



## Dr. Thomas John Tiefenwerth

May 30, 1954 - January 13, 2022

Funeral services for Dr. Thomas John Tiefenwerth, 67, will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 17, 2022, at Trinity Episcopal Church followed by graveside service at Rusk County Memorial-Gardens with Father Bill Carroll officiating under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home.

The family will receive friends from 12:30 p.m. until service time on Monday, at the church.

Dr. Tiefenwerth passed away on January 13, 2022 at his home in Longview, Texas. He was born on May 30, 1954 in Rockville Centre, New York. His parents were the late Eugene and Rosemary Tiefenwerth. In addition, he was preceded in death by his beloved Uncle Joe Kusk.

Tom is survived by his loving wife of 21 years, Jana Tiefenwerth; his children, Brent and Krysti Johnson, Evan Walgama, Jonathan and Alison Walgama, and Leigh and Mason Vincent; his grandchildren, Will, Kate, Seth, and Gwen Walgama and Korie Johnson; mother and father-in-law Janet and Robert Williams, brother-in-law Kim and Jackie Traylor and sisters-in-law Melanie Wood and Gina and Vernon Hughes. He is also survived by his family from New York, aunt Loretta Kusk and aunt and godmother Peggy Virgadamo, brothers Dennis and Nancy Tiefenwerth, Danny and Elizabeth Tiefenwerth, sisters Susan Fariole, Jeannie and Tony Geraghty, and several nephews and

nieces.

Dr. Tiefenwerth proudly served in the United States Marine Corps. He received his Bachelor's degree from New York Institute of Technology, followed by three Masters degrees including a masters from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and also a Ph.D. from the University of Southern Mississippi. He had a long distinguished career in Criminal Justice, both as a Clinical Psychologist and College Professor at many universities.

Tom was known as "Pop" to his grandkids whom he loved to shower with food and gifts. They loved sitting in his lap, doing magic tricks, and watching movies with him. He enjoyed movies of all types and was very knowledgeable about them. He was well loved by all of his students and his classes were a popular choice. Over the years, he had many dogs he considered family, most recently, Maggie and Dolly. His family heard his many stories and one-liners he loved to tell, sometimes over and over, but always with good laughs from all who heard. "Why use a new one when an old one works?" was his usual response to repeated lines. Many times he was heard saying, "You have earned yourself a blessing."

Tom had a personality that allowed him to "go with the flow" with his family's wishes and he never met a stranger. He moved several times without hesitation to be close to his grandchildren. He provided unmatched support to his children whenever they needed him.

Honorary Pallbearers include Brent Johnson, Evan Walgama, Jonathan Walgama, Mason Vincent, Charles Taylor, Kim Traylor, Joe Morris, Will Walgama, and Seth Walgama.

The family would like to give special thanks to his physicians, Dr. Lijo John, Dr. Jeff Hart, and Texas Oncology nursing staff in Longview.

A register book will be available at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home from Friday, January 14 until Monday, January 17 for friends and family to come sign and pay their respects.

In lieu of flowers, Tom would have wanted remembrances sent to the Marine Corps League Detachment 959 at 1512 Alpine Rd, Longview, TX 75601; Rusk County Pets Alive at PO Box 106 Henderson TX 75653, or Longview Animal Care and Adoption Center at P.O. Box 1952, Longview, TX 75606.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.crawfordacrim.com](http://www.crawfordacrim.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Rusk County Memorial Gardens

5013 US Hwy 259  
Henderson, TX 75652

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 17. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Episcopal Church  
906 Padon St.  
Longview, TX 75601

## Service

JAN 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Episcopal Church  
906 Padon St.  
Longview, TX 75601

# Tribute Wall

PM

“ Tommy and I go way back to when he was young we shared so many good times and laughed about them. He told me you know you got me fired from my first job at TSS for talking to him while he was working. He set me up on a blind date with his best friend and I told him he better not be ugly well he wasn't. We both had a great interest in Oldie music and used to go to the 1890 Club his favorite song was Blue Moon. Last time he came to New York he wanted Italian food so bad my mom was still alive we went to Mama's and he was so happy to have good Italian food. Well I just wanted to share some of the good times that we had and will I miss him more than you will ever know please rest in peace my dear cousin

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**Patricia Marmion** - January 20, 2022 at 12:16 PM

SB

“ Sandy Burns lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas John Tiefenwerth



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**Sandy Burns** - January 19, 2022 at 01:59 PM

SF

“ Dear Jana and family. Love you all for making Tommy's life so special and full of many memorable events. I think back of growing up in a house of 1 of five kids. I was the middle child. It was exciting, fun, adventurous & chaotic at times. Tommy being the oldest was the ring leader. He always kept us laughing. It's hard to imagine you being gone. Now I know you have no more pain & suffering & you are in a better place. Until we meet again. Rest in peace.



Susan Fariole - January 17, 2022 at 01:19 PM

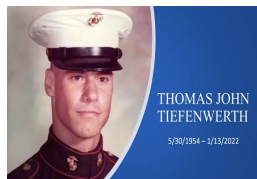
 Brian Geraghty

“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of my Uncle. His academic accomplishments set an example for me to show me what was possible to accomplish academically & gave me the belief that I could excel in college. I'm grateful for the guidance he provided in helping me during that formative time in my life & for recommending life altering books like Think & Grow Rich by Napoleon Hill that set me on a path to feeling more prepared for adulthood & for continuing my personal education long after leaving the classroom. May he rest in peace.

Brian Geraghty - January 15, 2022 at 08:59 PM

LV

“ 1 file added to the album Photo Slideshow



Leigh Walgama Vincent - January 15, 2022 at 08:36 PM

RL

*U r brother Tom will be greatly missed this is Robert Lang son of the late Joseph Lang*

**Robert Lang** - January 18, 2022 at 12:42 PM

PT

“ *It was an honor and a privilege to have known a man as fine as you were. You will be greatly missed. Farewell my dear friend. Thank you for the memories. Until we meet again. Rest In Peace.*



**Panagiotis Tzimas** - January 15, 2022 at 11:17 AM

PT

“ *Knowing Tommy was a privilege and an honor that I will always be grateful for. Farewell, my friend. Until we meet again. Thank you for the memories.*



**Peter Tzimas** - January 15, 2022 at 11:00 AM

MT

“ *He was the best of the best! May his soul forever Rest in Peace. Godspeed dear friend...you will be greatly missed!* 🥹🙏❤️



**Maria Tzimas** - January 15, 2022 at 10:53 AM

TS

“ *Jana i'm so sorry for your loss. You're iin my thoughts and prayers* 🙏❤️

**Teresa Savoy** - January 15, 2022 at 08:57 AM

NF

“ Dear Aunt Jana & Family,

*It's with a heavy heart to be writing this. My sincerest condolences on the passing of Uncle Tom. He was a larger than life figure and someone that I looked up to. Even though he was 100's of miles away, he was always just a phone call away to lend advice or just simply listen. It was always with excitement and happiness when he would come back to New York to visit. In 2010 we took a family trip to Texas and it was a blast. So many countless memories and stories that I will forever cherish and never forget. He lived a tremendous life and one to model after. I know I have another Angel looking over me and will miss him dearly. Until we meet again.*

*Rest in peace Uncle Tom.*

*Love,*

*Nicholas*

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**Nicholas Fariole** - January 14, 2022 at 11:30 PM

MG

“ Mark And Nancy Gibson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas John Tiefenwerth



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**Mark and Nancy Gibson** - January 14, 2022 at 10:17 PM

MG

“ *Mark And Nancy Gibson sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Thomas John Tiefenwerth*



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**Mark and Nancy Gibson** - January 14, 2022 at 10:16 PM

AE

“ *Tom was a great Pop to my 4 nieces & nephews. He will forever live in their hearts and through their lives 💕 . Jana & family, we are sending you so much love over the coming days!*

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**Ashlea Eubanks** - January 14, 2022 at 09:28 PM



“ *Dear Jana and family, Tom was my best friend. We went back to 1977. We kind of "grew up" together. We shared so many stories and laughter. We used to go to a steak house every time he came back to Long Island. We had a long phone conversation a little bit more than a couple of weeks ago. At the time, he seemed to be on top of his health. This last call will ink deep in my memory forever like our other memories. Rest in peace, Tom!*

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**Yao Chu** - January 14, 2022 at 08:41 PM

LK

“ Dear Jana and family. I met Tom in 1957 when he was three and I was dating his Uncle Joe, so we go back many years. He, along with his siblings, were an integral part of our lives. He was very close to Uncle Joe and in some ways emulated him. The fact that Tom asked Uncle Joe to be his best man is a clear indication of their closeness. But the relationship was also close with me and I consider him a very special nephew. Although he lived many miles from us, we spoke frequently and always had very special conversations. We were so proud to attend his graduation from the University of Southern Mississippi when he received his Ph.D., and he certainly accomplished much during his lifetime. I truly believe he is now free of the pain he was suffering from the cancer treatments and reunited with his Mom, Dad and Uncle Joe. Stay strong Jana and family and reflect on the fact that he truly loved all of you.  
RIP dear Tom.  
Love, Aunt Loretta

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Loretta Kusk - January 14, 2022 at 06:07 PM

WS

“ RIP Tom, What a pleasure it was knowing you and listening to some of your stories on your expert testimony in criminal cases. You were truly a scholar and a gentleman. Your service to our country is appreciated and you will be missed.  
Wayne and Luisa Seelbach

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wayne seelbach - January 14, 2022 at 05:13 PM

ET

“ Dear Jana -  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.  
With Love-  
Dan and Liz Tiefenwerth



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E Tiefenwerth - January 14, 2022 at 04:16 PM

TH

“ *Terrie Harman lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas John Tiefenwerth*



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**Terrie Harman** - January 14, 2022 at 02:28 PM

BP

“ *Prayers for family during this difficult time*

*Beth Hale Pope*

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**Beth Pope** - January 13, 2022 at 08:59 PM