



## Mrs. Rita Carolann Simpson

March 10, 1957 - November 28, 2023

Rita Carolann Burcham Simpson age 66, of Ringgold, Georgia passed away on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at her residence. She was born in Corinth, Mississippi to the late Billy and Shirley Jones Burcham. Her love for gardening came early in life from being an All-Star in 4-H and carried over in her adulthood where she enjoyed flower and vegetable gardening. Rita also enjoyed home schooling her children. She was of the Baptist faith and had attended Parkway Baptist Church before her battle with cancer. Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister-in-law: Pat Morris. Rita is survived by her husband of forty years: Retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Paul Waymon Simpson of Ringgold, GA, their children: Brett (April) Simpson of Birmingham, AL, Brook (Rudy) Rivera of Timnath, CO, Matthew (Lindsey) Simpson of Huntingdon, TN, U.S. Army Captain Iian Simpson of Macon, GA, sisters: Patsy (Jimmy) Hearne of Salisbury, MD, Dianne Daniel, Joyce (Greg) Smith all of Corinth, MS, grandchildren: Naaman, Kyra and Kelsie Rivera, Lauren, Colin, Elijah and Hannah Simpson, several nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends on Thursday from 9:30 am to 10:00 am at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am - Thursday, November 30, 2023 graveside at Chattanooga Veterans National Cemetery with Pastor Larry Shelton officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at 501 St. Jude Place – Memphis, TN 38105 or [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org). Online guest book at [www.wilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com). Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Homes – Wallis-Stewart

Chapel, Ringgold, Georgia

# Cemetery Details

## Chattanooga National Cemetery

Holtzclaw Ave.  
Chattanooga, TN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 30. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Wilson Funeral Homes - Ringgold Chapel  
443 Boynton Drive  
Ringgold, GA 30736  
(706) 935-2331  
spencer@wilsonfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com/>

## Graveside Service

NOV 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

Chattanooga National Cemetery  
Holtzclaw Ave.  
Chattanooga, TN

# Tribute Wall

BW

“ *Very sorry to hear of Rita’s passing. Went all through HS & graduated with her in 1975.  
My condolences to her husband & her children.*

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**Bryan Wallin** - December 20, 2023 at 03:11 AM



“ *I was in 4-H with Rita and we made several 4-H trips together - even flying to Michigan State University for one. She was so much fun and a great role model for others - and what a wonderful smile! Prayers and strength for her family.*

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**Lisha Hopper** - November 29, 2023 at 06:31 AM

SJ

“ *The ACHS Class of 1975 is so sad to hear of the passing of our classmate! Rita was always a friend to everyone. Keeping your family in our prayers!*



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**Sherry Bullard Jobe** - November 28, 2023 at 11:54 PM

JM

“ *I am so sorry. You were special. Prayers for you all.*

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**joe miller** - November 28, 2023 at 11:21 PM

JB

“ I have so many memories of Aunt Rita, but I will share a few of my favorites. One of my favorites was when she took us camping on the family farm. She built a fire and set up a huge tent (or as a kid I thought it was huge). We roasted hot dogs and made s'mores, and we all laughed and told stories and giggled so much that I do not think she got much sleep that night. She made it so much fun, and I will never forget camping on the farm with her.

Another precious memory is when she made all of these Christmas Carol books for a Christmas hay ride on the farm. She had printed all of the carols and then made booklets for everyone. I kept that booklet for years until it fell apart with age. It was the best hay ride I ever went on because our grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins were singing Christmas carols, laughing and having a great time together. I loved family Christmas on the farm.

Aunt Rita knew how to throw a party whether it was July 4th, a birthday, Christmas or any occasion. She thought of all of the details, and always had everything looking so beautiful and festive. I often think our cousin Shauna got that gift from her, because she also thinks of every detail when throwing a shindig!

Rest in peace, Aunt Rita. I love you!

~ Jen

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Jennifer Bentley - November 28, 2023 at 09:43 PM