky. He was born on June 23, 1952 in Matewan, West Virginia to the late Abe Lincoln and Sally June Simpkins.

John worked for the Appalachian Regional Hospital in South Williamson, Kentucky for 40 years. He was President, Vice President, and Shop Stewart of the Union for 32 years. He helped negotiate 15 contracts for ARH and the steel workers Union while there. He will be lovingly remembered as the Santa at the Appalachian Regional Hospital, as well as the VA, Shriners, and the Kiwanis Club, where he diligently provided service for over 30 years. For over 20 years, he was a member of the East Williamson Baptist Church, where he was a Sunday School Teacher. John was a large part of the community and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Those left behind to cherish his memory include his loving wife of 42 ½ years, Judy Simpkins, his son, Randy Kemp Mullins, his brothers, Davie (Bonnie) Simpkins and Travis (Pam) Simpkins, his sister, Diane Simpkins, and his grandchildren, Hayden and Keria. He also leaves behind special friends, Mark and Tonya Jackson, Randy and Rachel Thacker, Freddie and Carolyn Newsome, Paul and Emma Renn, Susan and Rod Stewart, Ted Gilman, Marty Stepp, Okey Hatfield, Sandra Goble, Steve Mickey, James Honaker, Randy

Rhodes, and a host of others.

Memorial services for John will take place at the East Williamson Baptist Church in Williamson, West Virginia with visitation on Friday, January 17, 2025 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM and a memorial service being held on Saturday, January 18, 2025 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM with his brother, Travis Simpkins officiating. Burial will be to follow at the Simpkins Family Cemetery in Beech Creek, West Virginia. Chafin Funeral Home is proudly handling arrangements for the Simpkins family.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Greg and Noreen Hospice Care Center, located in Hazard, Kentucky, in honor of John. For a gift of \$100, a 4x8 brick can be purchased in John's memory.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 17. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

East Williamson Baptist Church  
Peter Street  
Williamson, WV

## Memorial

JAN 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

East Williamson Baptist Church  
Peter Street  
Williamson, WV

# Tribute Wall

PS

“ John was such a good man and I worked with him at ARH for over forty years and he will be truly missed in the community and hospital. Judy you have my deepest sympathy and condolences. Pray that God gives you strength, peace and comfort during this difficult time in your life 🙏🙏🙏



Panzy Smothers - January 16, 2025 at 05:12 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Simpkins.



January 16, 2025 at 03:01 PM

SB

“ Worked with John for many years. He was a strong union believer, always honest respectful in daily contacts. He will be missed by fellow employees and friends.



sherry barker - January 16, 2025 at 01:13 PM

MW

“ love working with john great man prayers for judy and his family

marie washington - January 15, 2025 at 04:37 PM



“ *Emma G Runyon lit a candle in memory of John Simpkins*



---

**Emma G Runyon** - January 15, 2025 at 07:43 AM



“ *Rest In Heaven Uncle Johnny* 🕊️



---

**Dee Dee** - January 14, 2025 at 10:14 PM



“ *Lesia & I extend our prayers and condolences to Judy and family. John and I worked many years together and always ready and willing to lend a hand. We will keep all of you in our prayers and thoughts thru this difficult time*  
*Mike Smith*



---

**Michael D Smith** - January 14, 2025 at 07:32 PM



“ *John was such a nice and respectful person. Working with him was a great experience. He was honest. He was kind. He treated everyone with respect. He also cared about everyone. He will be missed.*

---

**Louis Roe** - January 14, 2025 at 07:16 PM

BS

“ *Bonnie Simpkins lit a candle in memory of John Simpkins*



**Bonnie Simpkins** - January 14, 2025 at 07:06 PM

BS

*We will miss you Dear Johnny! Brother Dave & Bonnie*

**Bonnie Simpkins** - January 14, 2025 at 07:55 PM

TH

“ *John was always professional and courtesy in his approach to handling labor issues. He was always honest and transparent in his communication with you. I had the privilege to work with John for many years. I always considered him as a friend. He will always be the best Santa Claus ever.*

*Rest in piece John!*

**Tim Hatfield** - January 14, 2025 at 04:46 PM

SC

*Roger and I send our condolences to his wife Judy and his family. Grew up with Johnny and his family on Beech Creek. We will miss him!*

**sandra ( Kennedy) Clemons** - January 15, 2025 at 10:58 AM