

Thomas Hoff

December 25, 1950 - June 10, 2016

Hoff, Thomas E., age 65, of Royal Oak, passed away June 10, 2016 surrounded by family in the comfort of his home after a 7 year battle with cancer. Beloved husband of Gayle for 34 years; loving father of Heather (Thomas) Parker, Kelly (Adam) Cousino, Erin (Michael) Schwartz and Tommy (Heather) Hoff; proud papa of Ian, Collin, Nathan, Lucas, Evan, Logan, Brantley, Jackson and Baby Schwartz; loving son of the late Jim and Nora; dear brother of Jim Hoff, Mary Lou (Don) Scheid, Dan (Lyn) Hoff and Bob Hoff; and proud uncle of many nieces and nephews.

Tom was a lifelong educator, having started his career at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs. After a brief leave from teaching, he returned as a math teacher at the Adventure School in Birmingham because of his passion for working with kids. Throughout the years he helped to educate, mentor, and inspire countless numbers of students. Tom was a referee and umpire for many years for boys and girls basketball, softball, and baseball. He was in good standing with the Michigan High School Athletic Association, having just received his plaque for 45 years of service.

When he wasn't teaching or officiating Tom loved spending time with his family. His hobbies included gardening, grilling, and golf. His favorite times were family BBQ's in the backyard, the annual St Patrick's day corned beef dinner, relaxing on the lake with a fishing pole, and celebrating his birthday on

Christmas with a bumpy cake. He was selfless and always put others first. If you ever had a conversation with Tom, you would know how much he loved his wife, children, and grandchildren,.

Visitation Sunday 2-9 p.m. with a 6:30 p.m. K of C Rosary and a 7 p.m. Time for Sharing at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak. In state Monday 10 a.m. until the time of Mass 10:30 a.m. at Guardian Angels Catholic Church, Clawson. Burial at Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak. Memorials to Rose Cancer Center are appreciated.

Cemetery Details

Oakview Cemetery

1032 N. Main Street
(south of 12 Mile Road)
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 12. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

K of C Rosary

JUN 12. 6:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Time for Sharing

JUN 12. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Funeral Mass

JUN 13. 10:30 AM (ET)

Guardian Angels Catholic Church
581 E. 14 Mile Road
Clawson, MI 48017

Tribute Wall

PG

“ I know it's six years after Tom's passing but I was unaware until today. For some reason I was inspired to google him today as I have been going through some old photos in preparation for moving. Tom was my football coach at OLQM in 1975. I have wonderful memories of his sense of humor and how he always made me feel special as a 13 year old kid (now 60). Even though it's been years and years since I last spoke with him he made a lasting impact on my life. RIP coach.

Patrick Gaunt

Patrick Gaunt - October 03, 2022 at 09:42 PM

MB

“ Gayle I'm so sorry to hear about Tom's passing. I had no idea he was so ill. You and your family are in my thoughts. We're here on earth for such a short time-Tom will be remembered and missed by many. You have posted such beautiful pictures of your family and Tom with his grandkids and made beautiful memories. Rest in peace Tom.

Muchele Bertolini - July 16, 2016 at 08:36 PM

MD

“ Dear Gayle and family,
I am truly shocked and saddened to hear of Tom's passing. He will be greatly missed by many, as Tom was a pillar of strength and guidance to his students at Eton Academy.
I am glad I had the pleasure of knowing Tom over the past 25 years. Tom may be gone but will always remain in our hearts.
With heartfelt sympathy,
Margaret Doman

margaret doman - June 14, 2016 at 06:18 PM

MD

“ *Gayle and Family,*
I am truly shocked and saddened to hear of Tom's passing. He will be greatly missed by many, as he was a pillar of strength and guidance to his students at Eton academy.
I am glad I had the pleasure of knowing Tom over the past 25 years. Tom may be gone but he will always remain in our hearts.
With heartfelt sympathy,
Margaret DOMAN

margaret doman - June 14, 2016 at 06:08 PM

ES

“ *A lot had changed at Eton Academy since I left many moons ago but one thing that remained the same was Mr. Tom Hoff 's warm spirit and bright smile and great sense of humor. He was one of the last few familiar faces that were left from my time there. It was those moments seeing him reminded me of where I had been and how far I had come from sitting in his math class to after school tutoring as a young teenager to manhood. Going thru life we find those people that mentor to our souls either directly or indirectly and we come to feel a deep sense of connection. I'd like to say we made a connection ours was through jokes, he always joked with me, laughter was almost always to follow. Whenever he called or emailed me for Alumni volunteers and meetings I always felt compelled to make them all because he had given me so much that he probably never knew, I was a seed that he had sown and I wanted to show my growth whenever I was called upon. Tom was a huge fan and supporter of my my public relations and marketing firm, when he showed up for the grand opening I was so proud that my past had met my future. I am honored to have called Tom my teacher and my friend, until we meet again R.I.H my friend. Oh and don't forget to collect the empties (insider) !!! Love, The Scotts Eric Scott*

Eric Scott - June 14, 2016 at 12:41 PM

MH

“ Gayle. so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know that you and your family are in thoughts and prayers. Tom was such a good man and such a good role model for all he came in contact with. Sorry I could not be with you to offer support. God bless you and your family.

Marie Howell

Marie Howell - June 14, 2016 at 09:34 AM

MK

“ Gail,

I am very sorry to hear about Tom. He was always a good guy and fun to talk with every time I met him. I was out on the golf course yesterday when Mike Murphy told us about Tom. We were with Rick Coatta, Tim Wren, Mark Pauck and we all were sadden to hear of his passing because you and him were a part of our life growing up. Margaret and I will keep you in our prays and our heart felt condolences go out to you and your family. Mike Kelly

mike kelly - June 13, 2016 at 04:08 PM



“ Basket of Joy was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.



June 13, 2016 at 07:46 AM

CA

“ *Comforting words are sometimes hard to find. Mr Hoff would find them for us when we came with worries to him. We are very fortunate to have known him and feel very sad for his Family who will miss him dearly. Our condolences to you all!*
The van Acker Family, Lex, class of 2009

Carin - June 13, 2016 at 02:57 AM

 Julia Galliker

“ *My son, Andrei d'Aliberti (Eton, 2016) had the benefit of Mr. Hoff's wisdom and advice during his final years of high school. Tom Hoff was a strong advocate for his students. We appreciate his work and dedication to the school enormously. Our greatest sympathy to Tom's family. Julia Galliker and Alfred d'Aliberti, Andrei d'Aliberti*

Julia Galliker - June 12, 2016 at 05:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 12, 2016 at 02:39 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 12, 2016 at 11:33 AM



“ *Blooming Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 12, 2016 at 11:18 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 12, 2016 at 11:17 AM



“ *My heart is broken once again. I will always have warm thoughts and fond memories of times we spent together. Rest in peace dear Tom.*

Gayle and family, I am so sorry for your loss, please accept my deepest sympathy.

*Love,
Rose Walczak*

nancy Carter - June 12, 2016 at 11:09 AM

JT

“ *Eton Academy will never be the same without Tom. He was a truly dedicated educator who cared deeply for the students and his staff. The whole Twomey family will miss him. Deepest sympathy to Gayle and the Hoff family.*

Janet, Tom and James (class of 2012) Twomey

Janet Twomey - June 12, 2016 at 08:47 AM

MW

“ *You were a wonderful man! You took such great care of our son Scott while he was at Eton. Thank you. RIP*

Michelle Wilmoth - June 12, 2016 at 07:00 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 12, 2016 at 01:44 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 11:50 PM

LR

“ *"Hoffa"...I will always be thankful and grateful for our time together. Thank you for always believing in me. Heaven is shining brighter cause you're in it...I will always think of you with a great big smile.*

Leora Rubin - June 11, 2016 at 11:15 PM

RL

“ *My son, Brett Little, graduated from Eton in 2013. We were very sad to learn of Mr. Hoff's passing. He had great rapport with the kids and was very helpful with college questions, etc.. It was comforting to know that if we had a question, we could always call Mr. Hoff. We appreciate all he did. He will be missed. The Little Family - Ronda, Andy, Brett & Courtney.*

Ronda Little - June 11, 2016 at 10:42 PM



“ *Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 10:28 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 08:20 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 07:21 PM



“ *Over the past two years, Tom has been sharing his expertise and knowledge in finding the right college experience for our son, Michael, an Eton student. He answered emails all hours of the day and night, and when he felt a question warranted a conversation, he would call. When Michael's recent ACT score came in, I wanted to share the news with Tom. He seemed genuinely happy, encouraging and supportive. We were a team.*

We are all devastated to hear this sad news. On behalf of Michael and our entire family, we send our most sincere condolences.

The Vlastic Family

Shari Vlastic - June 11, 2016 at 07:16 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 07:03 PM

LJ

“ Love, John, Carol, John, Emily, Catie, & Jeni purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Thomas Hoff.



Love, John, Carol, John, Emily, Catie, & Jeni - June 11, 2016
at 06:08 PM

CL

“ My heart is so sad to learn of Tom's death, he was one of the finest men I knew ! He truly was a man of character, his words matched his actions every time ! I feel honored and privileged to have worked with him, and known his family, who I extend my deepest sympathy and care! I don't need to tell you , he was amazing example for all of and he loved you deeply! Cindy Longhway

cindy longhway - June 11, 2016 at 05:37 PM

MD

“ Dear Gayle and family,
We are saddened at the passing of your husband/father Tom. He will be missed. Our love and prayers to you all.
Al & Marge Doty

Marge Doty - June 11, 2016 at 05:14 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.



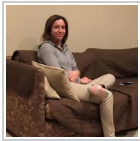
June 11, 2016 at 04:50 PM

KN

“ Mr hoff was my math teacher and taught a basic sales class at eton academy both of which I am very grateful till this day. I am truly saddened by his passing and send my condolences to his family. 🌹
Katie Nicholson



katie nicholson - June 11, 2016 at 03:55 PM



“ I am very shocked and saddened by the news that Tom Hoff passed away. He was such a great person, and a wonderful teacher.

Anita Kafi



Anita Kafi - June 11, 2016 at 03:02 PM

TH

“ The Hoff family was more than neighbor's down the street, they were mom and dad. I'm so sorry for the loss mom and Heather.

Tracey Hojna-Wilson - June 11, 2016 at 01:24 PM

GO

“ I am shocked and saddened to read this post today. Tom and I worked together when Eaton Academy was the Adventure School . We were two of the first teachers there. Tom was a gentle and caring teacher. I saw him last year at the alumni reunion when I was in Mi. We shared lots of stories and memories. He was a pillar of the school and will be missed. Heartfelt condolences to his family ,many friends and students. Gretchen Overdurff

Gretchen Overdurff - June 11, 2016 at 12:02 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 11:44 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 11:14 AM



“ *Tom was a great man in every respect. We are so blessed to have known him.
Stephenie VanHelleMont and
Julian VanHelleMont Class of 2013*



stephenie vanhellemont - June 11, 2016 at 10:40 AM

GO

“ *Gayle and Family,*

We are parents of an Eton alumni, who was helped and supported by Tom in all the various college preparation activities. He was tireless in his efforts, and always made us feel welcome seeking yet more advice or help with some matter. Even after Kiersten graduated (Class of '14), we would stop by to see Tom, or "bump" into him in the hallway, and he always took the time to "check" on Kiersten. He will always be remembered in our family, as someone who was instrumental in helping "launch" our daughter from Eton.

While we did not know Tom beyond the walls of the school, we always considered him an Eton friend. He was a strong advocate for the Eton kids, and supported them as though they were his own.

God Bless you Tom, and thank you again for all that you did for the Olsen Family. You may be gone, but you will never be forgotten.

Respectfully,

Greg & Kathleen Olsen

Greg Olsen - June 11, 2016 at 10:29 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*

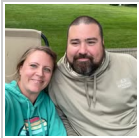


June 11, 2016 at 09:42 AM

AD

“ He was more than a teacher he was a mentor and friend. Someone I'll remember always. Rest in peace my friend. Love countryart.

art dubin - June 11, 2016 at 09:36 AM



“ 8 files added to the album New Album Name



Kelly Cousino - June 11, 2016 at 08:53 AM

RK

“ I am shocked and deeply saddened to hear of Tom's passing.

He was my first real introduction to the Adventure School/Eton Academy. Before I started my school year there, I got to have Mr. Hoff all to myself, over the summer as a math tutor.

Naturally, at first I was less than thrilled to be spending the summer at a strange new school, learning Algebra. But it turned out to be one of the best summers ever. He was so easy going, down to earth and with a wicked and sarcastic sense of humor. I loved being there, not only that summer, but for the next 2 years. And I can honestly say, that was because of Mr. Hoff.

He was a wonderful teacher, friend and confidant. I will, like so many others, miss him terribly, and am thankful that he was a part of my life.

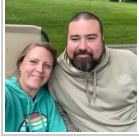
"Ruth, put your shoes back on."

"But my feet are killing Mr. Hoff."

" Yeah, they're killing me too!" (Waves hand vigorously in front of his nose.)

Ruth Weiss Kroepke

Ruth Weiss Kroepke - June 11, 2016 at 08:41 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Kelly Cousino - June 11, 2016 at 08:41 AM

WS

“ *I am so very sorry to hear of Tom's passing..I was in the graduating class at Eton in 1985 and he was my teacher.. Many years later he got a hold of me just to see how I was doing and to this day sent me things from time to time to check up on me..The only teacher I ever had to do this and the only one to still have contact with over 30 years later..He was wonderful man that will be greatly missed..My thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones at this very difficult time..*

Wendy Steward - June 11, 2016 at 08:25 AM

SC

“ *Dear Gayle and Family,*

Words cannot express how saddened we are to hear of Tom's passing. Tom was a hardworking, caring, and compassionate individual. He instilled these values in his children and all of the students he worked with at Eton Academy. Tom will be dearly missed, and his spirit and strength will forever live in our hearts. May your fond memories of him comfort you in the days ahead.

*Love,
Stuart and Cristina Peterson*

Stuart and Cristina - June 11, 2016 at 05:28 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thomas Hoff.*



June 11, 2016 at 02:54 AM



“ *My heart aches at the news of your passing. As we English folks would say you were such a top bloke. Daily, working with you I saw your big heart, your humor, your amazing work ethic and your love of family both at home and at school. You honestly were the best leader I have ever worked under. You inspired me to be a better teacher. The world is a sadder place without you in it. My heart goes out to Gayle and all your family. You were the heart and soul of that school and the impact you have made on students, teachers and parents will never be forgotten.*

Juliette Louise - June 11, 2016 at 01:45 AM



“ *Mr. Tom Hoff was the first person to tell us kids about the tragedy of 9/11/2001 I will forever remember him keeping us calm during that tumultuous time*

Michael - June 11, 2016 at 01:38 AM



Tom was one of the hardest working and caring people I have met. He was one of my mentors and made my transition to Eton easy. He was one of the pillars of Eton. He truly loved his family and his work. He was always there to help anyone. He will be missed by all.
Larry Nepjuk

Larry Nepjuk - June 11, 2016 at 04:47 PM

LR

I was so sorry to hear of Tom's passing. As a classmate at St Mary, I remember Tom as being a very kind and gentle soul. Thinking back, I can vividly place his hearty laugh and huge smile.

As a teacher myself, it touches my heart to hear the tribute paid to Tom by his students. I was happy to hear that Tom had a wonderful life; blessed with a loving family.

Rest in peace, Tom. May God bless your lovely family.
Linda Rank

Linda Rank - June 19, 2016 at 11:42 PM