



## Thomas E. Wilson

September 14, 1942 - September 6, 2024

THOMAS E. WILSON, departed this life on September 6, 2024. For thirty happy years before his death, he was the beloved husband of Charlie Moses Wilson. Tom is survived by Charlie and his children from a prior marriage, Zachary Wilson and Neville Wolf.

Tom's father, Edward C. Wilson, served in the Office of Naval Intelligence during WWII and then as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. State Department. From 1948 to 1960, while his father served abroad, Tom attended schools in Spain, England, Washington, D.C., and Cuba, including three fondly-remembered years with the Jesuits of Stonyhurst, and a high school graduation in Havana, Cuba in June 1960, amidst the tumultuous aftermath of the Cuban Revolution.

From 1960 to 1964, Tom attended Georgetown University where, during senior year, he was the ROTC Brigade Commander. Upon graduation, Tom was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army (Infantry). Thereafter, he attended Georgetown Law Center receiving a Juris Doctorate in 1967.

After Georgetown Law, Tom entered active duty and attended the U.S. Army Infantry and Airborne Schools at Ft. Benning, Georgia, and the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare School at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. He later served

in Vietnam with the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces Regiment. While in Vietnam, Tom was awarded a Bronze Star Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, and Vietnamese Parachute Badge. After military service, in 1970, Tom earned an MBA from Columbia University in New York City.

From 1970 to 2013, Tom practiced law in New York and Washington, D.C.. During his legal career, Tom specialized in White Collar Criminal Defense representing clients in numerous significant matters including the Iran-Contra Affair, Clinton Passport Investigation, Monica Lewinski Matter, FBI's Ruby Ridge Investigation, the CIA's Cold War drug program, MKULTRA, and the Blackwater-Nisour Square Incident in Baghdad, Iraq. Mr. Wilson was lead counsel in numerous matters before appellate tribunals, including the United States Courts of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court.

For nearly thirty years, Tom was a faithful parishioner at The Falls Church. From 2006 to 2008, he served as Senior Warden of the Vestry when the congregation voted to depart The Episcopal Church in favor of the Anglican Church of North America. Then, from 2006 to 2009, Tom served as Chairman of the Anglican District of Virginia, which became the Anglican Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic.

Throughout his life, Tom was an inveterate reader and gifted storyteller. His friends were astonished at Tom's extraordinary recall of the details of what he read and his ability to extract from his reading profound lessons of life and history. Tom had a passion for engaging young adults with his extensive knowledge of history, theology, philosophy, and science for the purpose of demonstrating the intellectual integrity and logical coherence of the Christian worldview. Tom was a C.S. Lewis Fellow and, like Lewis, Tom was widely known as a fearless expositor of the Faith with a gift for relating biblical principles in a way that brought them to life and made them crackle with

relevance.

Tom's faith in Jesus Christ strengthened him, especially during his later life, and assured him of his future and now present home with the Lord in Heaven. The same assurance now comforts his dear wife, Charlie, and his many friends now that Tom is absent from the body and present with the Lord. (2 Cor. 5:8).

A memorial service will be held at 3:30pm on October 25, 2024 at All Saints Church in Pawley's Island, South Carolina, where Tom and Charlie lived for the past four years. An interment service will take place at Arlington National Cemetery in an estimated 12-18 months along with a commemoration at The Falls Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the C.S. Lewis Institute or the Thomas More Society.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

OCT **25**. 3:30 PM (ET)

All Saints Church  
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

# Tribute Wall

ON

“ Captain Thomas Wilson  
U.S. Army Special Forces

*Tom Wilson is a real American Hero – not just because he was a gallant special forces officer during the Vietnam War – in which he could have died – but in the way he lived.*

*One of the great blessings of my life is to have spent all my 82 years in the company of real heroes. My Dad is the first hero my brothers and I ever knew. Tom Wilson is a hero.*

*The word hero is oft mis-used in modern discourse. Today, “hero” is used to describe a person who catches a pass in the end-zone or hits a homer in the world series.*

*A “super-hero” is a person who wears a cape, a mask & a spandex suit with his underwear on the outside of his pants.*

*But real heroes are people who knowingly put themselves at risk, often in great peril – for the benefit of others. Real heroes are selfless – never selfish.*

*Charlie, that certainly describes your husband, Tom. And Zach – that’s your Dad.*

*Tom, you have been a bright, brave, steadfast and selfless warrior. You exemplified the Special Forces motto, “De Oppresso Liber” - “To Free the Oppressed.”*

*You now have a new set of PCS orders to the best duty station ever created. There, you will keep company with others who have “fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith.” [2 Tim]*

*Brother, we mourn your departure from us – but we cheer your embrace by our Lord and Savior. We too claim his promise in John’s gospel [17:24]:*

*“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved Me before the creation of the world.”*

*Thomas Wilson, dear friend: we cannot say, “good-bye.” Rather, “we will see you later – with Jesus!” Take your post.*

*“Semper Fidelis” is more than a slogan for U.S. Marines.  
“Always Faithful” is a way of life.*

*What Jesus’ killers didn’t know – but you and I – and those who love us know – on the 3rd day after his death, Jesus arose from the dead so we can all proclaim the truth in Paul’s letter to the fledgling church in Rome [10:9]:*

*“if you confess with your lips that Jesus is lord and believe in your heart, god raised him from the dead, you will be saved!”*

*SEMPER FIDELIS, OLIVER L. NORTH, LTCOL USMC (RET.)*

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**OLIVER L NORTH** - May 03 at 04:27 PM

SH

“ Our family is deeply saddened by the passing of Tom. He was one of our favorite people to talk with, always sharing the most wonderful stories. Tom was such a kind and caring person, and he will be greatly missed. Our heartfelt condolences to you, Charlie—you are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Rest in peace, Tom; you will truly be missed.

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**Sean Hakes** - November 19, 2024 at 09:48 AM



*Is this Mary Wilson Derrickson brother . ? I'm married to David Derrickson was his newpew*

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**Michele Derrickson** - September 02, 2025 at 04:55 PM

JM

“ Many wonderful memories of Tom Wilson as he and Charlie and my wife and I have long been friends. He was my guide through Faith’s journey, always Tom was there to encourage and strengthen and teach! Recalling Tom’s sense of humor, of comic timing in his moral story telling will help us grieve losing a dear friend. AMDG

Jay Madigan - October 25, 2024 at 08:25 AM

MB

“ I am one of Tom's old Army buddies. We met and spent time together in Vietnam and he attended my wedding in Maine in 1969. He was a man of conviction and humor and his smile and laughter were infectious. Over the years I wish we had lived closer together. Tom, you are home now. Rest in peace.  
Mike Beebe

Michael Beebe - September 29, 2024 at 06:41 PM



Is this my husband David Derrickson nephew ? Uncle Tom Mary was his sister . Mary Wilson .

Michele Derrickson - September 02, 2025 at 04:52 PM



Mary Wilson Derrickson .

Michele Derrickson - September 02, 2025 at 04:54 PM

GK

“ My fond memories of Tom were in our All Saints Bible Study classes. He was so full of wisdom and knowledge on most everything we discussed. I admire and respect him greatly.  
With respect,  
Grant Kuhn

Grant Kuhn - September 26, 2024 at 11:13 AM

CW

*Tom was a member of our Retired Guy's Christian study for ten years with about a dozen other men. He was thoughtful, funny, knowledgeable and loved our studies, conversations and interactions. He truly cared about each guy, and his faith in Christ was so evident. We will miss him terribly, but we know he is in a good place.*

*Carl Wylie*

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**Carl Wylie** - September 26, 2024 at 03:11 PM