



Thomas Adkins

JUL 3, 1929 - MAY 12, 2012



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**HOLMAN
HOWE**
FUNERAL HOMES

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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Thomas Edward Adkins, son of Terry Anderson and Edna Frances Stewart Adkins, was born July 3, 1929 in Lesterville, Missouri. He was taken by our Lord to his Heavenly home on May 12, 2012 at the age of eighty-two years, ten months, and nine days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Louise Shropshire, Erlene Stark, and Lois Maraman; an infant sister, Frances Elaine and an infant brother John A. Adkins.

He is survived by his wife of sixty-two years, Virginia; two sons, Edward Adkins of Wichita, Kansas and Jim Adkins, of Wichita, Kansas; two grandchildren, Emily Swartzkopf and husband Mark of Hutchinson, Kansas and Christopher Adkins of Baltimore Maryland; three great-grandchildren, Isaac, Ethan, and Collin; one sister, Janice Bass of Kansas City, Missouri; many nieces, nephews, a host of other family members and many friends.

Thomas moved with his family to Wright County in 1935 and he attended Little Creek School. Later the family moved to the Pea Ridge Community and he attended school there until moving to San Francisco, California where his father was employed during the war years. Returning from California, he attended Mansfield High School. Thomas met and married Virginia Land on November 18, 1949. To his union two sons were born. "Tommy", or "Tom", as many people called him, enjoyed many things in his life. His collection of antique cars, traveling, country music, and watching western movies, mowing the lawn, and feeding the birds in both winter and summer. He enjoyed his pets, especially his cat "Miss Kitty". His work in life involved many jobs; he gave up a period of his grade school term to help work for the family. In his teen years he worked as a farm hand which included many jobs, one of which was driving a truck. He continued driving for a lumber company after he and Virginia were married.



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He was a good mechanic and in 1951 Thomas and his family moved to Wichita, Kansas where he worked for Beech Aircraft and Boeing Aircraft. Tom retired from Boeing in 1984. In 1994, Tom and Virginia returned from Kansas and lived the Country Life on their farm in Marshfield, Missouri.

Thomas professed his faith in Christ early in his life and was a member of the New Hope Baptist Church.

Thomas was a caring husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and uncle, and was a caring neighbor and friend. We celebrate his life and accomplishments and will treasure the many wonderful memories he has created for his family and dear friends. He truly will be missed by many.

Funeral services will be at 11 am Monday May 14, 2012 in Holman-Howe Funeral Home, Hartville, Missouri, with visitation at 10 am prior to the service, in the Funeral Home.



Tribute Wall

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PS

Paul E. Stark posted:

When I married Tom's sister Marjorie Erlene Adkins in 1947 in California, the instant that the minister pronounced us Man & Wife, Tom and I became Brothers In Law. As you know in no way do Brothers In Law share a common bloodline. So therefore the rise and fall of in law relationships depends entirely upon subsequent events over the years. I wish to tell all who read this that very quickly our in law relationship became friendly. I believe this was due to Tom knowing I was taking good care of his dear sister and that I was aware of how much he dearly loved Marjorie Erlene. Yes we both lived 2,000 miles apart which does not promote togetherness. Despite that distance whenever Marjorie and I and our family passed through Kansas on our to and fro trips from California and Missouri, Tom and Virginia always welcomed us five weary travelers into their comfortable home. During those stays Marjorie and I were often challenged to a game of Croquet that Tom and Virginia had set up on their back lawn. I knew that with the many, many hours that Tom and Virginia had practiced on that Croquet court, Marjorie and I would most certainly each face defeat. But being most gracious hosts Tom and Virginia always saw to it that Marjorie and I would always place first and second. (Continued in Section 2}

August 8 at 7:29 AM

PS

Paul E Stark posted:

PART 2 Before Tom and Virginia moved to Kansas, Tom helped his mother and father build their home in Hartville. A home incidentally that Marjorie and I have totally enjoyed living in for the past 17 years. The closeness of Tom to his parents even resulted in Tom and Virginia building their own home across the road from his parents. After Tom's Mother died and Tom's Father in later years became more and more infirmed, Tom took personal care of his Father even bringing him to Wichita to take better care of him. In 1994 Tom and I both relocated to Missouri. When Marjorie Erlene was diagnosed with Breast Cancer, Tom on his own voluntarily arrived at our home and for weeks on end completely mowed our fields with his own mowing equipment to relieve me of that time consuming burden so that I would have more time to take care of his dear sister. Dear Lord - thank you for creating Tom and letting us live with him in your earthly kingdom. And thank you for releasing him from his pain and suffering. And thank you for taking him with you to be with his family in Heaven.
Paul E Stark

August 7 at 12:34 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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