



Thomas "Tom" Davis

July 23, 1937 - February 10, 2025

Thomas "Tom" Davis, age 87, of Pawleys Island, SC passed peacefully on February 10, 2025, at Tideland's Georgetown Memorial Hospital surrounded by his family.

Born on July 23, 1937, in the small southwestern Pennsylvania town of Clarksville, Tom was the loving son of Thomas and Irene Davis, and beloved brother of Bobette Davis Hutchinson, a third-generation coal mining family.

Known as "Chief" to his friends growing up, he attended Jefferson Morgan High School. Although quiet and easy going he was very popular in school, ran track & field, and was well known in town for the cars he drove such as his black 1955 T-Bird convertible, and as superb dancer. Following high school, he met his adoring and loving wife of 62 years M. Elizabeth "Betty" Davis in 1957 at Blanche's Dairy Bar where they danced the night away. In 1958 Tom joined the United States Army and proposed to Betty. They were married on December 27, 1958, and left on their lifetime journey together starting at Fort Riley, in Kansas. Shortly thereafter they were stationed in Baumholder, Germany with the 26th Infantry Battalion, 8th Infantry Division, United States Army Europe. Tom and his wife Betty had many adventures traveling and exploring Europe together. They returned to the United States in 1961 and began to build their cherished family of Lisa, Lauren, and Scott.

Tom and Betty moved to Arlington, VA where Tom embarked on a successful 35-year career with Allstate Insurance Company. Tom and Betty and their family moved many times with Allstate as he climbed the corporate ladder—living in Arlington, VA; Houston, TX; Roswell, GA; Libertyville, IL; finally retiring in Pawleys Island, SC, where they had spent many fun vacations with their family.

Tom was proud of his military service and his career, but was most proud of his family, and dedicated his life to them. He was not a dad who spent time pursuing interests of his own but instead preferred to be active in his children's and grandchildren's activities including education, sports, Girl Scout and Boy Scout troop activities, boating with them on the Waccamaw River and the creek at Pawleys Island, and taking long walks on the beach.

Tom loved life, spending time with his family, and traveling. He was very creative and had numerous hobbies, one of them being photography. Tom took many outstanding photographs of wildlife and family portraits that he developed in his own dark room. He also enjoyed carving and painting beautiful duck decoys, seagulls, and various other waterfowl that turned into a small business called "Quackers & Cats" to sell these exquisite birds. They were a very sought after home décor piece by many of their family and friends and have a proud place of honor in many homes in Libertyville, IL as well as Pawleys Island, SC. Tom was also a master gardener. His outstanding garden filled with hydrangeas and azaleas, and koi pond was a popular destination on the Heritage Garden Walk for many years.

Tom had a great dry sense of humor and quick wit and loved playing good natured jokes on family and friends. These past jokes still bring smiles to all who were part of them. Tom was quiet and shied from the limelight preferring to be in the background while enjoying watching his outgoing wife whose nickname was "Mayor of Libertyville and Pawleys Island," be the life of the

party. Throughout his life he was known for his kindness, caring, generosity, and most of all for his absolute devotion and unconditional love for his wife and family, whose lives he enriched immeasurably. He was loved and admired by many and will always be remembered as someone who was always willing to lend a hand. Tom converted to Catholicism in 1978, after many years of faith filled inspiration from his wife Betty who was a life-long devoted and practicing Catholic. He volunteered at Father Pat's Soup Kitchen in Pawleys Island and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Their faith and devotion have been a blessing passed down to their children and grandchildren. Tom will be remembered as a friend to everyone, but being a Husband, Father, and "Papa" was his #1 priority.

In 2021 Tom and his wife Betty began to require around-the-clock caregivers whose dedication and service made them truly part of the family. The family is deeply indebted to these compassionate and thoughtful individuals, Miss Bonnie Thomas and Miss Yvonne Bauer.

Besides his wife and parents, he is preceded in death by his sister Bobette Davis, brother-in-law Daniel Bullick, his sister-in-law Marcy Fraber, and brother-in-law Robert Horn.

Leaving to cherish his memory is his daughter Lisa Godfrey and her husband, Michael of Libertyville, IL, his daughter Lauren Davis of Pawleys Island, SC, his son Colonel (retired) Scotty Davis and his wife, Sydney of Fairfax Station, VA, his grandson 1st Lieutenant Morgan Davis and granddaughter Hannah Davis, his sister-in-law Margaret Horn and her husband, Keith Gwyn of Frederick, MD, as well as her sister-in-law Evelyn Bullick of Aurora, CO, and numerous dear nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that you consider making a memorial

donation in Tom's name to the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at www.stjude.org or Alzheimer's Foundation of America at www.alzfdn.org or Wounded Warrior Project at www.woundedwarriorproject.org

A funeral mass and celebration of life will be held on Friday, February 28, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church, 1633 Waverly Road, Pawleys Island, SC 29585.

Please sign an online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Previous Events

A Mass of Christian Burial

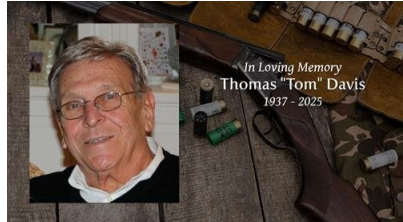
FEB **28**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Thomas "Tom" Davis



Goldfinch Funeral Home - February 17, 2025 at 09:54 AM

DR

Beautiful words and memories. Lisa, your Dad is a very handsome man and had a life well lived. I'm sorry I missed out on meeting him. Looks like he was special. Rest in peace Tom. You did a great job! Condolences to all.

Debbie Roberts - February 18, 2025 at 06:10 PM

JV

*Lisa and Mike,
I am so sorry to learn about the loss of your father. What a magnificent human being he was. What a wonderful legacy he left behind in the family that shares and carries forward his amazing talent, creativity, service to his country and community. I know you are a very close-knit family, and the deep pain of his loss will bring you even closer together. That pain will eventually fade, but your memories will stay in your hearts forever. Sending love and prayers your way.
Joyce Virnich*

Joyce Virnich - February 19, 2025 at 10:17 AM

TK

Lisa, Lauren, and Scott I am sorry to hear of your loss. Living across the street from your grandparents left me with many cherished memories. We spent a lot of time at their house playing the organ after school and playing with you when you'd come to visit. I still tell the story of Tom, your grandfather, driving me in a foot of snow so I didn't miss my elementary Christmas program. He walked hand-in-hans with me from the bridge up to the Pitt Gas school as his car wouldn't make it up the hill. Your parents, Aunt Bobette, and Irene were always kind people. I was a tiny kid when I found a frog in our yard. Bobbette wasn't married yet. She asked what I planned to do with it. In true little girl fashion I said kiss it and get a prince. She asked if she could have the frog because she was older and not yet married. I told her she'd have to catch her own frog. So many memories. I'm grateful to have had a family such as yours and Mrs. Shulsky to look after us growing up. With much fondness, Tara (Riecks).

Tara Kinsell - February 19, 2025 at 01:50 PM

CA

“ My heart is so sad that it was time to say goodbye to your dad. I am so very blessed to have known him and enjoy your family's company on so many occasions. I always felt like one of your parent's other kids when I was at your home. What a treasure to have known and loved your dad. I know your hearts are hurting, but I also know that he is looking down on all of you right now with your mom, saying "We did good, Betty, we did good!" Such amazing, loving people and I thank you that I had the chance to have him in my life.

Christine Marie Alongi-Joiner - February 21, 2025 at 01:43 PM

KA

“ Our sincere condolences for the loss of your loved one. May 'the God of all comfort' be with your family at this difficult time. Isaiah 41:10

Kathryn - February 18, 2025 at 03:53 PM

GL

“ Such beautiful memories of both Tom and Betty ...Our families spent many wonderful years together in Libertyville' s Red Top. Such kind and generous people. After the early death of my husband, the Davis family were always there to share their friendship and help when ever it was needed..Sending Hugs to all of you. Tom will be so dearly missed. Gerry Lombardo

Geraldine Lombardo - February 18, 2025 at 11:44 AM

FF

“ Lisa and Mike
My deepest condolences to you. It seems your father left a wonderful legacy. You'll feel him every day. Trust me.
God bless❤️
Frank Quigley

Frank Quigley Frank - February 18, 2025 at 09:12 AM

MH

“ Tom, when you married my big sister, I was only 7 years old. You used to hang my Simple Simon doll from the chandelier in Ellsworth! Will never forget you and the fun times we had. Just before my wedding in 1970 we visited you in Houston. Also visited you in Libertyville. My children called you the “fun Uncle”. Missing you already...always in my heart! Margaret Horn

Margaret Horn - February 18, 2025 at 06:19 AM

TF

“ The Gwyn family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Thomas "Tom" Davis.



The Gwyn family - February 17, 2025 at 08:24 PM