



Thomas H. Wertz, II

April 15, 2020

Thomas Henry Wertz II (Tom) was born July 14, 1964, at Lutheran Hospital in Wheatridge, Colorado to Thomas Henry and Nancy Caroll (Behnke) Wertz. On April 15, 2020, at the age of 55, he passed away at North Colorado Medical Center in Greeley, Colorado.

From a very young age Tom always had a passion for the outdoors, hunting, and guns. He was never without a good dog or two. His father and his dogs were his favorite adventure companions. However, over the years, he had many outdoor and hunting buddies who were dear, close friends. Walking the hills and searching for the game was more important than filling the tag. He always had exciting and wild stories of his hunting trips. The most thrilling were about his trips to both Africa and Alaska. However, he also had good memories of his 14 years of going to Texas to hunt wild boar (Arizona too) as well as his 18 years of going to the coyote calling contest in Wyoming with his dad. Tom was an avid outdoorsman and had a respect for wildlife that he passed down to his nephews and shared with friends. His knowledge of guns and cartridges was phenomenal, as many of his friends could attest to.

Tom was an avid pool player and competed with some well-known players. Although golf wasn't his passion, he played in tournaments with his buddies and enjoyed many games with his family, including the annual Father's Day game with his dad.

Tom was raised as a Catholic and it was apparent throughout his life in the way he treated people. He firmly believed in the Constitution of the United States, and the efforts to live within the bounds of his religion and the Constitution were very apparent. He was very thoughtful of others and always had something positive to say about everyone. His nieces and nephews were spoiled as if they were his own children. All children, whether family or friends, were always drawn to his fun personality. He was a real "kid magnet". He never met a stranger, always had time for everyone, and made everyone feel special. Tom could always tell a good joke and his sense of humor could brighten any room.

As a young boy he lived in Westminster, Colorado; Green Bay, Wisconsin; and Fort

Collins, Colorado. Tom graduated from Poudre High School in Fort Collins, Colorado in 1982. During high school he worked at Mister Pawn and continued to work there for a few years. While still young Tom began his road construction career with Sterling Sand and Gravel setting stakes and running in front of the road grader. Tom stayed with Sterling Sand and Gravel as it became Western Mobile, Flatiron, La Farge, and then Martin Marietta. His job was very important to him and he put his heart and soul into doing a good job. He worked his way up to his current position of Base/Dirt Crew Superintendent.

Tom leaves a large void in the lives of his family, friends, coworkers, and that of Kathi Reiff.

Tom is survived by his parents Thomas Henry and Nancy Carol Wertz, his sisters Marguerite (Gary) Yowell and Adrienne Bidula, his nieces Katelyn (Nathan) Wiegert and Rachel Bidula, his nephews Grant Yowell and Dalton Bidula, great niece Taylie Wiegert and great nephew Blaine Wiegert.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the loving care of Goes Funeral Care, Fort Collins. Tom's Memorial Mass will take place at 11:00 am on Saturday, July 11, 2020 at the Cathedral of St. Mary in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The Mass can accommodate 100 attendees. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Tom may be sent to the Second Amendment Foundation: <https://www.saf.org/>.

Events

JUL Memorial Mass 11:00AM

11

Cathedral of St. Mary

2107 Capitol Ave, Cheyenne, WY, US, 82001

Comments



“ Tommy was a real avid hunter, when I hunted with Tommy and his dad many years ago he was not just a hunter but shared his knowledge of hunting freely
The hunting community lost a great resource and I lost a great cousin

Rick Downs - June 28, 2020 at 09:17 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Texas Pig Hunting



Simaron Rapp - April 24, 2020 at 11:17 PM



“ Tom AKA the hog hunter, what a great guy, loved the life he had and was respectful of others. Great sense of humor and always had a joke about something. Going to miss his facebook posts. RIP Tom

Ed Hays - April 24, 2020 at 10:31 PM



“ Tom's friendship was a tremendous blessing to me. He was such a fascinating, interesting guy and a great friend. We met at Susan and John Sunderland's wedding in Chicago in 1996. He had traveled there from Colorado and I had traveled there from the Seattle area. We kept in touch and the following spring I was planning to be in New Mexico to visit friends. Tom and I met in Alamosa, Colorado and he took me camping in the San Juan mountains. Visiting Colorado had always been a dream of mine. When I crossed the state line I pulled over, got out of the car and kissed the ground. We camped and that night we heard coyotes calling. Tom could tell it was a pack calling to a lone young coyote. It was an unusual situation, especially for that time of evening. I can't remember the details of the coyote conversation that Tom translated for me, but that's what he was doing. Then he joined into the conversation with a coyote call. He was playing a joke on them -- confusing them with what he added to the conversation. I gave him a hard time about that. The next morning it had snowed. We drove over the pass (Wolf Creek I think) that's part of the Continental Divide in an absolute blizzard. He put chains on when we headed up the pass then at one point he said, kind of to himself, "I'm surprised the pass is open." That was scary for a girl from Chicago, but I knew Tom could handle it. He kept laughing and saying, "You're as safe as if you were in your mama's arms." It was a great trip, and then that summer he came to visit me in the Pacific Northwest and I took him hiking along my favorite river, the Dosewallips on the Olympic Peninsula. Tom couldn't get over how dense the forest is here, and he kept remarking that he'd never be able to run around these mountains like he does in Colorado. He said he'd need a trail or a machete. He kept saying, "I am in my element." I rented the movie "Tender Mercies" with Robert Duvall because I thought he'd really like it, and he loved it. He had brought his harmonica and it turned out we both loved the song "Gentle on my Mind". At the end of that trip I dropped him off at the airport and drove home. As I turned into my driveway the song "Gentle on my Mind" came on the radio. I'll never forget that or the great times we had together. We saw some of the most beautiful parts of the country together. We had a nice friendship and a little bit of romance thrown in for good measure. I also remember how dearly Tom loved his family and especially treasured his close relationship with his father. Tom loved his life. I think him for his friendship and adventurous spirit and send my love to everyone who is grieving his loss. I'm grieving with you.

Kelley Guiney - April 23, 2020 at 04:57 PM



“ I've worked with Tom many times over the years. Always a fun and interesting time.
RIP Cowboy

RP - April 23, 2020 at 11:11 AM



“ I have so many great memories of Tom. He was such a good friend to have. Always ready with a joke or a great one liner. Always ready with a great story. He played a mean game of one pocket.

Just a good ol boy. He would brag about how he never bought a new tire in his life. One time we were driving down College avenue (he was driving) and he started telling me a story and he was so focused on the story he actually started to unknowingly slow down the truck. So, I'm sitting there watching the cars go flying by and listening to the story and by the time he's at the end of the story he had almost come to a complete stop in the right lane. I had to remind him he was driving and motioned him he should probably get moving.

Just a good dude. I will miss him.

Eric Baumgartner - April 22, 2020 at 04:59 PM



“ Tom and I have been good friends for almost 40 years...we had some epic one pocket matches over the years...he was always a lot of fun, and a thoughtful caring man..I'll really miss seeing his smiling face..He will always live in our memories ..my prayers go out to his many friends and loved ones.

Larry Baker - April 24, 2020 at 09:55 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Toms family, friends and coworkers.

Wayne Keil - April 22, 2020 at 09:33 AM



“ I’ve known Tom since 6th grade. We met on the school bus. Tom noticed we both were reading the same book by Jim Kjelgaard. “Hey, you like Jim Kjelgaard books?” Tom says.

The books were mostly outdoor hunting/fishing books of boys in the woods and adventure with their dogs. From that point on, we learned we had the same interests and became life-long friends.

Tom was brave! He had such an intrepid, all-in type personality. Whatever Tom did, he did with all his heart and passion.

I always admired his passion to stand up for his beliefs and his love of God.

If you were going to have a political argument with him, you better damn well be cocked and loaded, and have your facts straight. Luckily, I was always on the “right” side of the fence with him in that arena.

Tom was not shy about his Facebook posts regarding his political views and God. I looked forward to his daily posts and appreciated his point of view.

We had many great hunting trips together, but there was one in particular that showed the kind of man he was. One day I asked to borrow his handgun loaded with birdshot to hunt pheasants. To his amazement, I did very well with that gun. Tom said, “Anyone that shoots that well with this should own this gun.” He gave me that gun as a gift.

Another time, I invited Tom and our friend Danny over to shoot pool every Wednesday night. On the first visit over, he bought both of us a high-end pool cue as a gift.

This is the kind of man Tom was. He was a giver, never a taker. He was a guy you just liked to hang out with. God, he was funny and quick-witted and full of jokes to make you smile and laugh in this crazy world.

Last year when I was asking Tom where he thought I should take my son for youth elk hunt, he said, “Let me get back with you in a couple hours.” Tom left a message on my phone with all the best odds and stats on each draw area.

Tom cared about people, he cared about helping, he cared about right and wrong. I’m honored to have been friends with a man as great as Tom. I have no doubt he is in heaven with the God he stood up for publicly against any naysayers. Tom was truly one of the greatest humans I have ever known, with guts to say what most of us think, but afraid to say publicly.

I always admired that about you, old friend. Going to miss you more than you ever knew.

Tight lines and shoot straight up there, buddy!

- Paul Milewski



“ Thanks for sharing your love and praise for such a iconic Man.

Mark Stanley - April 26, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“ I got to know Tom while working at Western Mobile Northern. Such a great guy! My heartfelt condolences to his entire family and loved ones.



Debi Pearson - April 21, 2020 at 06:48 PM



“ Tom had all the qualities a man could ask for in a friend. He was loyal, generous, strong, funny, politically incorrect and always ready for an adventure. I shot pool and hunted with Tom and he taught me a lot about both. I will miss him dearly. I'm so sorry he has left us.

John Sunderland

John Sunderland - April 21, 2020 at 06:37 PM



“ What's the good word? I wish I had a buck for every time I heard that from Tom I could pay for a trip to Africa for both of us

Warren brown - April 26, 2020 at 06:06 PM