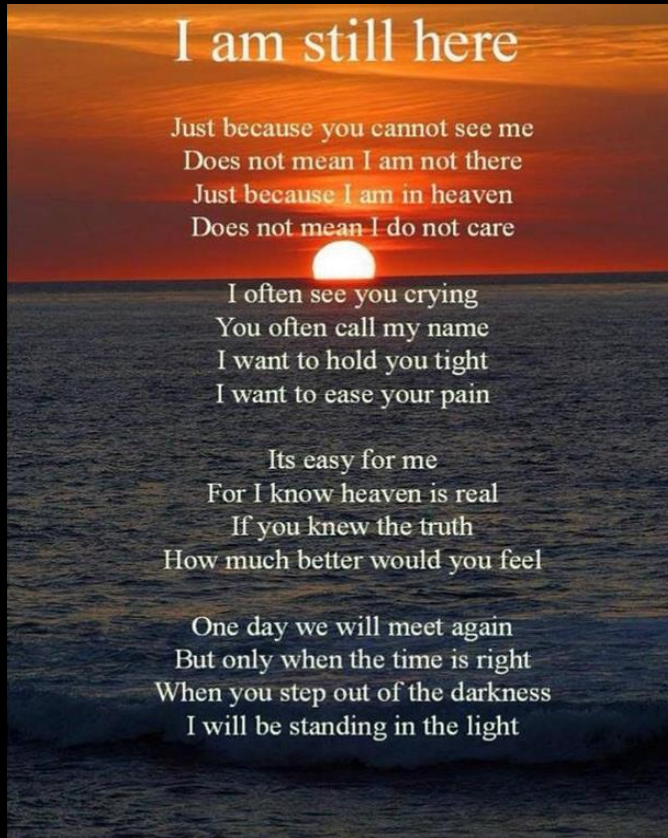




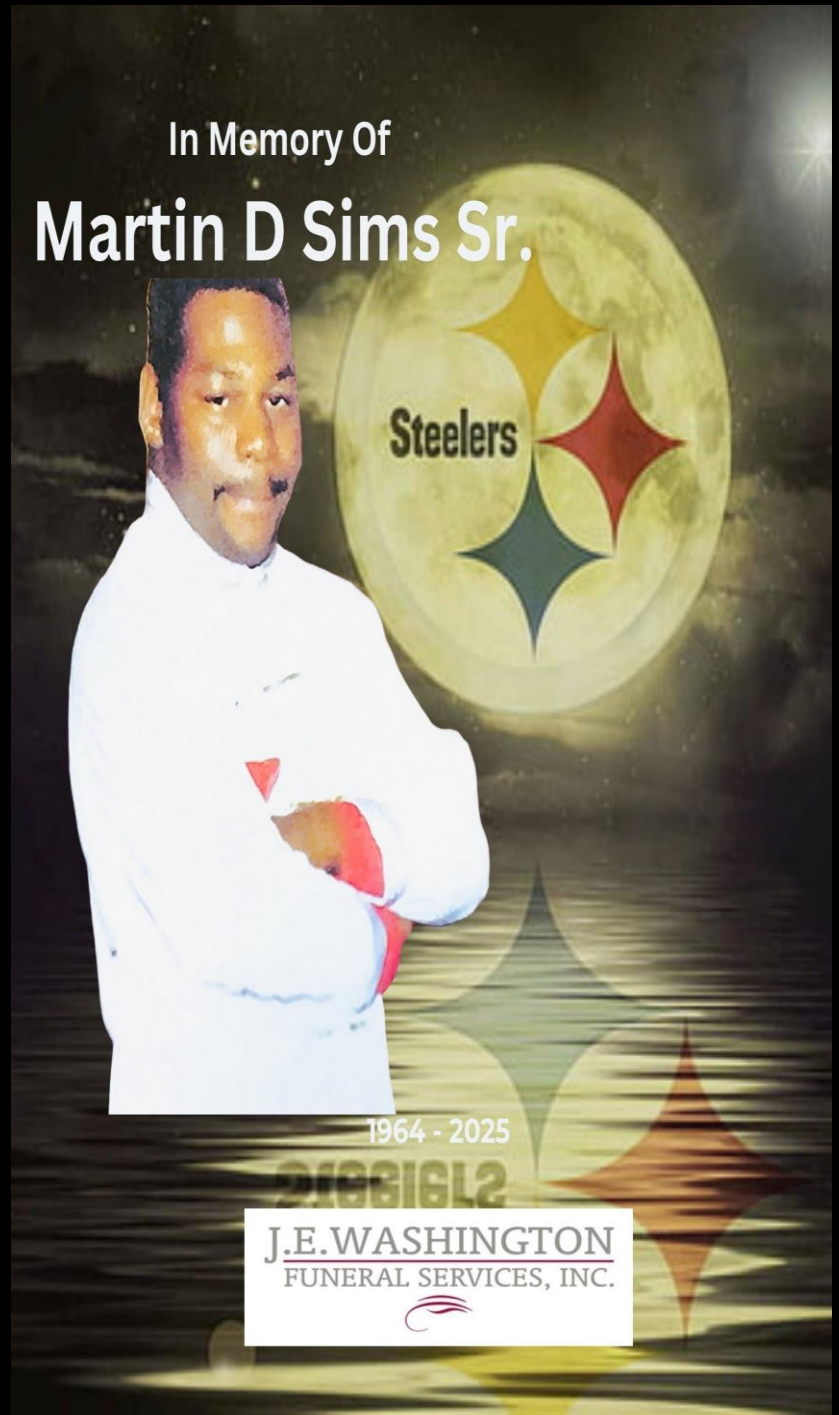
A Special Message From Martin:

"I would like to be remembered for my loving & caring spirit that enveloped everyone with smiles and laughter."



**Comfort Ministry and
After-Life Care Arrangements Entrusted To**

J.E. Washington Funeral Services
2234 Glenwood Ave. 🏡 Youngstown, OH 44511
330.782.8500



The Life & Legacy of Martin D. Sims, Sr.

With heavy hearts but joyful memories, it is to be announced the passing of Martin Dale Sims, Sr., a beloved soul who graced this world from July 30, 1964, until he entered eternity on February 20, 2025. Born in Dade City, Florida, to the union of Samuel B. and Isabella Sims. Martin was known affectionately to many as “Marty,” and would become a beacon of strength and determination, lighting up every room he entered with his infectious spirit. As an accomplished boxer, he exemplified determination and resilience.

Martin attended East High school, although his journey through life might not have followed the traditional path of formal education, he was a true champion inside and outside the ring. Martin, known for his infectious laughter and charismatic personality, was a man of vast talents, especially culinary. He embraced the spirit of hospitality and comradery, often preparing large meals and inviting neighbors to enjoy great cuisine and excellent company.

Martin had a deep appreciation for soulful music, spirited card games, and no hold bar sense of humor which further reflected his vivacious spirit. Martin’s unwavering support for the Pittsburgh Steelers made him an endearing presence for fellow Terrible Towel fans.

He began his boxing career during his formative years at the Brandon A.C. Boxing Club. As a professional boxer, Martin fought not only with his fists but with an untamed passion that inspired those around him. Martin never forgot the roots that shaped him. While Martin was a fighter by profession, a lover of all was his nature.

Martin once held the title as the Youngstown Golden Glove Champion and runner up for Cleveland. He embodied resilience and grit, wearing his victories and defeats like badges of honor, all while teaching us invaluable lessons about perseverance and heart.

Martin leaves behind his wife, Annette Sims, with whom he married February 14, 1998. His legacy will be upheld by his sons, Martin Sims Jr of Warren, Montrell Sims of Youngstown, Maurice Latham of Texas, and DeJuan Sims of Youngstown.

Fondest memories will be cherished by his siblings, Kathryn (Daniel) Mitchell, Ethel (Michael) Orange, Ronald (Stephanie) Smith, Samuel Sims Jr., Gerald Sims, Willie Sims, Benny (Sai) Sims and Nathan Sims. Martin also leaves twelve grandchildren, a score nieces, nephews, friends, and peers which are a reminder of the close-knit bonds that he cherished throughout his life.

As Martin crossed the celestial sands of time into eternity, he was reunited with his parents, children Marquell McClain and Martiniesha Sims; brother Floyd Sims and nephew Raymond Jones, all who preceded him in death.

The best way to honor Marty is not just to mourn his passing but to celebrate the vibrant life he led. As we reflect on the time we shared, let us remember the laughter and the unwavering support he provided. Martin was more than a boxer; he was a friend, a brother, a husband, and a guiding light representing an enduring hope.

With every punch he threw, and every round he fought, Martin taught us the beauty of being brave. Let us carry forward his legacy of strength and love, holding him always close to our hearts.

-Lovingly shared by the family

"The Fighter's Heart"

Maya Angelou

I am a fighter, strong and true
My heart beats with each punch I throw
Victory and defeat, I've known them both
But I will never give up, that's one thing I know