



Thomas A Van Wagoner

AUG 12, 1938 - OCT 11, 2014



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“Tom” Van Wagoner, 76, passed away on October 11, 2014 after a long illness. He was born on August 12, 1938 in Salt Lake City. Tom was a loving brother, father, and grandfather whose unique personality and sense of humor will be missed. Tom was a retired U.S. Postal Service employee who also served in the U.S. Navy after finishing high school. He enjoyed the outdoors, liked playing golf, and was an avid fisherman for much of his life. He loved to look at the mountains around the Salt Lake valley and was always captivated by a beautiful sunset – he never let the sun go down while inside, always staying outside until the last of the daylight was gone. Tom was perhaps best known among his family and friends as a guitar player and singer of country/western songs. He spent many hours entertaining people with his western ballads and graceful baritone voice. Tom also had a great sense of humor and truly enjoyed making people laugh, often with a few off-color sayings and jokes. He loved his family and enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren. Tom is survived by his daughter, Jennifer Van Wagoner, and his son, Thomas M. Van Wagoner, and two grandchildren; by two sisters, Kay Van Leeuwen and Renee Oakley; and by his ex-wife Sheila Van Wagoner, with whom he remained good friends and who visited him regularly throughout his illness. He is preceded in death by his parents, Boyd and Viola Van Wagoner, by his brothers Boyd and Clyve Van Wagoner, and by his sister Luana Rasmussen. Interment & honor guard Saturday, October 18th at Utah Veterans Cemetery, 17111 South Camp Williams Road, Bluffdale, 11:30 am. Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life on Sunday, October 19th at The Woods Reception Center on Ninth, 6775 S. 900 E., Midvale, from 3:30-5:30 pm.



Tribute Wall

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PA

Pat posted:

It's sad to see Tom has passed but being sick I'm sure he blessed the day. What a wonderful person he was with the best disposition and how could he ever tell a story! I don't think there was ever a moment he couldn't come up with something about almost any thing (or anyone). He was always the life of any party and very forgiving, he was loved by so many. How great when he 'played' the bosses like his little stratavious! He talked about his children often and always mentioned how wonderful his ex was and what a good job she did in raising the kids. My heart goes out to the family and hopefully your many memories will help you thru his passing.

November 7 at 10:00 AM

DM

Dave Misner posted:

I'm sorry I didn't get to Tom's celebration in person. We all had the opportunity to experience a unique person in Tom. I knew him from the Post Office where he was always so positive and outgoing, even when things were frustrating. He certainly earned my respect and will be missed.

October 20 at 6:05 PM

EZ

Elaine Zambos posted:

Dear Sheila, Jennifer and Tom, I worked with Tom at the USPS in 1975. I loved his humor and his kind and caring ways!!! I was only 18 when I started at the PO and Tom made sure that no one gave me a hard time. But the real connection with all of you and Tom is that my aunt Wilma Pappas was good friends with your mom and grandma! Take care and know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers!
Elaine Zambos

October 16 at 7:44 AM

TF

Tony & Karen Falcone posted:

With our sincere sympathy, we have not seen Tom for some time but remember him fondly and extend prayers to Sheila, Tom and Jennifer.

October 16 at 6:15 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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