



Clemens M. Thoennes

August 7, 1939 - November 12, 2019

Clemens Michael “Clem” Thoennes, passed away on November 12, 2019 at the age of 80 years in Pawleys Island, South Carolina. Clem was born and raised in Atlantic City, New Jersey. He was married to his high school sweetheart, Ellen (nee Powers) Thoennes and enjoyed a wonderful and loving relationship lasting 57 years.

Clem attended St. Nicholas School and Holy Spirit High School in Atlantic City. He furthered his education at Rutgers University, graduating summa cum laude. He then went on to Princeton University after receiving a full fellowship and received a master’s degree in electrical engineering. Clem then completed his education in doctoral studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

After completion of his master’s degree, Clem had a long and distinguished career with the General Electric Company, which ended upon his retirement at 34 years as a senior executive. The first 25 years of his career were in Aerospace where he developed and worked on prototype systems for manned flight to the moon, led the effort to develop the first intelligence and communications satellites, and pioneered the success of numerous other classified US Government programs. The last years with GE were in power generation. As an expert who specialized in bringing a concept to reality, he managed and advanced GE’s efforts in the design of high efficiency conventional and nuclear power generating systems resulting in world-wide sales.

Since Clem and Ellen relocated to Pawleys Island in 1994, Clem has been a respected and active member of the community. Most notably, he was a faithful member of the Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church who devoted considerable time over the years to financial management, fundraising, and building construction and well as being a being Faithful Navigator in the Knights of Columbus. His other interests included golf, the Philadelphia Eagles, and the joy he had with his two adorable Rag Doll cats, Morgan and Ashley.

Clem is survived by his wife, Ellen, daughter Jennifer, two grandchildren - Sydney and Emmanuel, and his sister, Nancy.

A mass of commemoration will be held on November 23, 2019, at 10:00 am, at the Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, he has requested a donation can be made to Precious Blood of Christ Church.

Previous Events

A Mass of Christian Burial

NOV **23**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Precious Blood of Christ
1633 Waverly Rd
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Tribute Wall

TM

“ Ellen, I was so sorry to learn of Clem’s passing. I found out at the Memorial Mass but did not get a chance to speak to you. Clem was a kind and generous man who shared his talents with everyone. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Terri Marino💕🙏

terri marino - November 24, 2019 at 02:58 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Clemens M. Thoennes.



November 21, 2019 at 10:03 AM

RJ

“ The comments already made shows what a Christ-like person Clem was and how he influenced so many lives. Clem was a great Christian example for all of us. He is now home with the Lord. Ellen - we love you so very much and can only imagine what a difficult time it is for you. Your friends, family, and faith will carry you through this.

Ron & Joan Johnston

Ron Johnston - November 18, 2019 at 09:06 PM

SM

“ Ellen & Family~

So sorry to hear about Clem. Always looked forward to seeing you & Clem on the alter at Saturday evening Mass. Wish we were in town to share our sympathy with you personally but do know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers from afar during this sad time.



Susan & Joe Maloney

Susan & Joe Maloney - November 18, 2019 at 07:48 PM

CS

“Clem and Ellen lived on my street when my husband and three children and I moved from Michigan to New York many years ago. Ellen and Clem took us under their wings to welcome and guide us with love and wisdom. We’ve both moved but they made a huge difference in our lives. I am sending love and prayer and thanks. Connie

Connie Santorelli - November 17, 2019 at 09:55 PM

KL

“Karen Lilly lit a candle in memory of Clemens M. Thoennes



Karen Lilly - November 16, 2019 at 01:14 PM



“Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Clemens M. Thoennes.



November 16, 2019 at 08:00 AM

D7

“Clem was so caring in sharing his knowledge of Information Technology with his Brother Knights throughout the state. He was always ready to help when someone needed him. Thank you and rest in peace, Sir Knight.

Don Ullmann, Conway Council 7531 - November 15, 2019 at 01:05 PM

JC

One of the most supportive men I've known. I will miss his smile.

John Carpenter - November 16, 2019 at 08:06 PM

BC

“ To Ellen and the family -

Our condolences and prayers go out to both family and friends. Clem was a honored Sir Knight and brother.

Brother Knights from Georgetown Council 3067

Brian Clark - November 15, 2019 at 11:57 AM

LW

“ *Clem was a great help to me on my computer I will miss him a lot. Leonard an Emma I hope you will still be coming to church on Saturdays Clem was a genius. Believe or not Clem and I had a lot in common.*

Leonard Washington - November 15, 2019 at 11:40 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clemens M. Thoennes.*



November 15, 2019 at 11:14 AM

JB

“ *Clem was an inspiration to my husband and I in so many ways. We could not have had our success without his knowledge and kindness. We will always be grateful to him for his experience and friendship to us.*
Our prayers and thoughts are with Ellen and her family at this difficult time.
With much love and gratitude
Jeanne and Butch ❤️

Jeanne Burke - November 15, 2019 at 11:05 AM

JR

“ *Clem was a perfect example of what it is to be a Christian person. His commitment to his Lord, through various services to Precious Blood of Christ Church, the Knights of Columbus, the needs of the less fortunate in our community, and to his family, leaves us all with wonderful memories.*

Jeanne and Marty Rosol - November 15, 2019 at 10:56 AM

JM

“ *Clem was a hard working brilliant person devoted to his church and organizations*

Joseph Muffolett - November 15, 2019 at 09:44 AM