



Roger Sims
June 8, 1930 – January 23, 2022

Biography

Roger was born in Detroit, an only child and the only maternal grandchild. His family moved to Texas when he was a year old, leaving the Sims family for economic reasons during the Depression. They opened a woman's hat store. With no nearby family, Roger had adults for company. He learned to read and discovered science fiction writing, which greatly influenced his later life.

The hat store did well, and the family returned to Detroit and the extended Sims family when he was 12. He got to know his cousins, all 5 of them, at the Friday family night get-togethers. After high school, Roger joined the Navy, unsure what he wanted from college. In the Navy, he learned that he liked ships and traveling to different places as well as science fiction.

After his discharge in 1949, he entered Wayne State University. He also discovered Science Fiction Fandom after he called a phone number he found in the letter column of a science fiction magazine. Then he attended his first science fiction convention in Portland in 1950, which resulted in his life-long social activity. He even co-chaired the World Convention in Detroit in 1959.

After college, he taught school for several years until he discovered he couldn't teach and discipline at the same time. He also spent several years in New York, living with other science fiction fans and working at several jobs. Upon his return to Detroit, he discovered the Employment Service of the State of Michigan, for whom he worked in various administration activities until retirement in 1988.

In 1963 he met Pat at a SF convention in Cincinnati. They married a year later and she joined him in the SF community with attendance at conventions across the USA, Europe and Australia. He and Pat helped run the conventions. As a result, he received many honors.

They moved to Orlando in 2001, continuing their SF activities. They discovered cruising and decided they would stay in Florida. They found John Knox Village in 2005 and planned to move there in a few years. But in 2006, he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and to prepare for the future, they moved to JKV in October 2007.

Roger quickly embraced life at JKV, serving on the Residents' Council, volunteering for Channel 732 work, and co-leading a Bridge group. He also joined social activities like Poker and a monthly dining out group. He exercised in the Fitness Center 4 or 5 times a week.

Fortunately, his Parkinson's disease progressed slowly until 2 years ago. His response to P.D., which he told others, was "Think positive and keep moving." He continued this as long as he could. Residents called him "a fighter" which he was to the end.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Amazing Grace

1- Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

2-Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

3- Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

6- When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when we first begun.

Officiating: The Rev. Ray Bertrand
John Knox Village Chaplain
Pianist: Ellie Wells

**A Service Celebrating the Life of
Roger Sims
John Knox Village Barker Center
April 9, 2022, 2:00 P.M.**

Prelude	Ellie Wells
Greeting	Chaplain Ray Bertrand
Hymn	<i>Amazing Grace, v. 1, 2</i>
Prayer	
Words of Grace – Psalm 23	
Meditation	Chaplain Ray Bertrand
Time of Remembrance	
	All are invited to share short remembrances.
Hymn	<i>Amazing Grace, v. 3, 6</i>
Benediction	Chaplain Ray Bertrand

**The family invites you to join them for fellowship,
sharing and refreshments after the service.**