



## Thomas Patrick Murphy

October 29, 1937 - December 6, 2023

Thomas Patrick Murphy passed away on 6, December, 2023 at the age of 86.

Tom was born in 1937 in Dublin, Ireland, and emigrated to the United States when he was 17 years old. Upon arrival in the US, he moved to Detroit where he worked as a bartender at the Gaelic League, an Irish Club in downtown Detroit. Tom enlisted in the Army in 1957 and spent a 30 year career serving his country around the world, ultimately achieving the rank of Command Sergeant Major. Tom was in the Armored Cavalry and served in Vietnam, where he was awarded the Bronze Star. His last army assignment was at the US Tank Automotive Command in Warren, Michigan. He retired from the military in 1989 after 30 years of service, and was recognized with the Legion of Merit.

After his very successful military career, Tom went to work for Focus Hope in Detroit, a non-profit organization that provides inner city teens and adults with training and trade skills for job placement. Tom was a Dean at Focus Hope for 20 years and enjoyed having a positive impact on lives of the people he helped.

Tom met the love of his life, Mary (May) in Dublin in 1959. They married in 1961 and enjoyed 62 wonderful years of marriage. Tom had two sons, Brian and Michael, and 9 grandchildren. He enjoyed spending time with friends at

the VFW in New Baltimore and giving treats to any animal that came near him.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, December 12 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm, with military honors at 5:30 pm and a rosary at 6:00 pm, at the Wasik Funeral Home at 35259 Twenty-Three Mile Road in New Baltimore. The funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 am on Wednesday, December 13 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Baltimore, with a viewing at 10:00 am. Tom's burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery, date to be determined.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 12. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel  
35259 23 Mile Road  
New Baltimore, MI 48047

## Rosary

DEC 12. 6:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel  
35259 23 Mile Road  
New Baltimore, MI 48047

## Instate in church

DEC 13. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Mary Queen of Creation Church  
50931 Maria Street  
New Baltimore, MI 48047

## Funeral Mass

DEC 13. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Mary Queen of Creation Church  
50931 Maria Street  
New Baltimore, MI 48047

# Tribute Wall

LK

“ Brian and I enjoyed mornings spent with Tom at McDonalds. He always greeted us with a smile and a joke. Knowing of his love of birds we planted some trees in his honor. Our thoughts and prayers are with May and the rest of his family. His spirit will truly be missed.

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**Lisa Kerr-Salk** - December 09, 2023 at 09:08 PM

MP

“ What good things can you say about sergeant major? You really can say anything good about Tom and it would all be true. From taking care of the neighbors to visiting friends in the hospital and everything in between. He could do whatever he could help others. There are too many acts kindness that Tom did for others to be able to list them all right here. He truly is one of those people who would have given his last dollar, the shirt off his back, or the only piece of bread that he had so that somebody else wouldn't have to go without. He will have a most special place in my heart for his compassion for my son Evan. Evan was his little buddy and there really isn't anything he wouldn't do for him. He was the embodiment of a Christian. I know he will be missed by his family and all those whose lives he touched. Rest in Peace, good and faithful servant!

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**Mariaeleana Perkins** - December 09, 2023 at 08:18 AM

RC

“ I always gave him bread so he could feed the birds by the church.

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**Rick Copeland** - December 07, 2023 at 11:54 PM