



Thomas James Lynch

December 12, 1933 - December 12, 2018

Thomas James Lynch, age 85, passed away on 12/12/18. Tom was a resident of Gaylord, Michigan; Palm Coast, Florida; and former long-time resident of Royal Oak, Michigan. He was born on 12/12/33 in Royal Oak, Michigan and graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1951. He then went on to St. Joseph College for one year before enlisting in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After his army service, he enrolled at the University of Detroit, where he earned a B.A. in Philosophy, which generally became apparent to anyone who chose to engage him in conversational debate. Tom worked as a police officer for the city of Huntington Woods for over 29 years, retiring in 1989 having achieved the rank of lieutenant.

He enjoyed almost 30 wonderful years of retirement, where he golfed, hunted, and fished as often as possible. He loved spending time in Northern Michigan, Florida, Colorado, and Ireland, with his wife Connie, of 48 years, before her passing in 2016. Never a day went by that they didn't share love and laughter together.

Tom touched the lives of everyone he knew with his toughness, humor, and undeniable wit. Even in his last days, he always had an impish grin on his face, ready to crack a joke or charm a nurse. He overcame many, many difficult obstacles in his lifetime, some of which people thought he couldn't. Never once did we hear him complain about how hard it was. He is the strongest man we know, and never stopped fighting, not even for a second. But above all, Tom loved his family, something that he never led us to doubt,

even in times of argument.

We are so grateful for all the wonderful memories we've made with him, and will miss him dearly. Family gatherings won't quite be the same without his uncanny ability to light up the room as he strolls in, wearing aviators, a stolen sweatshirt, and a mouth full off brie.

Among those missing him are his children, Sam (Karen), Sarah (John) Hassell, and Mac; his grandchildren, Nate, Erin, Katie, Maggie, Gracie, and Ellie; and many nieces, nephews, and friends. His humor, grace, and wisdom will never be forgotten. For many of us, he was the coolest guy we ever met. Thank you Dad. Thank you Grandpa. Thank you Uncle Tom. Thank you Tom. For everything.

There will be no services at this time, but rather a celebration of both Tom and Connie will take place in 2019.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Tom's name to Royal Oak Youth Assistance (<http://www.royaloakyouthassistance.com/>), Girls on the Run--Western Colorado (<https://www.gotrwesterncolorado.org/>), or Girls on the Run--Southeastern Michigan (<https://www.girlsontherunsemi.org/>).

Tribute Wall

PE

“ *Sam and family,*

I am so sorry for your loss and send you heart-felt condolences. My prayers are with you and I send you my most positive thoughts. Though gone, the strength, intelligence, and kindness possessed by Thomas lives on in you all who knew and loved him best and most.
Perry

perry - December 17, 2018 at 12:50 PM



“ *I am so sorry! He died on his birthday. May your wonderful memories of him bring you comfort and peace at this time. Losing a parent is such a difficult loss. You lose a part of your heart.*

Jan Weiss Dembs - December 15, 2018 at 08:52 AM

BC

“ *Sending our deepest sympathies to the Lynch family. May God and your memories wrap you in comfort during this difficult time.*
Buffie Caldwell and family

Buffie Caldwell - December 15, 2018 at 08:51 AM

KZ

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult and sad time. Rejoice in your memories and your Dad will always be close.*

Kathy Zill - December 15, 2018 at 08:17 AM

AA

“ Thinking of your family at this time. He has left a strong legacy. I am proud to know Sam, Karen and their three girls. Hugs to all!
Angela

Angela Ashburn - December 14, 2018 at 10:01 PM

JW

“ My condolences Sam, ---and your siblings. It's been many years since we all lived together on Laurel St. and coordinated rides to sports practices. I am sorry to learn of the deaths of both your parents. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Jeanne Wolf - December 14, 2018 at 08:47 PM

BC

“ So sorry for your loss. Sounds like a life well lived and I know you will miss him. Prayers for all the family and friends.

Betty Crippen - December 14, 2018 at 04:03 PM

BS

“ Sam -
Deepest condolences in the loss of your father. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this most difficult time.
With sympathy,
Barb Sparks

Barb Sparks - December 14, 2018 at 03:56 PM

MG

“ Thinking of your family in your time of loss today Sam, Karen and Lynch family.
With sympathy,
Mia & Al Gutierrez family

Mia Gutierrez - December 14, 2018 at 03:18 PM