



## Thomas Wells Armer

April 9, 1947 - November 23, 2019

Thomas Wells Armer, 72, of Sturgeon, passed away at his home, suddenly and peacefully on Saturday, November 23, 2019.

Tom was born in Phoenix, AZ to Wells and Harriet (Walsh) Armer. He grew up in San Jose, CA and was a graduate of Blackford High School. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he later earned two Purple Hearts during his 1967-68 service in Vietnam. (As proud members of the 2nd Battalion 4th Marines, “The Magnificent Bastards” he and Vietnam buddy, Bill McDade, recently took a road trip & attended their 50th reunion in Quantico, VA.)

After Vietnam, Tom returned home to California where he met and soon married Robyn (Hoffmann) Armer on Nov 22, 1969, with whom he’d have three children. Also while in CA, under the wisdom of his Uncle Jerry, Tom learned all there was to know about the Trade of Heating, Cooling, & Refrigeration (he would later open his own business, All-Temp Air Conditioning Co., and come to retire from Boone Hospital as their Refrigeration Specialist). He was well-known & highly respected for his professionalism & expertise in this field. He remained a long-time member of the Plumbers & Pipefitters Union, as well.

In 1976, the Armer family, along with their four horses, one cow, and truckload of plants, would make their adventurous move to Missouri, where they bought some land and built their own house. And actually, being the elaborate dreamer of monumental ideas & countless projects, Tom was still building additions & making various “improvements” to the place!

Tom was known for his big voice, and his even bigger smile and laugh! He was an outstanding man, dad, grandpa, and father-in-law who loved his family more than anything! He was always there and always involved...he was Scout Leader, Little League Coach, his family’s mentor, and in the last few years, the biggest fan of Rockers 06 softball. Tom was a great friend to many, and truly knew no strangers - “he made everyone feel like the best version of themselves” – he just genuinely believed in you! Tom

wholeheartedly promoted the power of a positive attitude and the importance of respect, he was a huge advocate for teachers & education, and for the value behind a strong community (shown by his long-time, loyal support of local businesses, schools, and the Central MO Food Bank).

Tom is survived by his life-long best friend, Robyn, of their home, two children, Jim Armer (Zakiyyah) of Kansas City, and Casey Brown (Jason) of Hallsville, four grandchildren, Peyton, Hannah, Yassi, and Zahara, three sisters, Pat Armer (Beth), Deb Brizgys (Ray), and Gail Benson (Curt), all of California, several cousins & 'in-laws' that are more like siblings, his favorite nieces & nephews, and innumerable friends (several that are considered part of his family!). Tom was preceded in death by one son, Danny, as well as his parents, Wells Armer and Harriet & Robert Woodhull.

Tom's grandkids wanted to know what their grandpa's last Google search was before he died, so they checked his phone, and to no surprise, it was "how to make the world a better place" – Tom will forever be deeply missed, this hole will remain forever empty, and we are all less without him...but we are also greater because of him, and for that we are blessed!

If you have any comments, stories, or photos you can share, please do so at the Millard Family Chapels website, on Facebook, or by contacting us, as we'd like to put together a memory book. Tom always said he just wanted us to have a big party in the back yard whenever his time was up, so in honor of that request, we'll be celebrating his life in the coming Spring, date to be determined.

"Be smart!"

Arrangements are under the direction of Parker-Millard Funeral Service and Crematory; 12 East Ash Street, Columbia, Missouri, 65203; (573) 449-4153. Condolences may be left online for the family at [www.ParkerMillard.com](http://www.ParkerMillard.com)

# Comments

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“ I grew up with Casey, my sister, Rhonda Jennings, grew up with Tim. My memories of Tom, and Robin, come from time I spent with my Aunt Bev, riding horses. Even as a kid I was envious of their house and their horses, was so pretty out there! Casey was always one of the most kindest girls I knew, which was obviously a direct result of her parents...I do remember Tom's big voice and laugh! So sorry to hear of his passing. Prayers and hugs.

**Heather Silver** - 13 hours ago

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“ My life changed when the Armer's found their way to Missouri and settled on a spot about a 10 minute bike ride from my house. I spent a totally disproportionate amount of time with my second set of parents here while hanging out with my buddy Jim. Without earning it, I always felt welcome, loved and supported. For as long as I can remember Tom called me T. Too many Jason's from my generation I suppose, and I liked it just fine. Everybody has their story about Tom, but one that seems to come up with regularity was that Tom introduced me to Shakespeare's Pizza. Jim and I would ride in the back of their pick up truck to Columbia to grab a slice. Some of my very best times growing up had the Armer's woven through them. I am thankful to have met, known and continued to see through my adult life, Tom and Robyn. Jim and Casey - my heart goes out to you. I am sad writing this, but somehow I have smiled the entire time. Love you guys.

**Jason Thornhill** - Yesterday at 09:16 AM

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“ I wouldn't trade one minute with my friend Tom for all the grief of his passing.

**Steve Stewart** - Yesterday at 10:18 PM



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**Robyn Armer** - Yesterday at 11:50 PM

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“ Tom, I am going to miss your phone calls to check on us in California. You were more than a brother, you were a friend, and a patriarch of our family! It goes without saying, how much you will be missed! Rest in Peace! You left us way to soon! Love your sister, Gail  
My heart goes out to my family in Missouri. Love you all!



**Gail Benson** - Yesterday at 09:29 PM



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**Robyn Armer** - Yesterday at 11:51 PM



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Gail so sorry, you and yours are in my heart, sounds like a terrific human ☐

**Karin Carrio** - 23 hours ago

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Our thoughts and prayers are with you all . Casey , Jason , and Hannah - I was always remember your dad cheering Abby on during softball games just at the right time when she needed some encouragement. He had that very distinct voice “Abby, looking good , looking strong .” I will never get how encouraging he was to Abby.

**Lori Leer** - Yesterday at 07:21 PM

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1 file added to the tribute wall



**William Moore** - November 26 at 09:45 AM



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Ohhh, I can hear that laugh right now!

**Casey Brown** - Yesterday at 12:43 PM