



Thomas Martin Holcomb

September 14, 1945 - May 8, 2024

Thomas "Tom" "Hoke" Martin Holcomb, a man known for his love for politics, died on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. Tom 78, was born September 14, 1945, in Charlotte, MI, the son of Robert and Zella (Martin) Holcomb. He graduated from Lansing Sexton High School and later earned a Bachelor's Degree in education from University of Miami. Tom would go on to teach history for 30 years. He took great pride in his teaching and being able to help shape the lives of those he taught. During his teaching career in 1994 was awarded the Teacher of the Year. He was also a baseball and tennis coach during his time at Lansing Sexton. On April 1, 1978, Tom married Suzanne Spence. At the time he was viewed as the area's most eligible bachelor and his wedding was televised.

Many remember the slogan "Have a coke on Hoke." That was Tom's campaign slogan over the years. He was elected as a State Representative for two terms. Tom also served as a Councilman for Mason for 4 years. He was known by many as the Union Whisper for his devotion to the unions. In 1980 he served as a delegate to President Jimmy Carter. Even after his political years he was very active working as campaign advisors for those coming into office. Tom was an active member of the South Church in Lansing. There he proudly served as the President of a Friendly Bible Class. Hobbies that Tom enjoyed were University of Miami Football, Chicago Cubs baseball, horseracing, playing euchre, and their family traditions. Above all he

was most proud of his family and them working together in the service of God.

Tom is survived by his wife, Suzanne; sons, Robert (Rebecca "That Girl") Holcomb, Brian (Jennifer) Holcomb, and Billy Holcomb; grandchildren, Alaina, Dylan, Wesley, and Benjamin; sister, Brenda Harvey; nieces, Kimberly Holcomb, and Bethany Thurman; nephews, Billy Major Holcomb, and Ken Thurman III; mother-in-law, Lynne Spence; brothers-in-law, Brad Spence, Bruce Spence, and Brian Spence; and many special cousins that he held near and dear to his heart. He was predeceased by his parents; brother, Bill Holcomb; father-in-law, Victor Spence; and mother-in-law, Shirlene Funnell.

Friends are encouraged to support Tom's family by sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at the Fort Caroline Baptist Church in Jacksonville, FL. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Michael J. Fox Foundation. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 1.

Fort Caroline Baptist Church

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Thomas Martin Holcomb



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - May 16, 2024 at 07:47 PM

LD

“ Holcomb,

I am so thankful to have known Tom. Working with him at Mason was quite an experience. In his distinct, unique way, he transformed the lives of students and staff in positive ways. He was tough but caring. He was quick witted and funny. He had an opinion about everything and freely shared his thoughts. I am better for having Tom as my friend and I wish you all the best as you process this loss.

Lance Delbridge

Lance Delbridge - May 24, 2024 at 09:25 AM

Jl

“ I met Mr. Holcomb back in 1971 - 1972 back at J.W.Sexton
Highschool being in his history class.
Always called him "Hoke" !
I remember he was always into dog racing.
I remember our chats about life in general.
Had alot of fun in your class Hoke !
Thank you for looking out for me.
Rest in Peace my friend
God Bless you !

Joseph A Faggion II - May 19, 2024 at 09:58 PM

PA

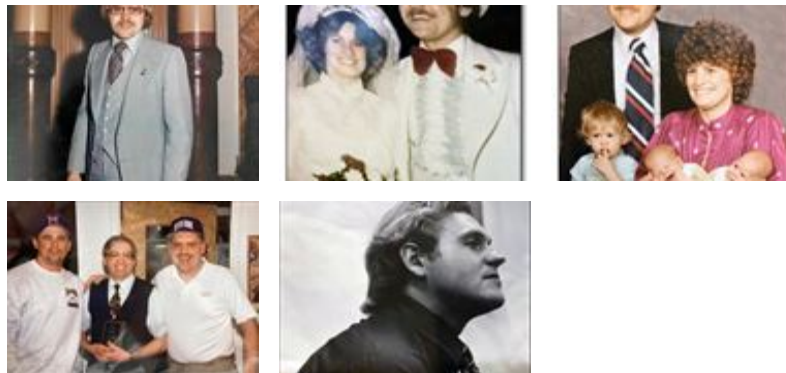
“ So many memories! I guess what I'll always
remember is him always yelling about that
play in centerfield. Any time I saw him after
that he would yell. As a terrible ballplayer, it
always made my day. He will be missed by
many!



Paul - May 17, 2024 at 01:35 PM



“ 50 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - May 16, 2024 at 03:36 PM

EC

“ Sending our condolences from the staff at ECHRS

ECHRS - May 13, 2024 at 12:04 PM

AR

“ Susanne and boys your father was one of a kind in many ways always full of stories and jokes. Going to miss him so much . Tricky Tom. RIP MY FRIEND. Amy Ruthruff

Amy Ruthruff - May 10, 2024 at 08:46 PM

MW

I remember Tom as a Lifegroup teacher at Ft. Caroline Bapt. And a member of The Pioneers. He also commissioned the new leaders as they took office. When his health took a turn and he could no longer live at home I would visit him in the nursing home and I remember he loved sweets and I would take him candy on my visits. Well, he is now with Jesus and his body is new and no pain. We will see him again one day.

Margina Widenet

margina Widener - May 20, 2024 at 02:14 PM

DH

Tom's memorial service was today,He was loved .If someone was there and did not know Tom they do now.Pioneers dinners I got to know him and love Suzanne.Happy she is moving back to Jacksonville,Fl.praying she finds herr home.

Darlene Harris

Darlene Harris - June 01, 2024 at 02:20 PM