



Orville Ronald Thomas

November 29, 1935 - March 8, 2018

Orville Ronald Thomas, 82, of Traverse City passed away Thursday, March 8, 2018 at Munson Medical Center.

Orville was born on November 29, 1935 in Monroe Center, Michigan, son of Pete & Ellen Thomas. He attended high school in Kingsley where he was a standout basketball player. He served his country in the United States Navy and returned to the Traverse City area after his enlistment Orville married Reva Tooley on June 26, 1971 in Three Rivers, Mi. He worked for the local Coca Cola for over 45 years, retiring in 2001. He enjoyed attending the Buckley Old Engine Show and Friday night stock car races. He spent time working on his friend Donna's farm, helping build things and tinkering. He and Reva were on a bowling league for many years and was an avid reader, enjoyed camping, word searches, and watching the Detroit Tigers.

Orville is survived by his children Mark (Christine) Thomas, Christine (Tom) Baldwin, Julie (Mark) Jarema, Sarah Goodrich, Sherrie (John) Kik, CaSandra (Gary) Aisthorpe, Steve (Kerry) McPherson, several grandchildren and great grandchildren; brother Bruce (Jackie) Thomas, sister-in-law Bobbie Thomas. Sister Ann McHuron, and Jane Thomas, mother of Mark, Chris, Julie & Sarah.

He was preceded in death by his parents Pete & Ellen, wife Reva, brothers Arthur, Oscar, Raymond, Harold, Delbert, sisters Mary and Velma Cook, and two great grandchildren Ryan & Sharon-Ann Kik.

In accordance with Orville's wishes, cremation has taken place. A gravesite committal service will be on May 12, 2018 at Barnum Memorial Cemetery in Mayfield at 1pm. Following the committal service there will be a luncheon at the VFW Cherryland Post on 3400 Veterans Drive in Traverse City.

Those wishing an expression of sympathy may consider a memorial donation to the Cherryland Humane Society, 1750 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, Mi. 49686, or your local

humane society.

Comments



“ Orville Ronald Thomas has been and always will be my Dad since I was 4 years old. He always guided me but let me make my own decisions. He supported me whether he agreed with those decisions or not 100%. For the first 9 months I was a single parent after my divorce he was there everyday Monday thru Friday to help with the repairs on my newly purchased home and help with my kids when I was working 3 jobs to make ends meet. I never had to ask for help Dad was always one step ahead of me. I will be forever grateful to him for everything he did for me and my kids. When I told him I had met someone all he had to say was, "Whoever he is he better treat you right or he will answer to me." Gary never had to answer to Dad, but they became good friends and had a mutual respect. We will all miss him a great deal! I have always been proud to be his daughter and call him "Dad". He loved Mom so much and missed her more than each day. I know in my heart he is happy to be with her again. I love you Dad! I miss you so much!



CaSandra Fitzgerald-Aisthorpe - May 14, 2018 at 03:28 AM



“ Orville was a "regular" when I had my used bookstore. He was always pleasant over the years but the thing I remember most was Orville was good friends with another one of my "regulars" who had a long drawn out illness. Orville directed me to give Harry whatever was needed from his own book credit, to help keep Harry in reading material the last year or so of his life.. What a special guy! Always, Gloria Veltman

Gloria Veltman - May 08, 2018 at 06:53 PM



“ Dad was always there when I needed him. He was always ready with advice or wisdom whenever I had a problem. I could always go to him for that advice or if I had a problem. He wasn't just my dad he was my best friend! Always loving and caring, I will miss him dearly. I always loved the lil chuckle he had when you would tell him a joke, and the outright laugh if you hit him with a really good joke. You worked hard your whole life to take care of your whole family dad, now is the time to take a very well deserved rest. God received a very special Angel the day he called you home!! I love you with all my heart dad! I miss you like you will never know.

Steven McPherson - March 13, 2018 at 03:00 AM



“ Steven McPherson lit a candle in memory of Orville Ronald Thomas



Steven McPherson - March 13, 2018 at 02:48 AM