



Thomas "Tom" John Dehner

November 19, 1948 - April 28, 2017

Thomas John Dehner, 68, died at 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 28, 2017, at his home in Alton. Born November 19, 1948, in Bronx, New York, he was the son of Clyde T. and Marilyn Ann (Barth) Dehner. Mr. Dehner was a retired communication professional. His 40-year career spanned broadcasting, public relations and higher education. He began his career at WLDS/WEAI Radio in Jacksonville, IL and later for KSD Radio in St. Louis and ultimately joined KMOX Radio in St. Louis. He then performed day-to-day media relations for Union Electric (now Ameren) in St. Louis returning to KMOX in 1991 as a spot reporter and producer and later promoted to editor/reporter/anchor. He spent 20 years at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO as an instructor of graduate-level Public relations, a course which he designed and implemented. He also taught Broadcast News at Lewis and Clark Community College and had been a part-time high school and substitute teacher. Tom managed political and fundraising campaigns and community task forces. He administered Community Development Block Grant and Affordable Housing programs for the City of Alton. He served on the Madison County Local Emergency Planning Committee and the Communications & Development Committee of Riverbend Head Start & Family Services. He was a member of The Press Club of Metropolitan St. Louis and the Exchange Club of Alton as well as St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton. On August 7, 1982 he married the former Patricia O'Leary in Alton. She survives. Also surviving is a daughter, Abigail "Abby" Dehner of Alton, a son, Johnathan Dehner of Alton and a sister,

Diane (Lief) Anderson of Alton. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by an infant brother, John Carl Dehner. Visitation will be from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Monday, May 1, 2017, at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. A Mass of Christian burial will be at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton. Father John Luong will officiate. Burial will be at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Alton. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Meppen
Meppen, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home & Cremation Services
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 2. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary.s Catholic Church
525 E. 4th st
alton, IL 62002

Tribute Wall



“ Thomas "Tom" John Dehner

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ Thomas "Tom" John Dehner

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ I met Tom a long time ago...
I had always hoped to track him down and say "thank you" but time passed too quickly.

Tom went out of his way showing kindness to a couple "wet nose" kids back when bell bottom pants were in style ;)

It's been over 30 years but I remember and appreciate this kind hearted gent to this day.

I will keep him in my memories and in my heart until we meet again.

Deepest sympathies go out to his family and friends///
May GOD's unfailing love comfort you all.

Semper Fi
RBPRICE
CAPT / USMC Ret.
JDAM565@gmail.com

Richard Price - July 08, 2017 at 09:43 PM

RP

“ I had many great experiences with Tom. He was a man of excellent wit, humor and commentary. So sorry to hear of his passing and I know he will be missed by all who truly knew him. Condolences to all of his family and friends! Roy Parker

Roy Parker - May 02, 2017 at 10:21 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Thomas "Tom" John Dehner.



May 01, 2017 at 07:16 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Thomas "Tom" John Dehner.



May 01, 2017 at 02:21 PM

EN

“ To the Dehner family - Patricia, Abby, and Johnathan. Please accept our heartfelt condolences on Tom's passing. Tom as a true gentleman. Six years ago when we moved into your neighborhood, Tom was one of the first neighbors that introduced himself to us and offered his welcome and his assistance. He was always personable and always had a smile and a wave. He will truly leave a void in the neighborhood. May his memory be eternal.
Evanthia Nicolou and George Nicolou

Evanthia & George Nicolou - May 01, 2017 at 10:18 AM

TP

“ Tom was a wonderful friend. We played ball together from little league thru adult teams.

I remember him most for his wit and sense of humor, sometimes at his own expense. He once took a ground ball to the face while playing softball that opened a cut on his face. He initially voice concerned about a possible scar that could compromise his TV broadcasting career hopes. But then he shrugged and said no matter since he had the perfect face for radio.

Tom was a leader who was committed to his career, community and family. He was a natural coach and mentor. He will be missed by those of us who were blessed to know him.

Terry Peek

Terry Peek - May 01, 2017 at 10:15 AM

AH

“ My deepest sympathy and condolences to you all.

Angie Hawthorne

Angie Hawthorne - May 01, 2017 at 10:13 AM



“ ' purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Thomas "Tom" John Dehner.



' - April 30, 2017 at 10:10 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas "Tom" John Dehner.*



April 30, 2017 at 06:10 PM



“ *You and your sister gave me and many other kids in the 60's great fun in our neighborhood on Alby and Maurice St and more. You taught me how to play basketball and Football. Such a kind person and friend and felt you were a big brother to me. I had no siblings.*

Jan Lowis Phillips - April 30, 2017 at 04:03 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas "Tom" John Dehner.*



April 30, 2017 at 11:39 AM



“ *I cherish such great memories of spending time with Tom & his parents Clyde and Marilyn and sister, my beloved college roommate Diane. Tom shared his valued experience and humor with us and always made friends like me feel like family. One of the "good ones" is gone. Our lives are diminished, but we always have memories of Tom -such a kind and good heart.*

Emily Barr - April 30, 2017 at 10:45 AM

SN

“ *Best friends and classmates K-6th at McKinley School, Alton. What a great guy! So glad we reconnected at the last two reunions. Will miss you my friend, Tom "The Voice" Dehner, Steve Nichols*

Steve Nichols - April 29, 2017 at 08:03 PM

BM

“ *Hi my name is Bill Mills and I graduated in 1967 a year behind Tom. I got the opportunity to play a couple of years with Tom on our softball team called the "Walts". We called him "Thermal". What a nice guy. Wish we could have stayed in touch as I moved to Kansas years ago. Hearts and prayers to his family*

Bill Mills - April 29, 2017 at 05:05 PM



“ *Heartfelt Memories was purchased for the family of Thomas "Tom" John Dehner.*



April 29, 2017 at 04:15 PM

SH

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Tom's death. I met Tom and Pat in Marathon FL. They both showed me such kindness after my husband Bruce died. I am reading Tom's book "Just call me Harry Steinfeldt" today to keep his memory close. Earth's loss is Heaven gain. Praying for the family.*

Sue Hilgendorf - April 29, 2017 at 04:13 PM

CP

So sorry to hear about Tom's death. I also had the privilege of getting to know and becoming friends with Tom and his dad while playing baseball in the early 60's. Tom was always full of humor and was truly dedicated to the sport. His memory will always be with me. Prayers go out to the family.

Cecil Payne

Cecil Payne - May 01, 2017 at 11:10 AM