

Guest Book for
Thomas Simone



Page 1 of 2

February 20, 2005

Charlie Spicka (Oceanside, CA)
Gunship11@AOL.Com



[Show picture](#)

February 17, 2005

I didn't know Tom, but will be praying for your family as you go through the grieving process. Your family's need has also been put out to our Prayer Partners List as the request of Vic (George Stellway). Please accept my sincere condolences for your loss, but remember to praise the Lord that your Tom is now rejoicing with Him. God bless you and comfort you ... until you see him again.

Joan Blevins (Ogden, UT)

February 16, 2005

On behalf of the Simone family, I want to thank you for all your kind words and rememberences. We share your sentiments about this great man who is so missed by so many. God bless you all.

Kris [Simone] Woods (Redlands, CA)
bkw@2by2.net

February 14, 2005

THOMAS SIMONE!! ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED PEOPLE I BELIEVE ON EARTH.... FROM THAT FIRST DAY I WAS ASSIGNED TO 16TH SOS AS HIS PERSONAL OFFICE CLERK, AND THROUGHOUT MY ENTIRE LIFE, I HAVE OFTEN THOUGHT AND REMEMBERED WHAT A WONDERFUL AND ENDEARING PERSON TOM REALLY WAS.... HE LIKED TO RUN EVERYWHERE AND ALWAYS THREW ME THE KEYS TO THE JEEP AND SAID KEEP IT FOR THE DAY.. HE DIDN'T NEED IT!! MY DUTIES ENTAILED RUNNING DOWN THE WOOD WALKWAY TO INTELLIGENCE AND RECEIVING THE ACCESSMENTS OF WHAT THE F4'S HAD TAKEN PICTURES OF FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE'S AC130'S ACTION....PLUS TYPING ALL THOSE MEDAL APPLICATIONS WHICH EVERYONE DESERVED... TOM WAS MORE THAN JUST A MAN TO ME, HE WAS LIKE A FATHER.. AT 19 YEARS OLD, I FELT THERE WAS NOTHING I COULDN'T TELL HIM OR CONFIDE IN HIM AND COULD ALWAYS RELY ON HIM TO HELP ME IN ANY WAY-SHAPE-OR FORM THAT HE COULD.. HE ALWAYS CAME THROUGH FOR ALL OF US.... EVERYDAY I WOULD ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING AND BEING WITH TOM.. HE WOULD ALWAYS HAVE TO TELL ME TO GO HOME.. FUNNY HOW THIS ONE MAN COULD HAVE SUCH A POSITIVE AFFECT ON SO MANY LIVES HE TOUCHED ON A DAILEY BASIS..... THE ONLY TIME I EVER HEARD TOM COME UNGLUED WAS WHEN A CAPTAIN REFUSED TO FLY A NIGHT MISSION (MOON) BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID.. EVEN THEN HE GAVE THE CAPTAIN EVERY CONCEIVABLE CONSIDERATION TO REFORM AND DO HIS DUTY... WHEN HE WOULD NOT, TOM MADE SURE THAT HIS REQUEST TO BE ELIMINATED FROM THE AIR FORCE WAS EXPEDITED.... WE WERE ALL AFRAID, I DON'T CARE WHO YOU WERE WE WERE AFRAID, BUT NOT TO THE POINT OF COWARDICE!!!.. TOM'S SENSE OF HUMOR WAS ALWAYS RIGHT ON TARGET ALSO.. I

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

azcentral.com

[Return to Obituary](#)
[Return to Guest Book](#)

SIGN THIS GUEST BOOK

This *Guest Book* is maintained online until March 15, 2006 by:
The Simone Family

VIEW THE PHOTO GALLERY

SUBMIT A FAVORITE PHOTO

INDEX OF VISITOR ENTRIES

SEND A SYMPATHY GIFT

- [Send to a Friend](#)
- [Receive E-mail Updat](#)
- [Printer-Friendly Form](#)

POWERED BY
Legacy.com

Questions about the Guest Book? [Contact us.](#)

[Guest Book information and guidelines](#)

CAN REMEMBER HIM ALMOST FALLING OFF HIS CHAIR WHEN A CERTAIN MAJOR AND HIM WOULD GET TOGETHER AND LAUGH ABOUT SO MUCH.

IT WAS GOOD TO SEE THE CAMARADERIE AND LOVE THAT TOM ALWAYS HAD FOR HIS FELLOW MAN.... HE ALWAYS HAD A GREAT UNDERSTANDING ON HOW TO LISTEN TO PEOPLE WHEN THEY TALKED.. HE NEVER INTERRUPTED, AND ALWAYS LISTENED ALL THE WAY TO THE END OF WHATEVER THEY WERE CONVEYING TO HIM.... THE GREATEST NEWS I EVER HEARD ABOUT TOM WAS THAT HE WAS A BORN AGAIN CHRISTIAN WHO HAD PROFESSED HIS FAITH TO BELIEVING IN JESUS CHRIST AND ASKING HIM TO FORGIVE HIS SINS...

SINCE HE'S A CHRISTIAN, I WILL REJOICE FOR HIS ARRIVAL IN HEAVEN...

AND I WILL DEFINATELY CRY WITH HIS FAMILY AND ON MY OWN FOR OUR LOSS HERE ON EARTH....

I KNOW NOW, THAT SOMEDAY I WILL SEE AND BE WITH TOM AGAIN BECAUSE OUR GOD IS A GOD OF PROMISE'S KEPT AND WHO ALWAYS KEEPS HIS WORD....

SINCE I HAVEN'T SEEN TOM IN YEARS AND YEARS, I'VE MISSED TOM SIMONE FOR TOO LONG ALREADY.....

TO HIS FAMILY A WORD: WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS HOW MUCH I CARE FOR YOUR LOSS, BUT PLEASE BE COMFORTED TO KNOW THIS ONE THING.....I WILL BE PRAYING DAILEY FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND---

"WE MAY BE WAIVING GOOD-BYE TO TOM HERE, BUT GOD IS ALSO WAIVING HELLO TO HIM THERE!"

GOD BLESS YOU ALL

GEORGE V. STELLWAY A1C

8TH TAC 16TH SOS

UBON RTAFB

THAILAND

MAY 68 THROUGH DEC 69 1 1/2 YEARS

YEP.. LOVED WORKING WITH THAT MAN SO MUCH I WAS GRANTED AN EXTENSION BY PERSONAL REQUEST..

itls@sbcglobal.net

GEORGE STELLWAY (FORT WORTH, TX)

itls@sbcglobal.net

February 14, 2005

☒ God bless, and rest peace.
Once a Spectre, always a Spectre.
16th SOS, Korat '74-75
Roulene K (LA)

February 14, 2005

☒ I served with Col.Tom in 68/69 at
LAFB/ Ubon RAFB 16th SOS.

As a man and MY Commandsr I will miss Him, May God Be With you.

Willie Carroll M/SGT RET.

IFE/ SFE 16th SOS

Willie Carroll (Eastpoint, FL)

willie82692@yahoo.com

February 13, 2005

☒ I served with Tom in the 61st TCS at Sewart AFB, TN and the 21st TCS at Naha AB, Okinawa in the late 50s and early 60s; an officer and a gentleman. Rest in peace Tom and thanks for your service to our great nation.

George Dockery (CENTENNIAL, CO)
george130@msn.com

February 13, 2005

- Our condolences to the family of Tom, especially his wife. You will be missed by many as you touched many lives. God bless you and your family.

Clyde & Jo Fruchey (Mesa, AZ)
jofruchey2000@yahoo.com

February 13, 2005

- A great leader and wonderful man. I will always cherish the memories of time I served with Col Simone.

Jim Spier (Troup, TX)
Spectre533@aol.com

February 13, 2005

- I brought some puppies to your home at Forbes AFB Kansas back in early 71. I first met Col Simone at Tachikawa AB Japan in 69 when he and his crew brought a gunship in for mod. His engineer was Bob Furbee, a long time friend of mine. Bob spoke glowingly of his boss and that in itself says a lot. RIP Col Tom.

Dan Friedlander (Reynoldsburg, OH)



Page: { 1 } · 2

Entries are free and are posted after being reviewed for appropriate content.

[Today's The Arizona Republic notices](#)

A basic obituary is run free of charge. A more detailed obituary may be published for a nominal cost. To place an obituary, please call classified advertising at (602) 444-8774 or send an e-mail to obits@pni.com. For more information on The Arizona Republic's obituary policy, [click here](#).

© Copyright 1999-2005 Legacy.com
All Rights Reserved

Guest Book for
Thomas Simone



Page 2 of 2

February 13, 2005

- Rest peacefully...SSgt Jim Rau, 16SOS, Crewchief 54-1629, Ubon RTAFB '68-'69

Jim Rau (Felton, DE)

jrau8@comcast.net

February 13, 2005

- As an F-4 Night Owl pilot at Ubon, RTAFB, '68-'69, I had the privilege of supporting Col. Simone's AC-130 over the Trail. He was a four-engine fighter pilot.

Mark Berent (Scottsdale, AZ)

mberent@aol.com

February 13, 2005

- As with time we must face these moments. Somehow it seems a little easier when you remember the man. He was and always will be in my memories. A finer man and person I have never met.

JOHN CURRIN (Moreno Valley, CA)

spctr53@aol.com

February 13, 2005

- Tom was one of the heroes of the 16th Squadron's first year of operations. He was also a friend.

Bill Schwehm (Lakewood, WA)

February 13, 2005

- A good Pilot and a good Friend, Spectre is on station

Maurice Galey (Fayetteville, NC)

February 13, 2005

- Condolences.....I served with the 16th two years later, but was familiar with prior members as it was a small community in the gunship world at that time.

Sincerely,

Neil "Sky King" Koenig

Neil Koenig (Westminster, CA)

neilko@iname.com

February 13, 2005

- I was the NCOIC of the Aerial Motion Picture Photographers in 69 and 70 at Ubon. Colonel Simone was a leader that led by example. It was a pleasure to fly with him and to just know him. We had a photo made of all the flying photographers and we asked him to be in it because of our respect for him. He will certainly be missed and remembered by all the photographers that had the pleasure of flying and knowing him.

Adrian Hawkshead (Monroe, LA)

ahawkshead@jam.rr.com

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

azcentral.com

< Return to Obituary

SIGN THIS GUEST BOOK

This *Guest Book* is maintained online until March 15, 2006 by:
The Simone Family

VIEW THE PHOTO GALLERY

SUBMIT A FAVORITE PHOTO

INDEX OF VISITOR ENTRIES

SEND A SYMPATHY GIFT

- [Send to a Friend](#)
- [Receive E-mail Updates](#)
- [Printer-Friendly Form](#)

POWERED BY
Legacy.com

Questions about the Guest Book?
[Contact us.](#)

[Guest Book information and guidelines](#)

February 13, 2005

☒ Ode to the Hercules Aviator by Bob Woods

Do not stand at my tomb and weep for me
I am not there for I do not sleep you see
I am the thousands of Hercs that fly
I am the roar of the wind on high
I am the rush of a Herc in powered flight
I am the beacons that shine in the night
I am the odor of jet fuel and the starter whine
I am the tire squeal on a landing, that was mine
I am the stars that shine at night.
I am the sun you see at first light
I am the jeweled glints on rime covered wings
Think of me kindly for I am all these things
At my graveside you should not have creed
For so long as Hercs fly I have not died
Bob Woods (Lake Dallas, TX)
rwoods9230@yahoo.com

February 13, 2005

☒ My Dear Friend, Tom Simone:

You really get to know a person when you serve side-by-side with them in combat. I was honored to serve with Tom in the USAF AC-130 Spectre Gunships in SEAsia, 1968-'69.

Tom was our Squadron Operations Officer and later our Squadron Commander. Tom had the loyalty of his troops because he was a role model for everyone. His integrity was beyond question.

Tom led by example. I will always place Tom at the top of men I knew in my 30 year U.S. Air Force career.

Tom's Wife, Children and all of his Grandchildren should be very proud.

May Tom's Soul Rest in Peace.

Sincerely,

Charlie

Charles F. Spicka
Col., USAF (ret.)
Oceanside, Calif.
Charlie Spicka (Oceanside, CA)

February 13, 2005

☒ **jeff yarbrough (phx, AZ)**
jyarbro57@msn.com

Page: 1 · {2}

Entries are free and are posted after being reviewed for appropriate content.

A basic obituary is run free of charge. A more detailed obituary may be published for a nominal cost. To place an obituary, please call classified advertising at (602) 444-8774 or send an e-mail to obits@pni.com. For more information on The Arizona Republic's obituary policy, [click here](#).

© Copyright 1999-2005 Legacy.com
All Rights Reserved