

## Airman MIA from Vietnam War is Identified

On March 29, 1972 my brother Robert E Simmons was on an AC130A Spectre and his plane was shot down over Laos. He has been MIA since that date.

In 1986 our family was contacted that an excavation of the crash site was done and one tooth was brought back believed to belong to my brother. We did not consider this proof enough and had our own tests done that were not conclusive to belong to him. We refused the tooth. In March of 2008 we were once again contacted of a new excavation of the crash site in 05/06 and now they have 4 teeth believed belonging to my brother( and a ring that they had in 86 but never shown to the families) The ring belongs to my brother.

We had the teeth brought back to a NY dentist to be checked and matched by him and also MTDNA from myself and matched to the teeth that DNA was available from.

My mother Rita Simmons has decided to accept them and do a full Military Burial in August. It IS NOT a funeral or a closure for her but her only chance IF they are his teeth to bring them home where they belong. Too many questions and doubts remain for our family to have a full closure as we would like.

There are many of you who have stood by my mother thru the years and helped her any way you could. To all of you we thank you.

We would like to invite you to a Memorial for my brother on August 23 at the AmVets in Heuvelton, NY from 1-5 pm. The remains will come in a full casket with Military Honors. At this service in memory to my brother my mother will be presented at approx 2 pm the medals due to my brother that she has never received .After 36 years of waiting she will finally receive what was due to him.

At 11 am on Sunday August 24 the remains will be buried in in family plot at Purmont Cemetary in DePeyster NY with Military Honors with a fly over by the USAF.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. We ask that NO contact be made to my mother at this time. We hope you can make it to the services where you can talk with her in person.

In Lue of flowers we are asking that donations be sent to Robert E Simmons Scholarship Fund, C/O Cherie Stevens PO Box 146 Hamiton NY 13346 so that a Scholarship fund can be set up at the High School He attended to be given to Future Military Recruits. Feel free to contact me in regards to this as well.

36 years is a long time to wait but in our hearts no day goes by without the thought of him.

Let's bring him home together.

**ALL GAVE SOME - SOME GAVE ALL**



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MSgt. Robert E Simmons MIA 3/29/72