



Thomas Edwin Thirlby

May 15, 1931 - April 25, 2023

KALKASKA - Thomas Edwin Thirlby 91, Father, Brother, Grandfather and Friend to many, entered the gates of Heaven Tuesday evening with his daughter Amy and brother Charles by his side.

Thomas attended Traverse City Central, grade-school through graduating high school. He enlisted in the United States Navy and served 1950 - 1954 earning a National Defense Medal, Korean War, majoring in Electrical Engineering. Soon after his service to our country, he studied and graduated from the University of Michigan.

He was a former General Imaging Ultrasound Product Top Sales Specialist for General Electric in California and Picker X-Ray in Chicago.

He enjoyed creating fishing lures and holds a patent on one of his creations. He enjoyed ocean fishing with friends and sailing his former sailboat that he kept at his beloved boat slip in Marina Delray, California. Also, for many years he very much enjoyed and was a self proclaimed quarter horse handicapper at the Los Alamitos Race Track where everyone including the owners and management loved him.

Surviving, are two daughters, Amy Thirlby (Daniel) Faber of Fife Lake, Venice Thirlby of Benzie County: two brothers, Robert Schwenter of Traverse City,

Charles Thirlby (Karen Koon) of Kingsley: one sister Charlsie K. Coderre (Paul) of Pawleys Island, SC.

Preceded in death by his loving mother: Maxine Taylor Thirlby, father: Ben Thirlby, former wife: Patricia Thirlby sister: Mary Joy Thirlby, and son: Ben Thirlby

Service will be held 5/15/2023 at 1:00 for visitation with service at 2:00 at Kalkaska Funeral Home, 152 S. Cedar Street, Kalkaska, MI

In lieu of flowers, Memorial gifts may be directed to Hospice of Michigan or Kalkaska County Commission on Aging

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

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 15. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Memorial Service

MAY 15. 2:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Tribute Wall



“ I am so sorry this is quite late as I only just now found out Tom passed away last year. He and I had a lot of great talks and a lot of them were from his front seat of the car while we watched the races with binoculars from the parking lot so we could smoke I love him so much what an amazing man. I will remember you forever Tom. I'll see you soon.

Karan Fodor - October 05, 2024 at 05:49 PM

JA

“ I only met Amy's dad once but I know he was SO LOVED by her and Dan. Sending you love and hugs. Jan Stone

Jan - May 14, 2023 at 07:54 AM

CH

“ Very fond memories of Tom, he welcomed me into his home so I could relocate from Michigan to California with Amy. I recall several trips to Los Alamitos racetrack and after a big win we would hop in the car and head to Mexico with friends. Rest In Peace Tom, you lived a good life!

Cindy Henderson - April 28, 2023 at 09:11 PM