



NEVER FORGET...

*Private First Class Mervyn Earl Sims
1920 - Memorial Services - 2011*

<i>Welcome</i>	<i>Chaplain Mark O'Sullivan</i>
<i>Invocation</i>	<i>Chaplain Mark O'Sullivan</i>
<i>Eulogy</i>	<i>Chaplain Mark O'Sullivan</i>
	<i>Clayton Kuhles, MLA Recoveries</i>
<i>Remarks</i>	<i>Sharon Roloff, Niece</i>
<i>Military Honors</i>	<i>Team Seven, California Army National Guard</i>
<i>Words of Encouragement</i>	<i>Chaplain Mark O'Sullivan</i>
<i>Moment of Silence</i>	<i>for Private Mervyn Sims and the flight crew</i>
<i>Benediction</i>	<i>Chaplain Mark O'Sullivan</i>

Special Acknowledgments

*Joint POW/MLA Accounting Command, Hawaii
Captain Jose J. Dominguez, Casualty Assistance Officer
Sergeant First Class Gregory Mathis, Military Escort
Patriot Guard and Warrior Watch Riders
Military Escort Team – Healdsburg American Legion
Engineer Art Leclaire, Sacramento Fire Dept.,
Pipes and Drums of Ca. Professional Firefighters
Class of 1938, Classmates
World War II Veterans
Extended Family and loyal friends!*

Mervyn E. Sims

Born - January 30, 1920

MIA - April 24, 1943

Recovered - October 19, 2003

Finally Home - April 22, 2011

*With reflection we remember those
we lost and who lost so much*

*With pride we stand beside
the brave*

*With resolve we defend
our freedom*

*With hope we sow peace
and rebuild*

ON 24 APRIL 1943 PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MERVYN E. SIMS WAS AMONGST THE CREW OF A C-87 LIBERATOR EXPRESS THAT DISAPPEARED DURING A FLIGHT OVER THE HIMALAYAS. THE CREW OF FIVE WAS RETURNING TO CHABUA, INDIA FROM YANGKAI, CHINA. ALL ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE THE AIRCRAFT WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. IN 1946 THE U.S. WAR DEPARTMENT DECLARED THE 5 MEN PRESUMED DEAD, AND THE AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE DECLARED THE REMAINS NON-RECOVERABLE. ALL FIVE CREWMEN ARE NAMED ON THE TABLETS OF THE MISSING, MANILA AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL, REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

ON 19 OCTOBER 2003 CLAYTON KUHLES, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN IN BURMA REPORTED THAT HE FOUND THE WRECKAGE AND RECOVERED HUMAN REMAINS. AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION WAS THE DATA PLATE, TAIL NUMBER 41-23696.

ON 27 MAY 2009 BONE SAMPLES WERE SUBMITTED TO THE ARMED FORCES DNA IDENTIFICATION LAB AND MERVYN WAS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED BY DNA OBTAINED FROM HIS SISTER, VIRGINIA BURCH. JOINT POW/MIA ACCOUNTING COMMAND (JPAC) HAS SOUGHT PERMISSION TO RETURN TO THE RECOVERY SITE; THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAS RESTRICTED ACCESS TO THAT AREA.

20 APRIL 2011 MERVYN E. SIMS WAS ESCORTED FROM HICKAM AFB, HAWAII TO CYPRESS HILLS MEMORIAL PARK TO JOIN HIS FAMILY.

FRED CHARLES SIMS, FATHER
EDNA BRAREN SIMS RIPPE, MOTHER
VIRGINIA MAE RIPPE BURCH, SISTER
HARVEY AND EDA BRAREN, UNCLE AND AUNT