

Redgie “Buck” Simmons, 60, of Mahnommen, MN, and a former longtime Crookston, MN resident, passed away peacefully Tuesday morning, September 27, 2017, at the V.A. Medical Center in Fargo, ND, surrounded by his loving family. Buck was born in Ely, MN on February 4, 1957, one of five children of parents, Gilma and Miland. As a youngster his family moved to Crookston, where he attended area schools. At the age of 18 Buck enlisted in the United States Army. He was stationed at Fort Polk, LA, where he earned his Expert Riflemen’s Badge. After completing advanced infantry training Buck received his orders for Fort Carson, CO. There he tried out for the Fort Carson Rifle Team and was accepted. Additionally he was a team member of the Fort Carson 50 Caliber Team, a squad leader and track commander, and part of the Battalion Demo Cadre Team. Buck received several letters of commendation and earned high merits for his many accomplishments while stationed at Fort Carson. He was extremely proud of the honorable discharges he received while patriotically serving his country with the United States Military.

Buck married the love of his life, Pamela Strande, on April 2, 1976. During their forty-one year marriage they together raised four children: Chassidy, Charridy, JR, and Crystal. Pam, and their children and grandchildren, meant the world to Buck. Very sadly, JR was killed in a work related accident on February 9, 1996. Buck always looked forward to visits from the girls, and especially his grandsons: Jason, Heath, Hayden and Oliver. He often said that his grandsons gave him the strength and will to live. To his last breath Buck was very proud of the family that he and his loving wife, Pam, created.

From an early age Buck enjoyed the adventures of traveling and camping, which he shared with his family until his health declined. These trips created many fond and lasting memories. His daughters continue to share that same enjoyment and passion for the outdoors, and are making new memories with their own families.

Buck had a passion for cooking. He attended the University of Minnesota-Crookston, and later the University of North Dakota, studying Culinary Arts. During his career as a chef he operated many of his own restaurants, and was also on a number of managerial teams of various other establishments. Buck took pride in the meals he prepared and was well known for his tasty food. He was proud of his daughter, Chassidy, for sharing his passion for cooking. At a young age she asked her father to teach her how to cook. From that point on they were inseparable in the kitchen. As Buck would say, unfortunately his other two daughters took after their mother when it came to cooking.

The Simmons family would like to extend their sincere gratitude to the wonderful caregivers at the Fargo VA Medical Center. The exceptional quality of care and compassion shown to Buck throughout the years, and especially these past several weeks, will never be forgotten.

Left to cherish Buck’s memory is his beloved wife, Pamela; their 3 daughters and families: Chassidy (Jim) Gilbertson and their sons, Jason and Oliver, of Crookston, Charridy Simmons (special friend, Rueban) and her son, Heath, of Crookston, and Crystal (Brent) Salverson and their son, Hayden, of Fergus Falls, MN; 3 siblings: Rich(Raenelle) Simmons, Mark (Bonnie) Simmons, and Rosalie Simmons; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Pat (Tom) Brenk, Peggy (D.J.) Johnson, Jewel Strande, and Vi (Walley) Abel; and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

In addition to his treasured son, JR, Buck was preceded in death by his parents, Miland “Bud” Simmons and Gilma Simmons Boucher; step-father, Jerome “Crow” Boucher; brother and sister-in-law, Ricky “Rino” and Audrey Simmons; parents-in-law, Gilbert and Delores Strande; step-brother, Peter Kuchan Sr.; brother-in-law, Al Strande; and nephews, Dusty Simmons and Keith Strande. May God richly bless the memory of Buck Simmons.



*Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.*

In Loving Memory

“Buck”

Redgie Simmons

February 4, 1957 ~ September 27, 2017

Prayer Service and Memory Sharing

Friday, October 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Stenshoel-Houske Funeral Home
Crookston, Minnesota
The Rev. Bill Reck, presiding

Special Recorded Music

“Seasons In the Sun” by Terry Jacks
“My Way” by Frank Sinatra
“Danny Boy” by Daniel O’Donnell

*The Funeral Service
and Celebration of Buck’s Life*

Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
Stenshoel-Houske Funeral Home
Crookston, Minnesota
The Rev. Bill Reck, officiating

Special Recorded Music

“Go Rest High On That Mountain” by Vince Gill
“Remember When” by Alan Jackson
“Daddy’s Hands” by Holly Dunn
“Mama’s Don’t Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowboys” by Waylon Jennings

Pallbearers

David Simmons Chad Simmons
Darren Simmons Nathan Simmons
Brandon Simmons Mike Simmons

Honorary Pallbearers

Jewel Strande Mick Hanson Cruz Moreno
Tom Brenk Jay Miller Morris Nelson
D.J. Johnson Keith Mills Ray Razmyslowski
Wally Abel Johnny Rocha

Graveside Service

Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
Elim Cemetery
Winger, Minnesota
Military Honors provided by the National Guard Honors Unit
“Amazing Grace” played by Dorathea Nelson, bagpiper

*The family would like to thank you for your very kind
expressions of sympathy, and for your presence, whether
in body or spirit, at this Celebration of Buck’s life.*