



Thomas "Tom" James Clarke II

July 22, 1944 - August 15, 2018

On Wednesday, 15 August 2018, beloved father and husband, Thomas "Tom" James Clarke II, passed away from natural causes in Roswell, New Mexico. A Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, 23 August 2018, at the New Mexico Military Institute Chapel, beginning at 2:00 PM. Chapel Service will be followed by a Graveside Service at the General Douglas L. McBride Veterans Cemetery in Roswell, New Mexico. Celebrate Tom's life by visiting www.ander-sonbethany.com to offer a memory or expression of sympathy for his family. Tom was born 22 July 1944, the son of Thomas and Betty Clarke, in Miami Beach, Florida. Growing up in Florida, Tom attended the North Miami Beach High School and was a member of the local Civil Air Patrol (C.A.P.) Cadet Squadron. After graduating high school, Tom enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served both stateside and overseas, with honor and distinction.

In 1965, Tom married his high school sweetheart, Judy Turner. A few years later, and now honorably discharged from the military, Tom and Judy moved from Florida to Fairbanks, Alaska, where he worked as a mechanic for Pan American Airlines, and then Alaska Airlines. While living in Fairbanks, Tom again became involved with the local C.A.P. Squadron as a senior member. With the C.A.P., he volunteered countless hours in their search and rescue operations, both on the ground and as an airborne observer/spotter. Tom was also heavily engaged with the cadet program, where he helped mentor and instill values, skills, and the courage to succeed to young men and women as

they came through the program.

After a thirty-year career as a commercial airline mechanic, Tom and his wife Judy moved from Fairbanks, Alaska, to Roswell, New Mexico. In Roswell, he again worked with the local C.A.P. Squadron, volunteering his time as a leader within the cadet program, search and rescue operations, and ultimately rising to the rank of squadron commander. Tom worked with cadets from Roswell, as well as from the New Mexico Military Institute, allowing them to foster a love of flight through the C.A.P. aviation programs.

Surviving to cherish Tom's memory are his wife of fifty-two years, Judy; sons: Thomas Clarke III and wife Michele, William Clarke; daughter, Karen Rutka and husband, Ken; and grandson, John.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Roswell Civil Air Patrol Squadron.

Tom's tribute was lovingly written in his honor by his family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas "Tom" James Clarke II*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Dear Judy and family,
I was so sorry to hear of Tom's passing. I worked with him at Alaska Airlines for many years and always enjoyed his humor. He was a good man and I feel blessed to have known him. May God comfort you in your grieve with the love of family and friends.*

Jeanne Aguilar - August 29, 2018 at 08:24 AM



“ *I am very sorry to hear of Tom's passing and my condolences to his family and friends. I remember how rough and tough Captain Clarke was and he sure made a lot of men out of us young cadets. He was tough, but fair and I will never forget his brutal candor and fearlessness. He scared many men twice his size. All of us truly respected him for that and appreciate it to this day. I will never forget this good man and our trips to Elmendorf or other CAP events. He was like a father to many and served with great distinction. He loved carrying that Glock 21 and getting the jobs done... What a great guy!*

K Fenton - August 24, 2018 at 12:14 PM

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“ *Dearest Judy and Clarke family, what sadness to lose Tommy! I enjoyed working with him at fairbanks international airport through many airlines and years! He lived an adventurous life and was an endeared role model for the civil air patrol cadets. Blessings to him. Peace and love to your family.*



nansi chandler abd mike norum - August 24, 2018 at 12:19 AM