



Thomas Roy Burke Sr.

September 1, 1946 - June 22, 2020

Tom, a resident of Clearwater, Florida passed away on Monday, June 22, 2020 at AdventHealth North Pinellas Hospital at the age of 74, with his wife and son by his side.

He was preceded in death by his parents Harry Burke and Marie (nee Gallagher) Burke, and his sister Margaret (nee Burke) Colleluori.

Tom is survived by his son, Thomas R. Burke Jr, and his grandson "Tommy" Burke, and his wife of nine years Pamela (nee Singletary) Carr. Tom was the caring uncle of Marie Colleluori, Matthew Colleluori (deceased) and Erin Burke; and brother of Michael Burke.

Tom grew up in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania. He attended Saint Cyril Elementary School and Monsignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill, PA. As a young man, Tom was a Wildwood NJ beach lifeguard, an athlete, and avid tennis player. He served in the Army in 1967-1969 in 71st Long Range Patrol (LRP) Detachment, 199th Infantry Brigade and was awarded the Purple Heart for combat wounds sustained in the Republic of Vietnam. He married MaryJane (nee Henry) Bostwick (div. 1973, d. 2001) after the war, and became the proud father of Tom Jr.

Tom worked in advertising throughout the 1970s and 1980s, and helped out at the family restaurant, the Koffee Kup, in Upper Darby, PA. After retirement from an administrative position at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Philadelphia, he moved to Clearwater, Florida in 2002. He enjoyed going to the beach, playing tennis, and eating at Frenchy's Rockaway Grill and Hooters with friends and his wife Pam. He loved the time spent visiting with his grandson Tommy, both in Pennsylvania and Florida. Tom was a proud long-term member of Alcoholics Anonymous since in 1995, and an advocate for others who suffered with addiction.

A memorial service will be held at Curlew Hills Memory Gardens at a date to be determined in late August or early September. The service will be held outdoors at the Garden of Meditation Mausoleum on Curlew Hills grounds in consideration of COVID-19

and social distancing.

The family is coordinating for a final internment with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington D.C. at a date to be determined sometime in late 2020 or early 2021.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation
“<https://www.bbrfoundation.org/>” in Tom’s name.

Comments



“ Many great memories of uncle harry min and the gang at shawcrest. Uncle harry always calling my mom queenie. One big fun family. God bless Young Tom and family. Jean Marie- the berry's

jean marie - July 13, 2020 at 10:20 AM



“ Susan lit a candle in memory of Thomas Roy Burke Sr.



Susan - June 30, 2020 at 08:23 PM



“ I was so sorry to read today in the Inquirer of the passing of Tom. I called him Senior. I enjoyed working with him at the VA where he was the pharmacy host. I called him each morning to make sure he was okay and to see if he was coming in. I worked in the Outpatient Pharmacy without walls. His presence made my work life easier. He was quite a character. I am glad I got to spend time with him in 2018 when I was in town for an Eagles game. My Mom and I enjoyed visiting with him and Pam in 2014. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Please keep me posted regarding the memorial service and burial as I would like to attend. My e-mail is mindywms1@gmail.com. Love, Melinda "Mindy" Williams

Melinda Williams - June 29, 2020 at 02:29 PM



“ I first met Tom in the summer of 1963, when he was a life guard on the Wildwood Beach patrol. He was always a fun-loving guy, ready to party. His duty assignment in Vietnam was very dangerous and specialized. He was a warrior, no doubt. People like Tommy make the 1960's "wild".

John Rusenko - June 29, 2020 at 12:26 PM



“ Red Roses and White Carnations (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Thomas Roy Burke Sr..



June 28, 2020 at 10:25 PM



“ I have many memories of our times together! Aunt Frances trailer, the shore, picking me up to go eat, and especially phone calls where I could hardly get a word in lol. He was one of a kind and I will miss him! RIP Tom

Terri - June 27, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



trb343 - June 27, 2020 at 03:17 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Sending thoughts and prayers.

June Roman - June 29, 2020 at 09:22 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of the loss of Tom. Tom and I share a friendship ofver many year. He was a very goodperson who cared for those close to him. A friend

Chris Cunningham Cormier - September 10, 2020 at 12:15 AM



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trb343 - June 27, 2020 at 03:14 AM



“ Tom's Service Photo

trb343 - June 27, 2020 at 03:15 AM



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trb343 - June 27, 2020 at 02:22 AM



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trb343 - June 27, 2020 at 02:20 AM



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trb343 - June 27, 2020 at 02:19 AM



“ Working for the CIA.

John Rusenko - June 29, 2020 at 12:28 PM