



Ray LeeRoy Sims

December 21, 1937 - December 29, 2008

Ray Leroy (Lee) Sims, 71, passed away at 11:46 a.m. Monday, Dec. 29, 2008, at his residence in Murphysboro.

Lee was born Dec. 21, 1937, near Oraville, IL to Cyrous Jefferson (Jeff) and Laura Josephine (King) Sims, both deceased.

Lee was a man of many talents. As a boy, he picked peaches with his father at McGuire Orchards south of Carbondale. Later, he became a farmer, growing crops and raising livestock on the former Ben Hagler Star Fruit Farm at the end of Potter Road near Makanda. He was also a Jackson County Deputy Sheriff and then a carpenter. He built many beautiful homes across Southern Illinois and Western Kentucky and improved or expanded dozens of others. Finally, he became a guard at Menard Correctional Center before retiring. Lee loved to tell jokes, talk about old times and play the guitar. He was fun-loving, laughed often and thoroughly enjoyed the company of friends and family.

Lee is survived by his wife, Ruth Sims, three children, Jennifer Sims and her fiancé, Devin Thompson, of Murphysboro, Matt Sims of Murphysboro, and John Sims and his wife, Robin, of Troy; two stepsons, Kevin Pierson of DeSoto and Clinton Pribble of Elkhaville; seven grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one sister, Thelma Downs of Marion. Lee was preceded in death by his brother, Harlan, and seven

sisters, Dorothy Falsteur, Dora Morber, Ada Nation, Helen Conner, Leah Pearl Rains, Anna Mary Sims and Maxine Alley.

Gravesite services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009, in Alto Pass Cemetery, with the Rev. Frank Voorhees officiating. Friends may call from noon to 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Pettett Funeral Home, Murphysboro, Illinois.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ray LeeRoy Sims*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM