



Thomas Edward Petersen

May 12, 1950 - March 10, 2025

Celebrating THOMAS EDWARD PETERSEN:

Thomas Edward Petersen was born in Los Angeles, CA, on May 12, 1950 to Charles B Petersen and Joyce English Petersen. Tom passed away at his home on March 10, 2025. Tom was 74.

Tom grew up in the Hawthorne area and as a little guy, could be seen running down the sidewalk in his Zorro mask and cape. As he got a little older, he spent hours listening to the Dodgers baseball games on his transistor radio and practicing his pitching skills.

Tom graduated from Hawthorne High School, a star pitcher for their baseball team. Tom loved his friends from these days in Hawthorne and stayed in contact with many of them.

Tom learned the art of masonry from his dad and Uncle. And with this skill Tom easily transitioned into carpentry. Tom was working for Milt McCoy Construction when he met and married his wife, Jenalou. Not long after that, Tom started his dream job

working as
a Golf Professional for Len Kennett's Golf Shop at Lakewood Country Club in
Southern
California. Tom left this job after 10+ years and moved to Northern California
where he
planned to retire. Tom owned and managed two companies in NorCal:
Premier Vinyl
Fencing which he ran for about 5 years. Then, he opened a drive-thru
Coffee/Espresso
Shop (Java99) in his new hometown of Los Molinos and was lovingly called
The Coffee
Man by his regulars.
Tom loved music, art, and thought-provoking books. Atlas Shrugged by Ayn
Rand was
one of those books and he read the entire thing. The poem IF by Rudyard
Kipling was
important to him. Tom admired Bob Dylan - Tom could always recite a Dylan
verse that
suited a situation or a conversation.
Tom was a self-taught artist and created beautiful pencil drawings – many
which he
gave away as gifts to those he cared about. Tom's enjoyment in the game of
golf is
legend – it was not only the physical game he loved, but the history and the
rules of the
game too.
Tom was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister Carolyn Bainton.
Tom is
survived by his loving wife Jenalou. Her sisters and families are deeply
missing Tom:
MaryLou Mull & Richard Mull, Luann Apperson and Len Allen; Luvene

Apperson; Mindy

& Jamie DeSantis. Many nieces and nephews that loved Tom: Brandy Martin, Stacy

Martin, Tyson Tout (Niki), Jameson (Cristen) DeSantis, Harrison (Amanda) DeSantis,

Addison DeSantis (Mel Treuhافت), Madison DeSantis and Riley DeSantis.

Tom's favorite color was Dark Forest Green. Tom was superstitious, he loved cats, he

preferred wearing white Surf t-shirts and Levis jeans. Tom was a kind, humble, joyful

man. He will be greatly missed.

Tribute Wall

GM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



George MacArthur - May 21, 2025 at 04:28 PM

GM

“ 1 file added to the album Tribute Wall



George MacArthur - May 21, 2025 at 04:25 PM

GM

“ 1 file added to the album Tribute Album



George MacArthur - May 21, 2025 at 04:20 PM

AD

“ Tom was such a sweet uncle to me, and I'm lucky to have had him around so much growing up. I remember him for his passion for music, ranging from the poetic to the hard rock, and all of the CDs he and Jena gifted to me as a youngn' completely shook my world. Helped me grow into who I am now. I'll continue to miss and remember Tom. I know he's at rest now. Big love to you, Tom.

addison desantis - April 15, 2025 at 02:02 AM

CW

“ I WENT THROUGH HAWTHORNE HIGH SCHOOL WITH TOM AND WE LIVED ON THE INFAMOUS MANOR DR IN HAWTHORNE. I HAVE A TON OF MEMORIES OF TOM. THERE WERE ABOUT TEN OF US ON MANOR DR THAT WERE LIKE FAMILY AND NOT JUST FRIENDS. WE ALL HUNG OUT TOGETHER AND I REMEMBER GOING ON DOUBLE DATES WITH TOM, GOING TO ANDYS TACO TIA , DUKES AND CRUISING A&W WITH TOM. WE GOT IN TROUBLE TOGETHER AND OUT OF TROUBLE TOGETHER. MY FAVORITE MEMORY IS ALL THE CAMPING AND BIKE RIDING WE DID NEAR GORMAN. BORROWING A TRUCK FROM MY FATHER-IN-LAW TO GET THE BIKES AND BEER TO THE SITE. TOM WAS LIKE A BROTHER TO ME. I CANT BELIEVE ALL THE THINGS WE DID TOGETHER. WE BOTH WENT INTO A SERVICE AT THE SAME TIME AND WHEN I GOT FREE THE FIRST PERSON I WENT TO SEE WAS TOM. HE AND GEORGE RENTED A HOUSE IN HAWTHORE AND I WOULD STOP BY SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK ON MY WAY HOME FROM WORK. THIS WOULD PUT ME IN A GREAT MOOD BEFORE GOING HOME. WE LOST CONTACT AS I LIVES CHANGED BUT I FOUND TOM ABOUT 5 YEARS AGO . WE WERE BOTH DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER AROUND THE SAME TIME SO WE TALKED A COUPLE TIMES A MONTH DURING THOSE YEARS. TOM WOULD ANSWER THE PHONE AND I WOULD SAY PETERSEN HERE AND WE WOULD LAUGH. I HAVE SO MANY MEMORIES OF TOM AND WILL MISS HIM SO MUCH REST IN PEACE TOM LOVE YOU, CHET AND CHARMAINE

CHET WOJCIECHOWSKI - April 14, 2025 at 12:31 PM

MM

The Tomster will always be my bro' in law with a bit of a snarky attitude. He got a kick out of ruffling my "older sister" feathers and jokingly challenge my opinions on stuff. At the base of it all, we really cared about each other. The Tom I knew was a hard-working guy who took great pride in all his various creative endeavors through the years. He was a hardworking man with the soul of an artist. He loved his family and especially his wife, my sister, Jenalou. Together, they created a lovely home and supported each other's creative endeavors. His positive approach and the strong and loving support of his wife and friends helped him deal with the challenging years of various medical treatments. He was a good, loving, hardworking and talented person and will be missed so much by all of us who loved and admired him. Rest in peace dear, Tom. MaryLou and Dick

MaryLou Mull - April 17, 2025 at 10:36 PM

LP

I miss you Tom. I miss our talks about old time in Hawthorne. Please tell Ron I love him. Have fun surfing those clouds. Playing golf and just think how far that ball will go. Have a good time with Woody and Jim. Love to you Jenna and making Tom a very happy person. You are the best. Rest is Peace

Lenora Puls - April 23, 2025 at 11:46 AM

GM

Tom was definitely a part of my life. Growing up on Manor Drive we all had a bond. I was older than Tom but knew his sister Carolyn and close friends Ronnie, Chet, Allen, Jim, and Woody. I lived with Tom on 139th Street in Hawthorne for several years where I met my wife Cheryl who lived across the street. We camped, rode motorcycles at Red Rock, went skiing, had pick-up games of baseball, and played darts. Tom loved golf so we would go to Dominquez Hills Golf course at night to play under the lights. He always had a smooth swing. He was a natural at golf. He also loved going to Dodger stadium as I would get free tickets from my mom's work. Tom worked as a mason with his dad. He loved his dog Sundance a beautiful Irish setter. Tom left to live with his friend Brad (Stan's brother) for a while. I later linked up with Tom in Huntington Beach where we both had moved in separate houses across town. We lost contact when I moved to North Carolina. I was able to connect with Tom and Jena last year with my wife Cheryl. It was great to reminisce during that visit. Tom will be missed. Rest in peace.

George MacArthur - May 11, 2025 at 04:13 PM

HD

“ Tom is such an important figure in my life. He had resilient entrepreneurial energy and loved art and introducing me to music. Jena and Tom got me many CDs growing up that went on to be favorites of mine such as Dylan, Neil Young, and Hendrix. These were huge influences for me when I was learning to play guitar. Tom was also deeply concerned about the world and would talk about or debate any topic he had an audience for. Infinitely curious and kind, and always a joy to be around and share things with over the holidays. I miss my uncle very much.

Harrison DeSantis - April 14, 2025 at 09:49 AM

LU

“ I love this picture of Tom! His eyes were soulful and his heart was kind. Tom was a vibrant man, a loving husband and a true friend to those who knew him. He will be dearly missed. I will miss him.

Luann - April 09, 2025 at 08:19 PM