



Thomas D. Lafrinere

November 5, 1944 - January 30, 2023

Thomas Donald Lafrinere, 78, of Holly, died in his sleep on January 30, 2023. Tom was born November 5, 1944, in Cheboygan, Michigan, the youngest child of Herman and Dorothy (Oswald) Lafrinere. Tom served three years – he called it a “kiddie tour” – in the U.S. Navy, joining in 1962 when he was just 17, and earning honorable discharge as a seaman in 1965. He served on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Saratoga as a plane captain. In August 1968, Tom married the love of his life, Judy, in Battle Creek, Michigan, and became father to Pamela Jean and Paul Robert. Tom worked for the U.S. Postal Service for a short time after his military service, before beginning his long career in law enforcement. He joined the Dearborn Police Department in March 1966 and retired in August 1987 after earning many awards for his police work and sharpshooter skills. He later worked for the Oakland County Sheriff’s Department until the mid-1990s. Florida was a favorite destination for Tom and Judy throughout their retirement years. They spent many winters traveling in their motor home to Arizona, California, Florida, and Mexico. Tom enjoyed home projects, working outdoors, camping, attending car shows with his 1950 Chevrolet truck, and making time for his family. He was a loving and generous father and grandfather and enjoyed making friends and meeting new people. In his later years, Tom dedicated his time and effort to caring for Judy as her health began to decline. Tom is survived by Judy, his wife of 54 years; his children, Pam and Bob (Maureen); his beloved grandchildren, Connor and Genevieve; and a precious pet, Poppy. He is also survived by his brother,

Richard (Jane); sister, Patricia (Craig) Eitner; sister-in-law, Jackie Lafrinere; and several nieces and nephews. Tom is predeceased by his parents, Herman and Dorothy; his brother, Michael; and his nephew, Michael Jr. He will be interred at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly during a private service. The family requests memorial donations to the Michigan Humane Society.

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

Holly, MI