



## Richard (Ricky) Simeon Franks II

February 8, 1949 - February 21, 2015

Mr. Richard "Simeon" (Rickie) Franks II

Mr. Richard "Simeon" (Rickie) Franks II, 66, of Bartlesville, died on Sunday morning, February 15, 2015 at his home.

Memorial services for Franks will be held at 2 P.M. on Saturday, February 21, 2015 in the Stumpff Funeral Home Chapel. Memorial services and cremation are under the direction of the Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory.

Simeon was born February 8, 1949 in San Diego, California to Richard Simeon and Waunda Belle (Tate) Franks. He grew up in League City, Texas where he graduated from Clear Creek High School. He then entered the United States Navy and served in the late 1960's until receiving his Honorable Discharge. He was employed with NASA in Houston, Texas during the Apollo program before leaving to travel throughout the western United States for several years. He came to Dewey, Oklahoma in 1981 for a brief period until moving to Puerto Rico where worked as a musician. Upon returning to Dewey in 1984, he was employed by the city. He and his son moved to Oregon in late 1986 until returning to Oklahoma in 1991 to attend Northeastern State University where he earned a Bachelor's degree in education. He went on to teach on the Navaho Indian Reservation at Church Rock, New Mexico. He moved to Ashland, Oregon in 1996 and was married to Kristie Lyn Story on

January 23, 1997 at Cypress, California. They made their home in Ashland, Oregon until moving to Canyon Lake, Texas in 2005 where he pursued his lifelong dream of recording his music. In September of 2014 they moved to Bartlesville, Oklahoma to be near his family.

Rickie is survived by his wife, Kristie Lyn Franks of Bartlesville, one son, Chance B. Franks and his wife Meghan of Bartlesville, two sisters, Daryllanne Franks of Red Feather Lakes, Colorado and Debbie Franks of Bartlesville, three grandchildren, Bayleigh Jo Franks and Mekayla Dawn Franks of Bartlesville, and Harmony Elizabeth-Joy Franks of Oregon, five nieces and nephews, Sarah Dawn Mathes of Bartlesville, Karl Franks of Bartlesville, Erik LaPlante of Fort Collins, Colorado, Christopher LaPlante of Denver, Colorado and Jeni LaPlante of Fort Collins, Colorado, as well as a number of great nieces and nephews and great great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and numerous aunts and uncles.

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# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard (Ricky) Simeon Franks II*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Richard (Ricky) Simeon Franks II*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Simeon was one of my best friends in the world. His stories were the best to be herd. I was lucky enough to be a part of a lot of those stories. We played together and cried together but most of all when you were with Simeon you lived life together. He was not a glass half full type of guy, the glass was always half empty and he was always trying to fill it up! Rest in peace old friend and I am a better person for knowing you, love always.*

**Tim Simpson** - February 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *I was lucky to have met Simeon and Kris thru ebay. In the short time we spent together when they were in Texas, it was apparent the love they had for each other. Both wonderful people! I am truly saddened to learn of his passing and my heart goes out to his family, especially to Kris.*

**Julie Bell** - February 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ *A Letter From An Old Friend  
Somewhere Someplace In Time*

*For over fifty years  
my brother Simeon  
Your Soul and mine entwined  
Running through our Songs, the Music, and our Families and the  
times  
I'm so Glad . . .*

*We got to got to places only you and I could know  
Meeting new people, doing new things, that for me live on and on...  
Just as Clear As your Gaze  
like we saw that day  
in that Eagles Eye  
We'd met before  
We'll meet again  
somewhere someplace in Time*

*For now Goodbye my old friend*

*Daybreak Feb 21, 2015  
Les Addison*

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**Les Addison** - February 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ *Richard (Ricky) Simeon Franks II*

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**Les Addison** - February 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ *Simeon was a wonderful friend, great cook, and a Superb writing partner.*

*I miss him dearly.*

*Kullen*

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**Kullen Fuchs** - February 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ I still remember the first time I met Simeon at the store in Gruene. I walked in from the warehouse and he was standing at the counter smiling from ear to ear. Kris introduced him to me and I could just tell from the simple introduction that Kris gave me that he was something special. Every time Simeon would come to the store I would learn more and more about him and hear some of his GREAT (and unforgettable) stories. I'll never forget my favorite one - Simeon painting a roof while being psychedelically-infused and spilling a bucket of paint all down a screen door (all before 9AM). I don't know why this is my favorite Simeon story (they are all equally great and hilarious) but something about him telling me this in the middle of the store in Gruene and the enthusiasm he had for it just made me smile (like most of his stories did).

He and Kris had a love that one can only dream of. Everything from the simple phone calls from Simeon to Kris to make sure she made it to work okay, the even more adorable notes he would write her in her handmade lunches to the times he would come to the store with her to just be with her for the day and just seeing the love in their eyes is something that I will never forget and will hope to one day have.

Music was Simeon's passion. I have learned so much about music from him and I don't think I'll ever meet someone with so much passion and enthusiasm for music and life as Simeon. The days when Simeon came to in-stores were days that I would always look forward to because I got to listen to more stories and learn so much from him. Whether he knew the band or not he would listen so intently and give them the utmost respect. There is a video on his YouTube channel that always brings a smile to my face, The Texas Moon Band played on this TV show Caribbean Nights in 1980 and Simeon was the drummer in the band (he also sang back up) but during the entire song he is smiling that Simeon smile! He was an all-around great musician and songwriter and had the greatest knowledge and appreciation of music of anyone I know.

I can't wait to one day reunite with Simeon and tell him all of my life stories (though they will probably not be as cool as Simeon's) and listen to music with him again. Kris – I wish I could be there with you

*during this difficult time. You and Simeon have been like family to me for the past almost 10 years. I can't imagine life without you guys and I know that Simeon will always be watching over you forever and ever.*

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**Kristen Townsend** - February 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *I never got to know Simeon as well as I should have or probably even could have. I never even knew we shared the same first name. But I knew him just well enough to know he was a good man who loved his wife completely and was loved completely in return. I know Simeon was in a lot of discomfort during the last year or two that he lived in Texas, but every time I saw him, he looked happy. Probably because every time I saw him, he was meeting Kris at the record store. Sometimes he'd stick around the store to watch a band play — this man probably never heard a note of music live or on record he couldn't appreciate and groove to, and he was quite a musician (and writer) himself. I wish I could have known this man better than I did, I wish I could have heard more of his music. I wish I could have said goodbye to him and Kris in person before they left San Marcos. But here's a couple more things I do know about Simeon Franks: He is not in pain anymore. He still loves Kris and his family as much if not more than ever, and he will always be loved in return every bit as much. And right now, he's listening to ALL the music, and smiling his Simeon smile in Groover's Paradise.*

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**Richard Skanse** - February 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Kris, I am so proud to have seen you two together a few times. You and Simeon are surely the picture in the dictionary next to "Love." Hold fast to those memories and know that you were among the lucky ones. Thinking of you in San Marcos.*

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**Diana Hendricks** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

Z-

“ I'm going to be repetitive here but Simeon was one of the good guys. He fought the good fight and he lived the good (oftentimes crazy) life. Lives can be measured in a number of different ways but Simeon embraced the "no regrets" mantra. And why not? He married Kris - his soulmate and counterpart in every way - and had a son that he absolutely doted on. Chance - I'm not sure you realize it yet, but Kris and Simeon talked about you incessantly and they ran things by us at the store just to make sure they weren't barking up the wrong tree. They just wanted what was best for you. And because they did, we all did.

Simeon was, without a doubt, the most gifted natural story-teller I've ever had the fortune of meeting. His stories often veered into the "WTF" territory and were often both unbelievable and entirely believable. I still don't know which of Simeon's stories were bullshit and I think that's because none of them were. Simeon led a full life and stories that would sound preposterous to most people were simply factual anecdotes to Simeon.

Simeon was, first and foremost, an artist. He was a poet. If you were on Simeon's poetry email list, the chances you'd get something that was remarkable were pretty high. He knew exactly how far to take a joke, but then he pushed a little further. Everyone who read his poems is a better man because of it. Simeon was anti-establishment without even trying. It was just his essence.

And now, as this chapter is inked and all of await the next one, let's give praise to the very weird, extremely kind voice that was Simeon Franks. He was a rare breed. He was unequivocally "cool" - even though he'd hate that label.

Rest in peace, amigo, and we'll all catch you on the flipside.

P.S. All the hugs and condolences to Kris, Chance and family. You're all in our thoughts and prayers. And it was so difficult not to make a reference to a toasted loaf of buttery bread. It would have

*paled in comparison to Simeon's food references.*

**Z-man** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ *The only times I saw Simeon were when he came into Lone Star Music. He was so interested and excited to see bands play with a huge smile on his face. Simeon was a very good man, he was never a stranger to anyone. He may be gone, but never forgotten. My thoughts and love are with you Kris and the rest of his family.*

**Kallie Townsend** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ *Simeon you will be missed so much! You gave so much joy to Kris, Chance and all who were lucky enough to be your friend! Keep smiling and writing music from up above! Love you!!!*

**Roze Allen** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *I am so very sorry for your loss. May the wonderful memories of your dad bring you comfort.*

**Shane Hand** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Your songs will lift the wings of the angels for eternity. You will always be remembered.*

**Barbara Shone** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *The Staff at Stumpff Funeral Home wishes to express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends. We hope that everyone shares a favorite memory and this memorial brings the life experiences shared with Richard to his family and friends.*

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**Stumpff Funeral Home** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *Rick & Diana has sent this Expressions of Sympathy card.*

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**Rick & Diana** - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM