



## Thomas "Tommy" Strommen

August 5, 1944 - July 1, 2021

Thomas "Tommy" Dean Strommen, age 76 from Racine, WI passed away peacefully on July 1, 2021, while in Devils Lake ND shortly after thanking his guide for - "The most AWESOME day of Fishing!"

Tommy was born August 5, 1944, in Racine, WI to the late Alger Strommen and Lucille (Fonk) Sadler. He joined the Marines at the age of 17 and graduated from Oceanside High School in San Diego California. He proudly served our country as a Marine from 1961-1964 stationed in the Far East.

Tommy returned to Racine, WI and on May 27, 1977, he married Kay (Betsy) Elizabeth Homolka. They recently celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary. He worked as a Machinist at Twin Disc for 37 years, retiring in 2001, developing some of his closest friendships and remained active in the Twin Disc 20 Year Club. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science-Business from UW-Parkside in 1978 after many years of part time classes.

Tommy was a social man who enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing cards, reading and gambling at casinos. He organized many hunting and fishing trips with his family and friends. Tommy belonged to numerous card clubs and had a love for a good game of Sheepshead. He loved time spent with family and friends at his property on Legend Lake and his recreational land in Buffalo County. Tommy also belonged to Racine Instinctive Bowmen, Johnson Fishing Club, VFW, Little John Archery, Wisconsin Sportsmen, and the Mondovi Conservation Club.

Tommy had a daily routine of coffee with the guys, "Breafast" with family and

friends, bargain shopping, and always made sure to check in with those in need. He was a world traveler largely inspired by his wife Kay. They took 30+ adventurous international trips. He continued to travel up to the day of his passing!

Tommy valued the importance of family, often organizing family events, rarely missing reunions, weddings, and holiday celebrations. He loved to cook and embraced the challenge of dietary restrictions (No SALT!) by endlessly striving for new creative recipes.

Tommy was an inspiration to all as he dealt with limitations requiring full time oxygen. He refused to let this challenge stop him from participating in all the activities he loved. Tommy was thrilled to be able participate in the Veterans Honor Flight to Washington D.C. with his daughter Cindy.

Tommy is survived by his spouse Kay Strommen; Children Cheryl (Randy) Loppnow; Timothy (Jodene) Strommen and Cindy (Kevin Beck) Strommen; Grandchildren: Joshua Hansen, Tanner Strommen and Tucker Strommen; Siblings: Sandra (Joe) Fliess, Daniel (Joy) Strommen, Edward Strommen, Todd (Becky) Strommen, Susan (Jim) Koloske, Becky Limbach, Lurene Coles and sister in law Linda Strommen; Aunts: Evelyn Joslyn and Dorothy Fumo; Brother and sister in laws: Tom (Cori) Watson, Dennis (Liz) Homolka, Karen Karpinski and many special nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; his in-laws Anton and Edna Homolka, his brother John Strommen, sister-in-law Susan Strommen and brother-in-law Jim Coles.

A special thanks to fishing guide Aaron McQuoid; Pulmonary Rehab staff at Ascension, the entire VA organization and especially his personal nurse/daughter Jodene.

Visitation will be held at Sturino Funeral Home on Friday, July 9, 2021 from 1-3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Honorflight.org or mail Honor Flight Box L-4016 Columbus, OH 43260-4016; or Racine Public Library <http://www.racinelibrary.info/donate/>



# Cemetery Details

## Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery

21731 Spring Street  
Union Grove, WI 53182

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 9. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Sturino Funeral Home  
3014 Northwestern Avenue  
Racine, WI 53404  
(262) 632-4479  
[info@sturinofuneralhome.com](mailto:info@sturinofuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Thomas 'Tommy' Strommen*



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**Sturino Funeral Home** - July 09, 2021 at 10:41 AM

JS

“ *Sad to hear about Tommy. I know he enjoyed fishing and travelling around the world. Tommy had a great attitude and sense of humor and we'll all miss him.*

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**Joe Sabol** - July 11, 2021 at 12:04 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Sturino Funeral Home** - July 09, 2021 at 10:33 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas 'Tommy' Strommen.



July 09, 2021 at 07:17 AM



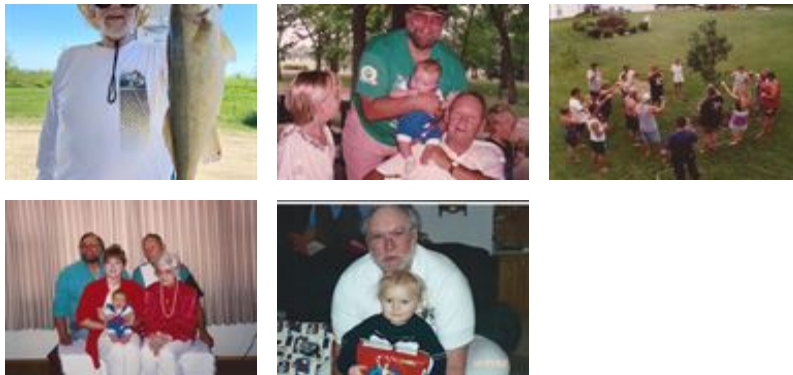
“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thomas 'Tommy' Strommen.



July 08, 2021 at 09:09 PM



“ 152 files added to the album Life Tributes



Sturino Funeral Home - July 08, 2021 at 04:39 PM

CD

“ My fondest memory of Tom was as a kid growing up at the cabin on Legend Lake. Tommy would run from the cabin to the lake to take his bath and would soap himself up and scream “boo” at us kids to scare us and we would laugh hysterically and swim away as fast as we could or waking up every morning to his feed an army size breakfasts . Those a just a few of the many great memories we share with the Strommen family over the years . Uncle Tommy you will be missed! Hope they have the best fishing spots with the big guy! Love and miss you - Chrissy Dunwiddie

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**Christine Dunwiddie** - July 08, 2021 at 02:53 PM

CI

“ Cindy lit a candle in memory of Thomas 'Tommy' Strommen



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**Cindy** - July 08, 2021 at 06:46 AM

SL

*Sorry about your loss sent your way*

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**Scott limbach** - July 08, 2021 at 06:51 PM

LS

“ We are very sad to hear about the passing of uncle Tom. I met uncle Tom in the late 80s when I was a foreign student (from Namibia, Southern Africa) at UW-Eau Claire sharing a room with his daughter (my sista) Cindy. We have kept in touch ever since and have visited with him and the rest of the family whenever my family and I were in the US. We remember the good times we had with him including when we hanged out with him (and Kay, Josh and Cindy) in Las Vegas where he gave us some tips on gambling. When my daughter, Naritunge, and I visited the US in 2018 he and Kay (and the rest of the family) made time to spend with us and celebrated my surprise early 50th birthday party at Cindy’s home. We loved hearing his experiences traveling the world. He (and Kay) always wanted to come visit us especially after hearing all the interesting stories from Cindy, Josh and Kevin about Namibia. We will never forget Uncle Tom, his love for life and interest in people regardless of their cultural background will remain with us forever. Even though we cannot be with the family in person as they bid him farewell, we are there in spirit. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. May uncle Tom’s beautiful soul rest in eternal peace. Lots of love, Lavinia, Naritunge and lipumbu.

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**Lavinia Shikongo** - July 08, 2021 at 03:35 AM

WH

“ Sorry to read Toms passing.I played many years of Sheepshead with and agunst Tom. Always had a good time win or lose.Again sorry to hear it. Wayne Hejny

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**Wayne Hejny** - July 07, 2021 at 10:21 PM



“ *Your Fiserv Family & Friends - Corporate Team purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Thomas 'Tommy' Strommen.*



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**Your Fiserv Family & Friends - Corporate Team** - July 07, 2021 at 08:54 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas 'Tommy' Strommen.*



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July 06, 2021 at 10:12 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas 'Tommy' Strommen.*



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July 06, 2021 at 10:04 PM