



TO DAD!!
NAUMAN

You got it from your father
it was all he had to give
so it's yours to use and cherish
for as long as you shall live.
If you lose the watch he gave you
it can always be replaced
but a black mark on your name
can never be erased.
It was clean the day you took it
been a worthy name to bare
when you got it from your father
there was no dishonor there.
So make sure you guide it wisely
after all it's said and done
you'll be glad the name is spotless when you give it to your son.



THOMAS E. NAUMAN
"TOM"

OCTOBER 28, 1948 - DECEMBER 6, 2023

Thomas Eugene Nauman left us on December 6, 2023 due to injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He was proceeded in death by his parents, Herman and Elizabeth (Rohman) Nauman and his wife of 47 years Kathy (Sorrels).

He is survived by his five children; Scott (Amori), Sarah (David Whitehead), Melissa (Shawn Bailes), Michael, and Steven (Andrea), his sister Marj (David Judson), his niece Liz and 17 grandchildren; Genevieve, Christopher, Thomas and Gemma Nauman; Anna, Joseph, Maggie, Anthony, John David, Luella, and Tobias Whitehead; Grace, Jameson, Jacob and Gianna Bailes; Oscar and Isabella Nauman.

Visitation will be held at 6 pm on December 14, 2023 at Smith North Little Rock Funeral Home with a Rosary to follow at 7:00 pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 am on December 15, 2023 at St. John the Baptist Latin Mass Parish in Cabot, Ark.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church or Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter.

Tom was born on a cold October day in Peoria, Illinois in 1948. He was the oldest of two children, growing up in the small town of Metamora, Ill., made famous because it was where a young Abraham Lincoln practiced law. Tom had the typical baby boomer upbringing right down to his coonskin cap. After graduation from Metamora High school in 1966, where he was an All-State Wrestler, he went to Bradley University in Peoria. Tom graduated from Bradley in 1971 with a degree in Political Science right before being drafted to the US Army. Tom served 18 months during the Vietnam Conflict.

Once out of service he attended law school in Memphis. Realizing school wasn't where he needed to be, he headed back to Illinois and became an insurance corporate investigator. While doing this he had his first run in with a gun pointed in his direction. That opened his eyes to bigger things and one of those was realizing his childhood dream of being a pilot. Tom was at home in the sky. But fate had other things in store.

In 1974, while investigating a warehouse theft in Little Rock, he went to a 21 Club party behind McCain Mall in North Little Rock. At that party there happened to be a small-town southern belle who would change his world forever. After a short courtship and engagement, he and Kathy were married on November 29, 1975. Settling back in Metamora they started a family, with the apple of their eye being born in 1977 followed by the others.

Tom started teaching Computer Programming at Illinois Community College in Peoria, after receiving his Associates Degree from there.

One day he was let go from his teaching position and with a growing family and a wife who was tired of the Northern Winters, he and Kathy migrated south. Tom took a job with Blue Cross and Blue Shield, spending 32 years working there as a computer programmer. While there he would be involved with Y2K preparations and disaster recovery.

Tom moonlighted as an instructor at the local community college for almost a decade teaching computer classes. Later in life he would become a student at that same college studying History, which was his real passion.

After retiring Tom and Kathy would have traveled the globe, become artists, sailed the seven seas or become motivational speakers; instead, they had 5 kids, 4 of whom went on to have their own children who needed Grandma and Pawpaw to watch them often. Tom would have preferred to watch World War II documentaries, however their tv was often turned to Hallmark for Kathy and Paw Patrol for the grandkids.

The later years were filled with baking cookies for the grandchildren, woodworking, gardening, and his church.

Tom was a member of the Traditional Latin Mass parish in Cabot. He had seen the community grow from just a few meetings at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, to the St. John's Center in Little Rock, where he served as Sacristan, Masses at St. Mary's, and St. Patrick's in North Little Rock, to moving to Cabot and becoming a parish with its own church building.

Active in his local Knights of Columbus council, Tom wore many hats over the years. From grunt work helping with breakfasts and dinners, Christmas parties for the mentally disabled, and tootsie roll drives, to serving in various leadership positions including Faithful Navigator and Grand Knight.

The holiday season will not be as bright this year without all of Tom's baked goods; chocolate chip cookies, cinnamon rolls, or monkey bread. Tom's specialty was the family caramels. He learned the caramel recipe from his dad and made them every year for family and friends. Many hours would be spent stirring, cutting, and wrapping these sought after holiday treats.

He was many different things to many different people. We, his children would like to thank you for your wonderful thoughts and prayers. Thank you for making this transition a little easier. Hug your family and friends a little tighter and tell them you love them.