



## Thomas Jay Olds

January 18, 1953 - July 23, 2020

Thomas (Tom) Jay Olds, 67, of Kingsley passed away unexpectedly Thursday morning, July 23, 2020. Tom was born January 18, 1953 in Traverse City to the late Lafayette and Virginia (Clous) Olds. He married Cheryl Ashmore on May 5, 1973 and together they had three children.

Tom earned his legendary status playing high school basketball in Kingsley and helped lead the team to the state championship game in 1970 where he was named Honorable Mention All-American Player. After high school, while he received a full ride scholarship to play basketball at a Division 1 school; he attended Alpena Community College for nearly a full year before returning home to farm full time with his brothers and Grandpa Clarence Clous following the sudden death of their father, Lafayette, in 1971. Tom would then farm for the next 49 years milking cows, raising beef cattle, making maple syrup, and crop farming; while in his spare time, worked side hustles picking cherries, cutting firewood, and selling sweet corn, to name a few. For fun, his real passion was hunting and especially fishing. The fish in northern Michigan and parts of Canada can finally rest a little easier! Tom had a giving heart, he could fix anything, and he could literally make something out of absolutely nothing. Tom dearly loved his grandchildren and never wasted an opportunity to brag about how talented and accomplished they each were!

Tom is survived by the love of his life and best friend, Cheryl; his three children: Aaron (Nicole) Olds, Justin (Annie) Olds, and Sarah (Troy) Sherman; seven grandchildren: Lauren Olds, Tyler Olds, Brayden Sherman, Colten Sherman, Joshua Olds, Luke Olds, and Evelyn Olds; his nine brothers and sisters: Dick (Althea) Olds, Joyce Olds, Vicki (Dean) Edgecomb, Annie (Kim) Morin, Janet (Al) Sieffert, Jim Olds (Angie Smith), Tim (Rhonda) Olds, Carol (Steve) Stocking, and Karen Zenner (Dean Domnoske); two step siblings: David (Patty) Fashbaugh and Kelly (Ed) Crain; and 35 nieces and nephews. Tom is preceded in death by his parents.

An outdoor visitation at the farm and home of Tom and Cheryl Olds will be held from 10AM - 12PM on Saturday, August 1st. The service will begin at Noon on Saturday, with Pastor

Colleen Wierman officiating. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary of Hannah Catholic Cemetery

2912 W. M-113  
Kingsley, MI 49649

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 1. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Thomas Olds Farm  
703 Hammer Rd.  
Kingsley, MI 49649

## Service

AUG 1. 12:00 PM (ET)

Thomas Olds Farm  
703 Hammer Rd.  
Kingsley, MI 49649

# Tribute Wall



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.*



August 01, 2020 at 10:23 AM

JL

“ *Glenn and I send our most sincere condolences to Cheryl and family, and to Dick, Joyce, Vicki and all the Olds family on your loss of Tom. We know that your family is held in high esteem for the quality of your farm products over the years, from dairy to sweet corn to maple syrup, and everything in between. And each family member has had his or her place in the production of such wonderful foods. As fellow farmers, even though cherry, we know how important each person is in the overall operation. So not only have you lost a beloved brother, but you've lost an important part of your family farming profession. You'll learn to adjust to that somehow, but the loss of a husband, father, grandfather, brother, friend and business partner will truly be hard. So we pray that time will heal somewhat, and help you to close that great gap.*

*Know that we care, and that we will hold you all in our thoughts and prayers for a long time to come. We can just see your mom and dad welcoming Tom along with our Lord. Dad for sure will rejoice after all these long years by finally being able to hug one of his loving kids again.*

*God bless and keep all of you!  
Judy (Weber) and Glenn LaCross*

Judy LaCross - July 31, 2020 at 10:35 PM

JT

“ *I met Tom through my friend Craig's older sister Cheryl while growing up in Mayfield. Helped plant beans one season. Was "schooled" many times playing pick-up basketball by Tom in the Old Gym on Blair Street. Tom was a good person and part of a hard-working and friendly family. Jim Tuller. KHS - 1979.*

Jim Tuller - July 31, 2020 at 01:52 PM

TS

“ *Sorry to hear of Tom passing I know Cheryl what it is like to lose you best friend ,buddy. Even in these hard times we will endure. So long friend. Tom Sheren*

Tom Sheren - July 30, 2020 at 10:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.*



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July 30, 2020 at 09:35 PM

LK

“ *Cheryl, kids and whole Olds family  
Tom was an awesome man and will leave a big hole in the community of Kingsley. I feel like I knew him my entire life. Through school and beyond, Tom was always there. It was very common to see him out at my Mom and Dad's after I moved away. Mom always called him my brother from another mother. Many times I'd stop in and Tom would be sitting at the kitchen table eating a piece of pie or whatever mom had made. To see him suddenly pull in the driveway to chat was a common occurrence. My prayers go out to all of you.*

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**Lorri King** - July 30, 2020 at 07:58 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.*



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July 30, 2020 at 02:38 PM

MM

“ *Cheryl and family,*

*How difficult this must be to lose your best friend, father, brother and uncle. You might be comforted to some extent to realize how fortunate you have been to be loved by such a kind, caring man, despite losing him now. My prayers will be for comfort and that you hold each other tight during this time, realizing that each of us will be gone sometime and the memories we cherish will last a lifetime while we make more. Hoping I can personally be there on Saturday to bring a moment of peace and a smile for all of us and the future we still have. Mark Mox*

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**Mark Mox** - July 30, 2020 at 12:01 PM

SG

“ Sincerely, Steve and Renae Gallagher purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.



Sincerely, Steve and Renae Gallagher - July 30, 2020 at 10:50 AM

FW

“ From your work Family Networks Northwest & MI Works purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.



From your work Family Networks Northwest & MI Works - July 29, 2020 at 01:38 PM



“ Cheryl - I wanted to reach out and express my deepest sympathy to you on the loss of your Tom! I cannot imagine your pain. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Aaron, Justin, Sarah - thinking of and praying for you during this difficult time.  
God Bless

The Olds siblings - my deepest condolences on the loss of your brother. Cherish your memories of Tom.

Hugs to all, Ann Zenner

Ann Zenner - July 29, 2020 at 10:52 AM

CM

“ Dear Cheryl,  
So sorry to hear of your loss. We are all thinking of you and sending love to you and your whole family.  
With Love, Judy, Chip, Jeff, Jill and Ben Moehle

Chip Moehle - July 28, 2020 at 04:09 PM

CR

“ Connie & Mike Rogers purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.



Connie & Mike Rogers - July 28, 2020 at 01:01 PM

AS

“ Sarah, my condolences to you and your family. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.  
Angelo Scaffido

Angelo Scaffido - July 28, 2020 at 11:27 AM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.



July 28, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.



July 27, 2020 at 08:20 PM



“ Heavenly Light was purchased for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.



July 27, 2020 at 07:19 PM

SK

“ If I remember right, Tom made the Michigan All-State Class D basketball team in 1970. I'm very thankful that I could watch him play live in several games. He was one amazing basketball player.

When I was in high school, I helped Tom collect sap for his maple syrup operation. I'll never forget trudging in knee-deep snow carrying 5-gallon buckets of sap. That was a workout!

Sam Kitchin  
Kingsley HS Graduate 1978

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Sam Kitchin - July 27, 2020 at 07:13 PM

LW

“ With heartfelt sympathy, we extend our love and condolences to all the family and friends who mourn the loss of Tom. To his dear wife, Cheryl, Aaron, Nicole, Lauren, Tyler, Josh and all Tom's family we pray that God will bless you and comfort you during this difficult time. We remember you in our prayers now and in the days and weeks to come. With all our love always, Leslie, Alan, Scott, Carrie, Josh and Rachel (The Whitfield/King Family)

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Leslie Whitfield - July 27, 2020 at 05:41 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Jay Olds.



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July 27, 2020 at 04:16 PM

TS

“ I knew Tom through Cheryl, Sarah and Karen. His live for his family was amazing. He will be missed so much. Hugs Ms Cheryl. Thinking of you all during this loss.

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Tammara and Jess Sanchez - July 27, 2020 at 03:43 PM

SB

Cheryl: Sending you love and prayers. He will be missed!

Shirley Bowman

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Shirley Bowman - July 29, 2020 at 05:22 PM