



## Gary Douglas Simon

August 26, 1945 - September 29, 2023

Gary Douglas Simon, of Warren, Michigan, passed away on September 29, 2023 at the age of 78. Gary is the loving husband of his cherished bride, Jeanne, for 53 years; the adored father of Pennie (DeWitt) Tracy and Rodney (Lesley) Simon; the loving grandfather of Megan, Kaitlyn, and Madalyn; and the beloved brother of Art and the late Ron Simon.

Gary proudly served his country during the Vietnam War as a Sergeant of the United States Army 2/1 Cav. After he returned from the Army, Gary worked as an industrial journeyman of Sheet Metal Local 292 for over 30 years. After his retirement, he stayed active in the Local 292, serving as the president of the retiree group, never missing a luncheon. After retirement, Gary also enjoyed getting together with his group of friends for luncheons; a group that has stayed close since childhood, from growing up in the neighborhood together to serving in Vietnam together. Gary always had a good, quick joke for any situation. Gary enjoyed golfing and vacationing at their property in Lexington, Michigan. He had a deeply rooted Christian faith. Gary was a proud member of the Metro Church of Christ, Sterling Heights. He often volunteered his time at the church and at the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 154, for various activities, including the food pantry at both locations. Above all, Gary deeply loved and cared for his family, especially his grandchildren.

Gary's family will receive friends for visitation on Wednesday, October 4, 2023

from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., with a Vietnam Veteran's Pass and Review Service at 6:00 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road (3 blocks East of Van Dyke), Utica. Gary's funeral service will be held on Thursday, October 5, at the Metro Church of Christ, 40100 Dodge Park Road, Sterling Heights, visitation from 10:00 a.m. until the time of his service at 11:00 a.m. Interment at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, Michigan. In lieu of flowers, memorials are appreciated to Heart to Heart to Heart Hospice Foundation, Detroit IPC, 5990 N Adams Road, Troy, Michigan 48098 Please share a memory at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road  
Holly Township, MI 48442

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 4. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home  
8459 Hall Road  
Utica, MI 48317  
(586) 731-2411  
utica@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Visitation

OCT 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Metro Church of Christ  
40100 Dodge Park Rd.  
Sterling Heights, MI 48313

## Funeral Service

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OCT 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Metro Church of Christ  
40100 Dodge Park Rd.  
Sterling Heights, MI 48313

# Tribute Wall

MP

“ *In today's vernacular Uncle Gary would probably be known as a master of the Dad joke. He and I shared the experience of being active duty in the US Military during times of active combat. Gary during Vietnam and myself during Desert Shield/Storm. His War was never fought to win, the American public grew tired of this one quickly and even looked down upon the returning military personnel, who were drafted into service. As a Desert Storm Vet, I didn't experience this same unfavorable response. In fact, the government and the powers that be with the checkbook threw the returning military personnel a party with a parade! Uncle Gary and I never had the opportunity to sit down and tell lies (oops) tell stories to each other about our time with Uncle Sam. I have however met some of the nicest and helpful Vietnam Vets, and they could care less about yesterday and are more concerned that today's Vet gets their fair share.*

*If you happen to see any of Gary and Jeanne's wedding pictures, I'm the cute one without the cheeks who looks like a young Greg Peltan. I also shared the same birth month as Gary. Close to 50 years ago, Gary and Jeanne took me to Farrel's Ice Cream Parlor, and Gary made a pig of himself at Farrel's!!*

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**Michael Peltan** - October 05, 2023 at 05:53 AM

MP

“ I will always remember, with a huge smile on my face, his joke that he would seemingly tell me every time I saw him.  
"Did I tell you about my dog with a hair-lip?"  
"Instead of going bark bark it goes mark mark."  
I didn't appreciate as much as a young kid but by the time I was a teen I looked forward to it. I came to realize that it was his way of making me always feel loved, seen and included.

*Mark Peltan*

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**Mark Peltan** - October 04, 2023 at 04:53 PM

SG

“ Sabrina Groshek planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Douglas Simon.

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**Sabrina Groshek** - October 04, 2023 at 03:45 PM

SG

“ Sabrina Groshek purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gary Douglas Simon.



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**Sabrina Groshek** - October 04, 2023 at 03:45 PM

DF

“ David & Paulette & family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gary Douglas Simon.



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**David & Paulette & family** - October 04, 2023 at 10:32 AM

PP

“ By virtue of Gary being married to Jeanne, and me being married to her brother David, Gary and I were “outlaws” together for over fifty-three years.

He always had a witty comeback. For instance:

Me: What time is it?

Gary: Ten to.

Me: Ten to what?

Gary: Ten to your own business.

Me: (Eye roll and chuckle)

No matter how serious I had been, he always managed to put a smile on my face.

I miss him but am secure in the knowledge that we'll meet again in heaven.

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Paulette Peltan - October 04, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gary Douglas Simon.

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October 04, 2023 at 09:35 AM

JH

“ 1 file added to the album Gary Simon



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John Hages - October 03, 2023 at 10:53 PM

AT

“ ADAS System Safety Team purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Gary Douglas Simon.



ADAS System Safety Team - October 03, 2023 at 04:25 PM



“ First thing that comes to mind when I think of Uncle Gary is how he made all of us cousins smile. Friendly natured and good humored, telling jokes and making wisecracks, and wrestling with two or three of us at a time in the living room on Connor. He was just such a good guy. Glad that I had the chance to have him in my life.

Dave Peltan - October 03, 2023 at 11:54 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Gary Douglas Simon.



October 03, 2023 at 10:52 AM

PC

“ Jeannie and family. We are deeply saddened to hear the news about Gary. He will be sorely missed at the chapter. Personally Gil and I will miss him. He always would say hi kid what's new. His smile lit up the room. We will cherish his memory forever. Love, Gil and Phyllis

Phyllis Claunch - September 30, 2023 at 09:24 AM

KP

*Dearest Jeannie,  
We are so heart broken for you and your family. Gary was always such a joy to be around and the fun memories we had together will always be treasured.*

*Gary was always welcoming with his warm smile and his quiet, soft spoken demeanor, that made you feel relaxed and cared for. I personally will miss hearing his laugh.*

*Paul and I, both, will remember his love for our country, his pride of serving in the Navy, and the honor he felt to have served our nation. ❤️*



*May he now rest peacefully in God's care, and may your heart feel blessed with the memory of your 53 years together.  
Much love to you all, Gary's blessings. K & P*

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**Kathy and Paul St. Peter** - October 01, 2023 at 01:10 AM

KP

*Service in the Army! Gary so sorry, 🙄...I know better, it's late! There is no editing or deleting on here!*

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**Kathy and Paul St. Peter** - October 01, 2023 at 01:21 AM

PO

*Gary was my brother, Buddy's, brother-in-arms in Vietnam. After Buddy was killed in action and while Gary and Jeanne were vacationing in New England they visited my Mom and Dad. Gary spent the afternoon talking about the friendship he and Buddy shared. I'm sure this was hard for him but there isn't a greater gift that could be shared with grieved parents. Gary was kind, sensitive and loving. He touched so many hearts. His memory will live on.*

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**Pat Owen** - October 01, 2023 at 08:32 AM

KN

*Wish I could be there with you. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and daily prayers. Love you.  
Kathy Norfleet*

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**Kathy Norfleet** - October 02, 2023 at 04:14 PM

RS

*We are so sorry to hear about Gary! I just read his obituary and he was such a good man!  
Prayers for the family. RIP Gary*

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**Rosanne & Rich Serra** - October 02, 2023 at 10:35 PM

SB

*Jeannie & Family so sorry to hear the sad news. May you find comfort. You'll never get over this but you will get through this...someday. ❤️  
Gary was such a kind man and always enjoyed being with you both.  
Sending love to you & the family. Sue Bendert*

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**Sue Bendert** - October 03, 2023 at 09:25 PM

DZ

*So sorry to hear this! My Condolence to the family!*

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**Donna Jones Zatek** - October 19, 2023 at 08:12 PM