



Thomas B. Wunderlich

March 15, 1928 - November 4, 2015

Dateline: West Alton, MO

Thomas B. Wunderlich, 87, died at 12:24 a.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at his residence. He was born March 15, 1928 in Wood River the son of the late William and Emma (Roderfeld) Wunderlich. Thomas was a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in West Alton, MO and the Orchard Farm VFW Post 4219. He was a combat Engineer on the front lines during the Korean War. Always a busy man, he started the trash route in West Alton, was a founding member of the West Alton Fire Department, helped with the design and building of the veterans memorial in West Alton, helped with the placing of the the Our Lady of the River statue in Portage Des Sioux, Mo. He worked 23 years for Riverside Sand and Dredging and retired in 1991 as a heavy equipment operator for Koepke Excavating and Local 513 operating engineers. One of his final wishes was to own a 1926 Ford Model T Coupe like he had as a child. His children made that dream come true this last weekend; he was able to instruct them how to operate it and he got to take one last ride.

On September 15, 1956, in St. Louis he married LaVerne Kubisak and she preceded him in death on April 30, 2015. Surviving are five children, Tommy M. Wunderlich (Jamie) of O'Fallon, MO, Danny A. Wunderlich (Mary) of West Alton, MO., Lori Connoyer of West Alton, Jimmy Wunderlich (Cindy) of St.

Charles, Mo., and Judy "Bug" Gruendler (John) of St. Charles, Mo., thirteen grandchildren, Christopher (Lindsay), Patrick (Gigi), Steve, Joseph, Shelley (Troy), Jerad, Aaron, Alex, James, Isabella, Abby, Cliff, and Julie, three great-grandchildren, Leighton, Madison, and Alyvia, one brother; Victor Wunderlich, four sisters; Laura Bechtold, Helen Muhlolland, Pauline Brass and Catherine Kruger. He was preceded in death by four brothers; John Wunderlich, Kenneth Wunderlich, Charles "Ferd" Wunderlich and Lawrence "Bozo" Wunderlich and three sisters; Lillian Hunn, Eileen Hayes and Wynona "Dutch" Beckham. Visitation will be from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12, 2015 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton, IL with a VFW Post 4219 walk thru beginning at 6:30 p.m. followed by a prayer service. A mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, November 13, 2015 at SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church with Monsignor Kenneth Steffen to officiate. Burial will be at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis with full military honors. Memorials may be made to VFW Post 4219, c/o Stan Steinhoff, 2835 Hwy. B, and St. Charles, MO 63301. Additional information and online guest book may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery

St. Louis, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas B. Wunderlich*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Thomas B. Wunderlich*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *One of my most fond memories was dad teaching us how to ice skate. We all came to love it so, we skated in the night time glow of the moon and bonfires with nearly all of west Alton at the end of saale rd and 94. So many more memories that I cherish. Go now dad and have eternal life with mom and our heavenly Father. Love you and miss you and mom. Your daughter, Lori*



Lori Connoyer - November 14, 2015 at 06:44 PM



“ *My prayers are with you all Sorry I could not attend I love you all Margaret Ann*

Margaret Ann - November 12, 2015 at 12:39 PM



“ *Fruits and Blooms Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas B. Wunderlich.*



November 12, 2015 at 09:59 AM



“ *Alisa, Zac, and Luke Crawford and Bob Nichols purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thomas B. Wunderlich.*



Alisa, Zac, and Luke Crawford and Bob Nichols - November 12, 2015 at 12:47 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Thomas B. Wunderlich.*



November 11, 2015 at 07:49 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas B. Wunderlich.*



November 09, 2015 at 11:58 AM

TE

“ oh there are a lot of great memories the ol trash truckthe ol shack we built and camped in as kids he would sneek in on us where you kids get that beer from hell he knew what we did before we did it always loved always will

terryhayes - November 07, 2015 at 03:02 PM

HC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Howard Connoyer - November 07, 2015 at 02:21 PM

VC

This is Howard Connoyer as he stands today at 94 years old!

Violet M. Connoyer - November 08, 2015 at 12:33 PM

HT

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Howard Connoyer & Eddie Townsend - November 07, 2015 at 02:18 PM

HC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Howard & Violet Connoyer - November 07, 2015 at 02:09 PM

VC

This is Violet & Howard Connoyer, longtime friends of Tom Wunderlich and the Wunderlich family.

Violet M. Connoyer - November 08, 2015 at 12:34 PM

“ Oh! How I remember Tom Wunderlich!

I was a very young girl at the time, (approximately 15 or 16 years old), and my mother & father used to stop at Joe Dwiggins tavern & restaurant in West Alton, Missouri, just about every Sunday. My parents were raised in Portage Des Sioux, Missouri, but one of my Grandmothers lived in West Alton, Missouri, for many years. Her name was Bertha Gust, and my fathers' name was George Steven Gust. Most everyone in West Alton, Missouri, knew our family, especially my father.

Anyway, just about every Sunday, Joe Dwiggins & I would play music at the above captioned tavern & restaurant. Joe Dwiggins would play the drums & I would play the piano. There would be a lot of shouting and hollering going on, customers letting off steam and just simply having a good time! The door would then open, a gush of wind would blow in, and whom do you suppose entered the tavern? Yes, not only Tom Wunderlich; whom would stand there looking about posed as an "Axe Man," on the Discovery Channel, but whom would also stand beside him, eyes glaring, full of mischief, and just waiting to tell a story of some kind? Sure enough, it would be Grandpa Bill Wunderlich! The next thing you knew, the whole family was in Joe Dwiggins place, Ferd, Tom, Bozo, and sometimes, Victor. Those were good memories because Tom was always an integral part of anything/everything that went on within the community.

Tom took everything into stride; enjoying each day as it presented itself; never neither asking nor demanding anything other in life than his family, home, good health, and oh, yes, that occasional beer! Tom was rather quiet, humble, but a whole lot of fun. Tom was one of those kind of people you just simply liked to be around; never pretentious, never an egotistical, arrogant type of person but rather a wholesome bundle of everything that was practical and good. With Tom, it was: "What You See, is What You Get!"

Tom, Bill, and Ferd Wunderlich talked a lot to my father about hunting whether it be in the tavern, or elsewhere in West Alton, Missouri. All of them spent much time reminiscing about the good old days; sometimes those days existed before I was ever born, but all in all, I remember the town folk and about how very much comradeship was inevitable, and about how very much Tom added to this comradeship. When considering the small town of West Alton, Missouri; there being no YMCA and not much else to do for pleasure with the exception of a ballpark, the culture rested and relied upon the theory that a good days work, deserved a good days' pay. Everyone enjoyed not only their beer, but the opportunity to socialize and relax. Tom was happy with this. It didn't take much to satisfy Tom.

Tom was also an Honorable Discharged Veteran who stood tall and proud, and of whom was entirely instrumental in initiating a plot of ground in West Alton, Missouri, in which to be dedicated in full honor and glory of all veterans who fought and died for their country, not forgetting the veterans whom died in West Alton, Missouri, and surrounding counties.

We will remember Tom for his righteous character, loyalty and perseverance of mind and duty, and the joy that he found in his life, family and friends.

Howard & Violet Connoyer - November 07, 2015 at 01:45 PM



“ *I called Tom my buddy, because he was a great friend. R.I.P. Buddy*

Nina Dixon Sprous - November 07, 2015 at 11:30 AM

NS

“ I have known Tom for a lot of years now and he was a great friend, but the last couple of years he has been more of a dad. I will miss going to see him but he is with his family and friends who went before him and I will see him again someday. In the mean time I have 5 more brothers and sisters that I love dearly. So Rest In Peace and know that I loved you very much.

Nina Sprous - November 07, 2015 at 10:25 AM

AB

“ My grandpa was the coolest! He was truly one of a kind and it's a great loss to our family. I'm going to miss my grandpa so much. I love you Tomcat!



Abby - November 07, 2015 at 08:19 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas B. Wunderlich.



November 06, 2015 at 04:18 PM