



Paul J. Thomas Jr.

December 14, 1946 - August 30, 2021

Paul J. Thomas, Jr. of Toledo Ohio passed away on August 30, 2021 at Mercy St. Anne Hospital after a long illness. Born on December 14, 1946, he was the son of Paul J. and Wilma Thomas.

Paul attended St. Stephen's Catholic School where he grew up in the neighborhood of Birmingham. Paul was a 1964 Central Catholic graduate where he participated in football for two years and basketball for four years. He was awarded All City Honorable Mention his senior year. Paul was a member of the 1962/1963 basketball team, which was inducted into the Central Catholic Hall of Fame.

Paul worked for GM at the Powertrain plant and finished out his employment with them as a video specialist retiring after 32 years. After retiring he continued to work doing commercial snow removal and electrical projects. He had an impeccable work ethic and would always be happy to lend a helping hand to neighbors and friends with his expertise in computers and electrical projects. He took great pride in everything he did. All who knew him well would agree that he had a very big heart that he wore on his sleeve.

Paul was married to Kathy Lichtie in April of 1986. For 35 years, Paul and his wife Kathy enjoyed their cottage at Clark Lake in the Irish Hills of Michigan. He spent countless hours with his lake family and was well known for his awesome campfires. Paul was an accomplished water skier and boatsman.

He taught many adults to water ski over the years but especially enjoyed teaching kids.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Kathy; daughter, Amy Thomas and son Robert Thomas, both of Florida; brother, Steve Thomas (Sue Ceparski) of Sylvania, Steve was Paul's willing and loving co-caregiver, we were lucky to have him so close by. Michael (Kim) Thomas of Tennessee and many nieces and nephews. Paul was preceded in death by his parents Wilma and Paul Thomas, Sr. along with two brothers, John and James Thomas.

The family would like to give special thanks to his doctors, their staffs and the wonderful doctors and nurses at St. Anne's Hospital for their excellent care.

A Celebration of Life gathering will be held at a later date.

Family and friends are encouraged to share memories and online condolences by visiting ansberg-west.com. Memorials in Paul's memory may be directed to Cancer Connection of Northwest Ohio or organization of donor's choice.

Tribute Wall

AS

“ Met Paul and Kathy through my sister Molly at Clark lake. He always had a smile on his face and a welcome hug. He was quick to help with boat issues or any other thing he could help with. It was a privilege to have met him

Amy Szymkowiak - September 14, 2021 at 08:31 AM

JM

“ Paul was a great neighbor and great friend to play all sports with especially basketball and hockey. Condolences to his surviving family

jim molnar - September 13, 2021 at 11:00 AM

GG

“ From an old friend, so sorry to hear, Rest In Peace.
Gerry Gurn



Gerry Gurn - September 13, 2021 at 09:42 AM

JR

“ I have known Paul for all of my years.

He and my father even left a pick up basketball game to attend my birth as the story goes.

Paul seemed to be always a neighbor to me and to many but he was more than just a neighbor, he was family.

Paul was a neighbor of ours on Lockwood Avenue in Toledo and then at Clarklake as well as a prominent guest at my Mimi and Papi's gatherings on Custer Avenue.

I grew up with Amy and Bobby babysat by our beloved Yoshi.

Clarklake was Paul's happy place, well unless you caught him on dock install day in May or Saturday mornings also known as mowing day.

I last saw Paul over Labor Day weekend a few years ago and he shared the news that his Central Catholic basketball team would be inducted into the 2019 Hall of Fame. As a fellow Fighting Irish alum, I beamed with congratulations.

I also quickly reminded him that my Central basketball team was inducted 10 years ago. A ceremony where he and Kathy joined me. We shared our last laugh together over basketball with a Bud Light in hand.

How could I also forget that Paul and I worked together for 188 days. Yes, 188 days. I was tapped to work in GM's College Program for the first two years of college. Those were the days where Ed Reau quickly taught me you do not miss work. So in 188 days, I paid for two years of college at Ohio University.

Ever the smart one, Paul had worked his way into a cushy job doing corporate videos while the rest of us worked on the plant floor.

I learned many life lessons from those lunches at GM when the guys (Paul, Bobby, Louie, Gill, John, Tom and more) shared their wisdom (and bought my lunch!)

There are so many fond memories I have of Paul.

The Moody Blue speed boat. I can remember her flying up and down the Maumee River and later finding her home on Clarklake where Paul patiently taught many of us to ski and crazily pulled us on tubes which we loved every minute of.

Paul and Kathy enjoyed more than three decades of summers on beautiful Clarklake. A place many of us hold fond memories. I know Paul and Stu are enjoying a cold one together tonight.

I remember coming back to the lake after many years from going to college and starting a career. I pulled up, got out and hugged Paul and Kathy. No questions asked. Just a chair and a Bud Light offered to me.

At the lake, Paul was always willing to put the last log on the bonfire, share a laugh, welcome a neighbor to the circle of chairs, even if it was 3 am.

To that, I say: cheers to Paul and the life he lived!

May we all cherish the good times and memories we shared with Paul.

Jackie Reau - September 12, 2021 at 05:22 PM

MT

“ You will be missed my brother by so many of your lake family as well as all your friends. Thank you for teaching me a little bit about a lotta stuff as your baby brother. You would send me on those “Go-for” (gopher” trips that you always called secret missions. I felt that I was the only man for the job fetching you a 11/16 socket with a short extension and a 3/8 drive swivel. Or any other tool that you genuinely taught me how to identify and use. You are now on the biggest secret mission ever called up. You’ll do a great job no doubt. Love and miss you bro. Rest In Peace, see you in a while.

mike thomas - September 12, 2021 at 02:32 PM

KW

“ Kathy, so sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers for you and family (Hugs\$

Tom and Karen

Karen Westlick - September 12, 2021 at 10:47 AM

JT

“ Rest In peace Uncle Paul. Nothing was better than spending a weekend at the lake house with you. So many amazing memories playing water volleyball, watching you ski, swimming, bonfires, and pontoon boat rides. Love you!

Justin Thomas - September 11, 2021 at 10:57 PM

JC

“ Paul made me feel like a welcome part of the family the day I met he and Kathy. They invited Molly and I to their cottage and their home many times over the past 8 years that I have been privileged to know them. As in other posts that I have read, there is a common theme. Conversations and beers around a fire, a nice boat ride around the lake, sitting on the porch discussing whatever we, or they were working on. He was a wealth of knowledge on many topics, and a great person to ask advice. I will miss those days, but will keep all the fond memories. We miss you Paul...

Joel Cousino - September 10, 2021 at 04:21 PM

MC

“ Paul was a dear friend to me especially after my divorce. He was always there to lend a helping hand. He helped me with plumbing issues, dead batteries on my cars, hung a big screen tv for me, helped me rake leaves at my house and when my nephew died in a car accident unexpectedly, him and Kathy came over and put together a buffet table and dining table and chairs for me while I was out of town at the funeral. He was there for whatever you needed at the time. He was also great at giving advice. I will never forget hanging out with him and Kathy at their house on the porch, around the campfire at the lake, tooling around the lake on their boat, and at my house. I will cherish those little bits of time we had. Rest in Heaven my dear friend.

Molly Cousino - September 10, 2021 at 03:58 PM

MW

“ Very sorry to hear of Paul's passing, remember many good times around the campfire and sharing beers on beautiful summer days. Keep the faith and may God bless you in the coming years.

Mike and Judy Whitney

Mike Whitney - September 10, 2021 at 01:15 PM

JP

“ Paul, you and Kathy are two of our favorite “lake people”, and we looked forward to seeing you during the summer for these last many years. Thank you for being such good friends to my beloved brother Stu and Sherri. Pulling up a chair and having a chat, beer in hand... those are some wonderful times, and memories we have. Love always, fellow sojourner. Janet and Mike

Janet Paul - September 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM



“ Paul was a wonderful person and he has a major impact on my life. I will forever been known as “Munchie” thanks to all the times i spent with Paul working on his boat or around the cabin and he would take me to the party store to buy a bag of “Munchies.” I will never forget Paul and I always looked at him like a grandpa/uncle to me growing up. I had many great times with Paul and will cherish all of the memories we shared. Clarklake will never forget you Paul.

Matthew Cervenec - September 09, 2021 at 03:51 PM

SC

“ Some people don't believe in Hero's. I say - you've never met Paul Thomas! Paul you were great neighbor, a great friend and like a Father to Me & for Me. I learned so much from you throughout these past 20 years, especially after I lost Stu. Always taking the time to teach & educate me on the proper use, care and maintenance from lawn equipment to boat motors. How to build a proper fire with a dura-log under the log-o-matic while eating "goobers!" Psst..Still working on the garage organization thing, I'm sure I'll see you before I get that one accomplished. Thank you Paul for all of the wonderful memories, sharing your life with us, and mostly that wing of yours always on stand-by ready to tuck me under when I needed it. You will be sorely missed by All.
Fly High Paul Thomas! You truly earned your wings! ~ Love you,
Love your forever Schmoopy ❤️

Sherri Cameron - September 09, 2021 at 12:29 PM

BR

“ Uncle Yum Yum,

The world will never be the same without you. Your smile is forever etched in our memory. Your bear hugs will always be felt in our hearts. But most importantly, your voice (YUM! YUM!), well resonate for eternity.

Love,

Brad, Alicia, Ely and Elliot

Brad - September 09, 2021 at 11:24 AM

ST

“ You will be missed brother . Rest peacefully at the big lake in the sky .

stephen thomas - September 08, 2021 at 07:29 PM