



Thomas Victor Lunden

May 17, 1937 - September 12, 2021

Thomas Victor Lunden of Delta Township passed away on September 12, 2021 after battling cancer this past year. Thomas was born in Lansing, Michigan on May 17, 1937 to the late Harry and Evelyn (Hulliberger) Lunden. Tom graduated from Lansing Sexton High School Class of 1955 where he played varsity basketball and was the Vice President of the Varsity Club and for fun was in the Ping Pong Club. After high school graduation he joined the Marine Corps and served from 1958 to 1960. After his service in the Marines, Thomas met and subsequently married Ellen Ann Clark and went on to attend Michigan State University where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Education. Tom started his lifelong career in education at Grand Ledge High School, then moved on to Gardner Middle School and finally to Lansing Sexton High School where he taught biology and physical education. He coached men's golf, women's volleyball and men's basketball and football. In 2019, Tom was inducted into the Lansing Sexton Coaching Hall of Fame. After retiring, he enjoyed spending time at the family cottage at Houghton Lake and traveling with his best friend and loving wife, Ellen. Tom was an avid golfer and was a member of the Country Club of Lansing where he and Ellen made many friends. They also enjoyed more than 20 years of wintering in Florida following the sunshine and playing golf with friends. Tom was a loving husband and proud father of daughter, Jennifer and son, Michael. He also enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren. Tom will be greatly missed by his children, his sister Elaine, and many friends and colleagues.

He was preceded in death by his wife of more than 60 years, Ellen, and his grandson, Jacob Harter. Tom is survived by his children, Jennifer and Michael Lunden and their spouses, Jay and Teresa, his sister Elaine Smith, and brother-in-law Gary Clark and partner Glen Sard. Tom is also survived by his grandchildren, Jordan Harter and Lynsi and Jordan Montgomery. A private family memorial service will be held and Tom and Ellen will be laid to rest at the Delta Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions in Tom's name may be given to the Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Road, Suite 300, Jacksonville, Florida 32256 (<https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/Default.aspx?tsid=10043>) or Sparrow Hospice Services, 1215 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48912 (<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/spaheasys>). Arrangements by the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge.

Cemetery Details

Delta Center Cemetery

7382 W. St. Joseph Highway
Lansing, MI 48917

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Mr. Lunden was a tough but fair teacher. When I was in 9th grade at Gardner I was his student aid. He challenge me daily with assignments. I went on to Harry Hill and played Golf and was always happy to see him when we played his Big Reds. Thought about him many times over the years and was sad to here he had passed. My Condolences to his family. Mike Sleep class of 81*

Mike sleep - October 17, 2021 at 10:19 AM

BW

“ *To the Lunden Family: Thanks for sharing your Father with so many people. He was a big encouragement to me at J.W. Sexton Senior High School. There were other gym teachers. However none of his caliber. I will forever be grateful to him that he was there for so many of us. Boris Williams*

Boris Williams - October 11, 2021 at 10:11 PM

DD

“ *Coach Lunden was a great guy,I had Him for Gym class and as a football coach at West Jr. High School 65-68. Rest in peace Coach. Dennis DeFore.*



Dennis DeFore - September 21, 2021 at 10:22 PM

DD

“ *Tom and Ellen were super people, and two of my favorite patients. Lovely people, honest, fair minded,and fun to be with.They loved their family, Houghton Lake,MSU. RIPDr. Ronald Miller D.O.FA OCD*

Dr.Ronald C Miller D.O.FA OCD - September 20, 2021 at 07:48 PM

JM

“ Graduation class of 1991. Mr Lunden was an amazing teacher and loved to make people smile. We are sad to hear of his passing. May you rest in heaven, jdubs forever.

Jacqueline Moore - September 20, 2021 at 07:02 PM

JT

“ Tom and I were in the same graduating class at Sexton H.S. I remember him as that scrappy guard for our Big Red basketball team. We both went on to long careers in education. He was one of the good guys and his life walked the talk. R.I.P. Tom Lunden Class of 1955.

Joseph William Toth - September 20, 2021 at 02:06 PM

DF

Tom was a special patient of mine. Truly a respectable man RIP
Ronald C Miller DO FAOCD

Dr Ronald C Miller DO FAOCD - January 10, 2022 at 04:02 PM

SB

“ Mr Lunden was a good man. I really enjoyed being in his gym class back in 1983=84. Rest In Peace, Coach! Steve Burnett C/o 1987

Steve Burnett - September 20, 2021 at 01:31 PM

KF

“ Dear Lunden Family, you have my deepest condolences. Coach Lunden taught us how to be good sports and team players. I credit my good sportsmanship to his influence. At 55 years of age, thanks to coach Lunden I am still enjoying sports both as an athlete and fan. RIP Coach

Kimberlee Fowler - September 20, 2021 at 01:25 PM

JK

“ I knew Tom, when he was the coach of the Lansing Sexton boys golf team. I was a player on the East Lansing High School golf team in the early to mid 1980s, that routinely competed with the Big Reds for the state championship. Tom was a great coach and a nice person with a competitive spirit and good humor. I was sad to learn of his passing.

Wishing peace and happy memories to the Lunden family.

Jeff Kropschot

Jeff Kropschot - September 20, 2021 at 12:13 AM

JB

“ When I reflect on influential teachers in my early life, Mr. Tom Lunden was certainly one of them. Uniquely funny, on-the-edge motivator, and a friend. He has left me with sooo many memories and life lessons! He certainly is an indelible part of the happy days of my youth. God Bless you Tom Lunden and Family!

Jim Boles - September 19, 2021 at 11:25 AM

BM

“ So sorry to hear of Tom's passing. We shared many wonderful times together at good ole JDubbs and a lot of laughs. He was infectious that way you know. There is much I could share but the image that first comes to mind is seeing him in that bright red cowboy hat that we eventually sold as a fundraisers. He was a tremendous coach and teacher. Even not seeing him of late, I will really miss him. My sincere condolences to his family. Melanie Miller

Bruce & Melanie Miller - September 19, 2021 at 07:45 AM

AH

“ We will miss you Uncle Tom! Love the memories I have as a child going to Houghton Lake with you and your family! I will miss your smile, your blue twinkling eyes and our Christmas gatherings! It won't be the same without you and Ellen this year but I'm glad you are together in heaven. Rest in Peace! Prayers to you all.

Love,

Amy

(Hayes family)



Amy Hayes - September 16, 2021 at 11:00 AM