



## Mamie Leora Sims

September 6, 1918 - July 4, 2017

Mamie Meroney Sims died peacefully at her home on Tuesday, July 4, 2017. She was born September 6, 1918, in Verbena, Alabama, the youngest child of Quinton and Anastatia (Jenkins) Meroney. She grew up in Verbena, attended Alabama College for Women, then taught school in rural Alabama for several years. In 1941, she married James M. Sims, Sr. They moved to Mobile and throughout World War II she worked as a researcher for the US Air Force at Brookley Field. After the war, she left the workforce to care for her children and to pursue a wide range of interests at home and in the community. In 1962, the family moved to San Antonio where she continued to lead a busy life. She worked at Sears and volunteered for a number of organizations including Woodlawn United Methodist Church, University United Methodist Church, and the San Antonio Literacy Council. In the early 1970s she returned to college and received her B.A. from Our Lady of the Lake University in 1974. She is survived by James, her loving and devoted husband of 76 years; son James, Jr; daughter-in-law Lynne; son John; daughter Anastatia; grandchildren Cory, Revel, DeShana, and Will; several great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; and numerous friends. The family thanks Tina Loy, Alamo Hospice, and the Boerne Visiting Angels for their devoted care. A graveside service will be held Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at Mission Burial Park North. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at University United Methodist Church.



# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUL 11. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels and Cemetery Dominion  
20900 IH 10 W  
San Antonio, TX 78257  
(210) 698-5252  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

## Memorial Service

JUL 12. 3:00 PM (CT)

University United Methodist Church  
5084 DeZavala Rd.  
San Antonio, TX 78249

# Tribute Wall



Don  
Lamm

“ Mamie was a wonderful person who could always fill the room with happiness and laughter, I still have great memories of bamberger ranch and our lasagna nights. It was always so much fun to hear her stories and the laughter that would follow, and if we played our cards right we might just get a cookie or two .

*I Always seemed to leave that house happier than when when I came in and that was because of how they would make everyone feel important and loved. My Parents were always having so much fun when they were with them, and I was too. Mamie lived a great life, and i'm just glad that i was able to know her.*

Love,

*Ben Lamm*

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**Don Lamm** - July 13, 2017 at 09:13 AM



“ Mamie

*Thirty years ago, Jim and Mamie welcomed me into the Lamm/Sims Family Alliance. Over the years we spent countless Thanksgiving dinners together, many Easters and always got together whenever family was in town. My all-time favorite memories of Mamie, hands down, are of our monthly wine lasagna nights. No matter what kind of day, or week we had, a night at their table was like a tonic that made everything better. At many dinner tables, any talk of politics or religion is deeply discouraged. At their table, we talked a lot about politics and religion. We talked about other stuff too of course. We could talk about anything. That's what made it so great. So special. It was a safe zone built on love, trust and a deep appreciation for wine.*

*Mamie had the best smile and the most wonderful wit. I remember one night in particular--Jim was talking about having written a letter to the newspaper. He was fairly upset about how something had been handled and wanted to make it known to the parties responsible. When he was done, Mamie put her hands together on top of the table and said, " I sure wish I knew everything."*

*Mamie always brought out the best in everyone. And that's exactly how I'm going to remember her. On the one hand, she had that warm smile, wicked wit, and the kind of heart they write legends about. The other hand, of course, held her afternoon Sherry.*

*Love,*

*Stella*

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**Don Lamm** - July 12, 2017 at 09:52 PM

“ They say you can't choose your family, but you can choose your friends.

*Nowadays, with families scattered across the country, we make family where we find it. Or where it finds us.*

*I have had the privilege of knowing Mamie and Jim Sims since I was 9 years old, when my family moved here from California. We left behind an extended family and moved to Leon Springs. Back then, it was the country. It wasn't long before we met our neighbors up the hill, Mamie and Jim. It's unclear whether we adopted them or they adopted us, but before the summer ended, we felt like we were at home. As my mother says, they rescued us from the Texas wilderness.*

*As a boy, my friends and I would ride horses up to Mamie's house for a visit. There we'd have a coke and cookies. Mamie knew we weren't allowed these at home, so it was our little not-so secret.*

*There was a well-worn trail up the hill between our houses. Even the horses used it – for some reason, every time they got out, they'd also go to Mamie's house. I think the grass just tasted better there.*

*We had many a meal, Christmas dinners, Thanksgivings, with the Sims. Mamie was a fine cook. Fresh baked bread her signature sherry onions. Turkey gumbo that I had to fight my sister Lori over. I can remember my sister, Kelly, standing on a stepstool next to Mamie's stove, helping her stir a pot, or tasting the sauce to make sure it was just right.*

*Mamie always made you feel special. When we talked – and boy could she talk -- her bright, blue eyes would twinkle and her smile would draw you in and it was like you were the only person in the world. Like what you said was important and profound, even if you were only 9, or 16 or 50.*

*Mamie and Jim were there for all the milestones. High school and college graduations. Weddings. The birth of my children and nieces and nephews.*

*When Mamie had her aneurysm 20 or so years ago, I remember rushing down from Austin to the hospital. She was in a coma and the doctor said she wasn't likely to recover. We joined hands and prayed for a miracle. And we got one. She came back.*

*Over the next few months and the ensuing 20 years, we witnessed the most amazing act of love and devotion as Jim cared for her. I still remember him rubbing her feet with lotion to keep her stimulated. He learned the hospital routine and kept the nurses and doctors on their toes. And over time, Mamie learned to walk, and talk again, and she and Jim knit a new life together.*

*Right after her stroke, Stella and I moved to San Antonio and purchased my old family home, right down the hill from Jim and Mamie. Another generation of Lamms needed rescuing from the wilderness. Mamie didn't cook anymore, so onions and gumbo were replaced with lasagna and wine nights. Mostly wine. And a little sherry, of course.*

*Jim and I used to have a little routine to get her from the car to the house. He'd pull up to the ramp, then we'd carefully stand her up, me in front, Jim in back, and we'd walk her slowly to her special chair. She'd always say the same thing: "It's not often I get escorted by two such fine, strong men."*

*My sister, Teri, said it best, "Mamie Sims has been a source of love and comfort for 3 generations of Lamms." The Lamm family is so grateful to have been a part of the miracle that was your life. We love you Mamie.*

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**Don Lamm** - July 12, 2017 at 09:37 PM



*Beautifully said, Donnie.*

**Shirley Davis** - August 02, 2017 at 04:32 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mamie Leora Sims.*



July 10, 2017 at 12:47 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mamie Leora Sims.*



July 10, 2017 at 09:56 AM



“ *Mamie, We wish you God's speed on your journey to meet Our Lord. What a Glorious homecoming it will be.*

*You will always be in my heart and memory. Your wisdom, humor and love demonstrated to others and the many lives your touched are a part of your legacy you left behind. You will be missed greatly.*

**Kristy Walker** - July 09, 2017 at 09:00 PM

CJ

“ Charles & Pat Jurek purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Mamie Leora Sims.



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Charles & Pat Jurek - July 09, 2017 at 01:09 PM

CJ

“ Mamie was such a beautiful person. Pat and I went to lunch with them on a fairly regular basis. We truly enjoyed their company. The bible says "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." We feel sorrow but we should put it aside because Mamie was a Christian and is in a better place. God bless Jim and the Sims' family.

Charles & Pat Jurek

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Charles & Pat Jurek - July 09, 2017 at 12:20 PM

RT

“ I only met Mamie once, but I remember smiles, laughter, and graciousness. Despite the brief visit, I feel I know Mamie through her daughter. As most will know, Anastatia is a historian, and in the 23 years I've known her she has told numerous loving, sometimes humorous, always interesting, stories about her parents. I am sure that Mamie was proud of her two sons, but I can't help but be grateful that she was the mother of a daughter who was raised to be strong, smart, and good. I'd like to extend the blessing of peace to the entire family. Ruth Thompson

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Ruth Thompson - July 06, 2017 at 05:32 PM

SD

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Shirley Mazotas Davis** - July 05, 2017 at 09:08 PM

SD

*70th Wedding Anniversary - April 11, 2011*

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**Shirley Mazotas Davis** - July 05, 2017 at 09:14 PM

SD

“ I have 40 years of memories of Mamie; it is hard to pick out just one.

As newlyweds, after meeting the Sims, we built our home on the lot next door to theirs. It didn't take long before a well-worn path developed in the woods between our houses as our friendship developed..

I will remember Mamie for her warmth, spirituality, intellect, giving nature, common sense, as well as her baking skills. Mamie and I shared a taste for sherry, and often enjoyed a glass in the late afternoon while solving the problems of the day. Afternoon sherry was Mamie's trademark.

Mamie was a woman ahead of her time. She was very independent and self-sufficient, and she could be feisty, but always lovable with Southern Hospitality one of her many qualities.

One favorite memory was when Jim suggested that they didn't need two cars, Mamie replied: "You can sell yours if you want to."

Jim's devotion to her when she took ill was incredible.

Jim and Mamie Sims were the original Love Story.

You will be missed, Mamie.

With much Love and Gratitude for your friendship,  
Shirley Mazotas Davis

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**Shirley Mazotas Davis** - July 05, 2017 at 05:06 PM