



Cornel Wilkes Thomas

JUL 14, 1952 - DEC 27, 2015



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Our beloved father, grandfather, son, brother and uncle passed away Sunday afternoon in North Salt Lake, UT. Cornel was born and raised in Provo, UT. He graduated from Brigham Young University with a Bachelor's in history and a Master's in library science. He was an active and faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and served in the England Central Mission from 1971-1973. He served in many callings over the years but spent the majority of his time as a stake or ward clerk, a calling which he loved. He married the love of his life and eternal companion, Gretchen Miller, on August 25th, 1978 in the Manti Temple. Cornel & Gretchen were joined by a son, Cornel Jr., on August 16, 1985.

Cornel had the opportunity to live and work as a librarian and library director in many places including but not limited to Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, Alaska and most recently in Duchesne, UT where he was the county library director.

Cornel will be remembered for his love of books and movies, his storytelling, writing letters and his very recognizable laugh. He loved to spend time with friends and family and loved little children especially his granddaughters, who he spoiled until the day he died.,

He is survived by his son Cornel Jr (Cindy), the joys of his life (his granddaughters) Ava and McKenna, his beloved mother Shirley Thomas, his brother Ryan (Ann) Thomas, his sister Angie (Stuart) Hinckley and 13 nieces & nephews. He is preceded in death by his wife Gretchen Miller Thomas, his father Robert Thomas and his nephew Sean.

Friends and family are invited to funeral services which will be held on 11:00 am, Saturday, January 2nd, 2016 at the LDS church building at 875 Foxboro Drive, North Salt Lake, UT. A public viewing will be held directly before the service from 9:15 am to 10:45 am. Interment will be at the Logan City Cemetery at 2:30 pm



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In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the family to help with funeral expenses.



Events

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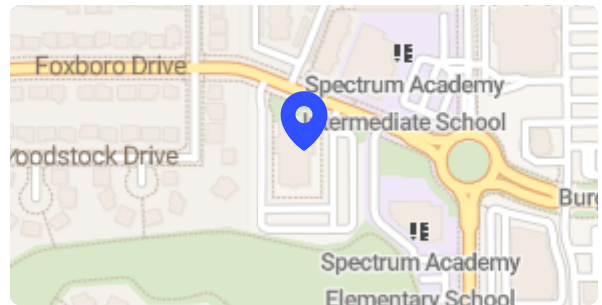
Service

- Saturday**, January 2, 2016
- 11:00 AM MT
- LDS church building**
875 Foxboro Drive, North Salt Lake UT 84054



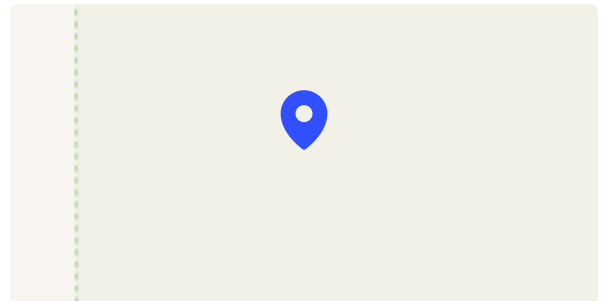
Visitation

- Saturday**, January 2, 2016
- 9:15 PM MT
- LDS church building**
875 Foxboro Drive, North Salt Lake UT 84054



Cemetery Details

- Logan City Cemetery**
UT





Tribute Wall

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YC

Your Clerk posted:

Cornell enjoyed working as your library clerk. When it got too noisy, you would come out of your office and say, "Don't get blood on my carpet." I was glad to meet you again in bountiful under better circumstances.

January 1 at 3:59 AM

BG

Bill Goodrich posted:

I had the pleasure of working with Cornel, Sr. on the Duchesne County Library Board. He was the epitome of friendliness and I am so grateful that I was able to know him. Cornel, Jr. my thoughts and prayers are with you.

December 31 at 5:16 AM

AL

Ann Larsen posted:

Cornel was such a kind person with a "punny" sense of humor. He would always stop what he was doing to chat and genuinely cared about others. Cornel, what a great loss to have seen both your parents go and we are grieving with you. We send our love and prayers as you go through this difficult time. Keith and Ann Larsen

December 29 at 4:41 PM

TR

Tiffany Read posted:

My kids can never sit through sacrament or class for that matter. Brother Thomas frequently would be sitting in the foyer chair while I was going in and out of sacrament and as we exited the chapel after Sacrament. He would always smile and say hi. We would talk for a few minutes and it always made me feel good. I will always remember him as a kind man who took the opportunity to make other feel welcome. He will be missed and is well loved. Tiffany Read

December 29 at 3:26 PM



Tribute Wall

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Nancy Thornburg posted:

Cornel was jovial and loved to see the humor in a situation. I remember him frequently starting a story with the words "I have to laugh...". He and my sister, Gretchen, we're so compatible and happy together. I am grateful for the love and happiness he brought into her life and am glad to have him for my brother-in-law! We will all miss him until the day we all meet again. ❤️ to Cindy & Cornel, Jr. from Aunt Nancy & Uncle Mike

December 29 at 11:55 AM



Becky Yingling posted:

Cornel Sr. didn't know me very well, but from the minute I met him he spoke to me like he'd known me all along, like a member of his own family. Every time I was around him after that it was the same story. He treated me like I was a member of his own family. In grateful for that.

December 29 at 10:28 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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