



Thomas O'Hara

April 14, 1930 - February 9, 2022

Thomas "Tom" N. O'Hara, age 91, passed away unexpectedly on February 9, 2022. He was born on April 14, 1930 in Yonkers, New York to the late Thomas N. and Helen O'Hara.

Tom lived most of his life in New York and then the past 25 years in Surfside Beach SC. He received his primary education in the Yonkers schools before in 1952 obtaining his Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Alabama. Tom received his law degree from Fordham University School of Law in 1955. After passing the bar, he worked for the New York court system for many years. After more than 20 years of public service with the courts, he entered private practice specializing in general litigation. He worked in different law firms over the years, then opened his own law practice until he retired. Tom's specialty was appellate work. He was actively sought out by friends, colleagues, and many former adversaries for assistance with their appeals. He had a very good understanding of the law and was truly a lawyer's lawyer. Tom married soon after graduating from law school and was a wonderful father to his 6 children. He loved to spend summers on the Jersey shore's Long Beach Island or driving across the country to explore the many national parks and monuments. Tom visited all 50 states and most of the National Parks creating ever lasting memories for himself and his children. As his children got older, he loved watching them grow and succeed in their careers and in life.

Tom loved spending the last 30 plus years with his lovely wife Eleanor. They

worked together in his law practice and after a more than 40-year exemplary legal career, Tom retired to Surfside Beach, SC. Both he and Eleanor left the hustle bustle of New York behind at which time Tom was able to pursue his lifelong passion for golf on a year-round basis.

Throughout his life, Tom loved visiting with and being surrounded by family and friends. Sitting by the pool in Surfside Beach or in the backyard on LBI, were some of his favorite ways to spend his time. Always pleasant to be around and always smiling, he was a thoughtful, kind, and compassionate man who continually looked for the good in others.

Tom is survived by his loving wife Eleanor; five of his children, Tom O'Hara (Ceil), Kathy O'Hara, Ed O'Hara (Maria), Mary Ann Ditmars (Jim), Patty O'Hara; two step daughters Danielle McTamane and Sue Hollenbaugh (Dave), 7 grandchildren: Tommy, Jimmy, Kate (O'Hara), JT and Patrick (Ditmars), Emily and Nola (Hollenbaugh); his former wife Mary Jane O'Hara (Brennan); his sisters Ollie Griffin and Ann Gordon, and many nieces and nephews. Tom was predeceased in 1977 by his loving daughter Nancy O'Hara.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel, 11528 Highway 17 Bypass, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576. Visitation 10-11am followed by a memorial service at 11:00 am.

Contributions can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

A funeral service and burial will be held in New York or New Jersey at a later date.

Previous Events

Memorial Services

FEB **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home Beach Chapel

11528 Highway 17 Bypass

Murrells Inlet

Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Tribute Wall

MA

“ Family lore tells a story that when Uncle Tom, Uncle Paul, and Dad were young. (Dad and Uncle Paul were brothers and first cousins to Uncle Tom), they knew where each of them was sitting in the movie theatre by each of their individual laughs.

It's good to be known for the way one laughs and Uncle Tom had a great laugh.

Mary Reilly

Mary - February 16, 2022 at 09:45 AM

MA

“ When I was very young I have a memory that helps me remember I'm of Irish decent: Grandma Reilly playing the piano and Uncle Tom belting out "Oh, Danny Boy" in the living room.

Mary Reilly

Mary - February 16, 2022 at 09:42 AM

MA

“ When we were very young (I was 7, Mimi 6, Marty 5, Matt 4), the four of us kids went camping for the first time with Dad and Uncle Tom, Nancy and Tom and cousins Terry and Bart at the Delaware Water Gap. Dad brought food you had to prepare while Uncle Tom brought cans to be opened, hot dogs and roles. We used all of his cans and none of our prepared food. (Thank God!)

We spent our days "Building a bridge of rocks across the Delaware" and got about 7 ft., far enough into the river that there was a current at the end of our "bridge." (Can you imagine letting kids do that now?). It was a glorious experience, one of the best memories I had with my dad. That wouldn't have happened without food. lol.

At one point, Uncle Tom went into the current and tried to swim against it. He didn't get far, which was impressive watching him, such a strong swimmer swim in the river.

It's just a hazy, summer childhood experience for me, but we were blessed with two strong men in charge: Dad and Uncle Tom.

Mary Reilly

Mary - February 16, 2022 at 09:40 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas O'Hara.



February 14, 2022 at 07:38 PM