



Thomas J. Gibbs

March 10, 1939 - December 23, 2024

Thomas Joseph Gibbs, age 85 of Clare, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 23, 2024 at the Horizon Senior Living Center of Clare. On March 10, 1939, Tom was born the son of Helen (Brick) Gibbs in Detroit, MI. He was united in marriage to Diane Jennings on March 14, 1969 in Clawson, MI. From 1965 to 1991, Tom served as an installer for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company. After his retirement from Michigan Bell in '91, Tom started his second career as a proclaimed "Junk man", having a love for buying, restoring, and selling antique tools and equipment across the state. Tom was a proud U.S. Marine, serving from 1956 to 1959, and never stopped his dedication to his physical activity, having made the marquee at the Clare Family Fitness Center for logging thousands of days in the gym well into his 80's.

Tom is survived by his loving wife of fifty-five years Diane Gibbs of Clare. He is also survived by his daughter Bethany Gibbs of Big Rapids, his son Tom (Becky) Gibbs of Clare, his son-in-law Kevin Pape of Bellville, MI., his grandchildren Jenny (Pat) Thomas, Clint (Beth) Shattuck, Kelsey (Jeremy Smith) Shattuck, and Shawn and ZahLayah Pape, five great-grandchildren, and his sister Shirley Bell. He was preceded in death by his mother Helen Gibbs, his daughter Jennifer Pape, and his brother Jim Gibbs.

In keeping with Tom's wishes, cremation has taken place with no services being planned. Online condolences may be shared on Tom's tribute page at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Tribute Wall

CN

“ My prayers for my Uncle Tom’s loved ones. He joined the Marine Corps at 17 years old. A hard worker loved fishing and hunting. He taught me how to clean fish and hunt deer with a bow and arrow. He loved to make SOS for breakfast and picking morel mushrooms while camping at ABG hunting camp (Artman,Brick, Gibbs). A world class Euchre player. Many fond memories of family picnics, pig roast and trip to Starve Rock State Park. On road trips he would say “ We’re off like a herd of turtles!” May God bless your eternal soul.
With love Clarence, Anne, Chris, Sarah

Clarence Nagelvoort - December 30, 2024 at 10:35 AM

NM

“ I will miss my Uncle Tom. Some of my favorite memories are when I stayed with him and my Aunt Diane. I remember the lake house and painting the swing. I watched the my cousins when they were babies and later when I become a father i was able to share that with my family.

We will always have you in our hearts

*With love
Mark And Mary*

Nagelvoort Mark - December 30, 2024 at 08:39 AM

DM

“ I have known Tom Gibbs for about 50 years. What a great guy, and a self-made man. There didn’t seem to be much that Tom wouldn’t try to do by himself. A great husband, father, family member, marine and man. Glad I got to spend time with him last month. Finally the ABG Hunt club is back together again.

Dennis Morrissey - December 26, 2024 at 01:26 PM

AB

“Diane and Tom used to watch my brother and I when we were younger. We would watch Sesame Street, play card games, eat chocolate chip pancakes. I owe a lot of who I am to Tom and Diane, and I will always be grateful for the fun times we shared! Tom was an amazing man, funny, and kind. I will miss him terribly.

Abigail Bissonnette - December 25, 2024 at 06:03 AM

AF

“Amazing Neighbor! Went for a walk down the road daily, always waved, smiled and had great roadside conversations. You will definitely be missed Tom! Friends and Neighbors Always! Dan and Annette Forbes

Annette Forbes - December 24, 2024 at 11:21 PM

JG

“Always so many happy memories when I think of Uncle Tom and Aunt Diane. As a child, visiting in Clare. Happy fun times at all the family reunions. You will truly be missed by so many. RIP Uncle Tom ❤️❤️❤️

James Gibbs - December 24, 2024 at 07:01 PM

MS

“A great man! And a great neighbor when I lived in his hood! The last 30 years he never let me forget the time I t-boned him at the corner of Surrey and Brand. I really thought he was going to kill me while we waited for the police to get there. The only injury was his big Ford pickup and my pride. 30 years he reminded me of that day with a chuckle! Rest In Peace my friend!

Mark Salchert - December 24, 2024 at 11:44 AM

JD

“ *Diane and family, so sorry for the loss of Tom. I remember him always being active and loving life. May the angels welcome him to paradise!*

Joanne Dana - December 24, 2024 at 11:44 AM

SM

“ *Hugs and prayers to the Gibbs family during this time of loss.*

Sue Murawski - December 24, 2024 at 11:25 AM

BW

RIP Tom. Loved to play euchre with you. We had many great times at the Moose. Take care my friend. Love and prayers for Diane and your family. ❤️❤️❤️❤️🙏🙏. Love Betty

Betty Wentworth - December 26, 2024 at 06:40 PM