



Tom Strouf

AUG 11, 1937 - SEP 17, 2018



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Tom Strouf

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On September 17, 2018, Tom Strouf, loving husband, brother, grandfather, uncle, friend and father of five children passed away in Jackson, Michigan at the age of 81. Tom was born on August 11, 1937 to Ernest and Margaret Strouf in Niagara, Wisconsin, where he attended and graduated from Niagara High School. After studying music at Central Michigan University, Tom met the love of his life, Vera (Cruz) Strouf and they were married on September 13, 1958. They recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Tom began his career working at the Kimberly Clarke Paper Mill and as a part-time police officer for the Niagara, WI Police Department. In 1971, Tom moved to Sturtevant, WI to continue his law enforcement career and was soon promoted to Chief of Police there. In 1979, Tom moved to Peshtigo, WI to become the Chief of Police until he retired from the position. Tom wanted to continue his work in public service, so he ran for and was elected to the Peshtigo City Council Board. He was ultimately elected as the Mayor of Peshtigo for two consecutive terms. In 2010, Tom and Vera moved to Jackson, MI to be closer to family.

An avid sportsman, Tom loved to fish and hunt. As an accomplished piano player of the Big Band era, Tom was often seen playing with the Jackson French Quarter Dixieland Band for various local events. His skills in card games were exceptional as Tom won numerous local and regional cribbage tournaments. Tom loved to lift the spirits of others by his piano playing. Everyone knew Tom loved telling jokes and making people laugh. He will be missed by the community at the Crouch Senior Center, where he and Vera went almost every day.



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His grandson, Benjamin White, reflects, "I could not help but think about the great legacy this man has left. His life has touched so many and impacted even more. Only eternity will tell how this one life impacted our world... I most of all look forward to seeing him again someday in Glory!"

In addition to his wife, Tom is survived by their five children, Shelly (Pastor Dan) White of Jackson, MI, Kimberly Gonzales of Oskaloosa, IA, Mike (Vennie) Strouf of Santa Clara, CA, Kevin Strouf of Fort Lauderdale, FL, Brent (Rachel) Strouf of Radford, VA as well as 21 grandchildren and 53 great-grandchildren. Tom was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, and a grandchild. He will be greatly missed by his family, church family, friends, and community.

A funeral service for Tom Strouf will be held at Fellowship Baptist Church located at 3200 Reed Road in Clarklake, MI 49234 on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at 11:00 AM. Visitation will be held for one hour prior to the service. Flowers may be sent to the Arthur-Day Funeral Home of Michigan Center through Friday, September 21st. Direct contributions can be given in Tom's memory to Fellowship Baptist Church.



Tribute Wall

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PP

Pat O'donnell Stevens Point Wi. posted:

My condolence to all of tom's family. Tom and I spent much time together in Niagara back in the 60's. He was such a fun loving person to be with. We had no contact with each other since the late 60's but over the years I would often think of him. He is one of the good memories I have of living in Niagara.

September 29 at 8:00 PM

PH

Pam Huffman posted:

We were neighbors across the alley when you lived on Ridge Street in Niagara. I remember playing with Shelly and Kim and the boys. I also remember Tom's fantastic piano playing abilities. I used to hear about him laying under the piano and reaching up to play. He was a great guy!

September 22 at 8:00 PM

DR

Douglas James Raby posted:

A man's man, you will leave an empty spot on the piano bench Tom, But when I think of the golden piano your playing now, no more pain, all I can say is "Give Him Praise"

September 21 at 8:00 PM

BL

Bruce Laliberte posted:

To family I was raised next door to Tom. One thing was certain, where ever he was, people were laughing and having fun. Either by his humor or his piano playing. Most importantly to me, he was a man of honor and a friend. RIP

September 19 at 8:00 PM

LC

Leah Castle posted:

My heart hurts for you all!! Grandpa was such a beautiful soul and brought a smile to everyone's face! We are praying for you all during this trial, but so thankful for the hope that Heaven brings! Can't wait to hear him playing piano as we cross the Pearly gates!! Much love to the entire family!!

September 19 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Tom by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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