



Thomas A. Sumner

September 2, 2013

Thomas "Tommy" Archie Sumner, 95, went to be with the Lord on Monday, September 2, 2013 while surrounded by his loving family. Born in Norfolk County, VA, Tommy was the son of the late Georgie and Charles Sumner. He was preceded in death by his first wife of 42 years, Betty Sumner, his second wife of 28 years, Evelyn Sumner; three brothers, Joseph, William, and Linwood and two sisters, Estelle and Jean.

Tommy was a devout Christian and a member of Court Street Baptist Church where he served as deacon until his recent illness. He was a lifetime member of Western Branch Masonic Lodge #189. He also was a member of the Tall Cedars Forrest 143, Shriners, Scottish Rites, and the Friday morning Men's Coffee Club. During his lifetime, Tommy was the service manager at various auto dealerships in the area. He also was a former instructor of Auto Mechanics at Norfolk State University.

He is survived by his children, Gloria Jones Sherwood, Thomas "Bert" Sumner Vickey, and Gloria Gaines Herman; grandchildren, Keith Jones Diana, Anita Cavanaugh Patrick, David Crittenden Kim, Eric Crittenden Beckie, Michael Gaines Teresa, and Heather Lawson Dewey; 16 great-grandchildren and a great-great grandchild. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law, Marion Sumner and Melissa Sumner, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Tommy was known for his unique ability to 'fix' almost anything and was always willing to do anything for anyone at anytime. He enjoyed, NASCAR, golf, traveling, dancing, and playing cards with friends, but his greatest joy was spending time his family. He leaves behind a legacy of love, memories and wisdom that will forever make our world a better place. His presence in our lives will be greatly missed.

A funeral service will held at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 8, 2013 at Loving Funeral Home by Dr. L. Wilbur Kersey with masonic rites. Burial will follow in Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends at Loving Funeral Home Saturday, September 7th from 7-8 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to Court Street Baptist Church or your favorite charity.

Tribute Wall



“ So sorry to hear of Tommy's passing. Even though we were separated by distance and time, he was a favorite cousin and he will be missed. Our thoughts, prayers and love are with the family.##imported-begin##O.C. Sumner, Emma Carrie and Walter Dowman##imported-end##

September 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Bert and Sumner family, so sorry for the loss of Tommy. He will remain a part of you in your hearts and memories.##imported-begin##Kathy Tyminski##imported-end##

September 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Tommy was a great man. He knew who he was and he knew what he was about. Unvarnished with no pretense, he was genuine and real which was always a joy for me as I encounter so many phonies in this dissimulating era. His word was good and that's a rarity in itself. I had great respect for him and offer the clichéd condolences that have become so because they have endured. To the family I offer my sympathies. " Every man is my superior in that I may learn from him". Tommy's life offered much and was a fine example to anyone.##imported-begin##Jon Kube##imported-end##

September 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bert, Vickey and Family,
We are so sorry for the loss of Bert's father. He was a wonderful man and will be missed greatly. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
Love You##imported-begin##Jim & Sherry Layton##imported-end##

September 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Robbie and I remember Tommy with fondness. He was such a friendly man and always so kind. I know his family will miss him as will the folks at Court Street Baptist where he was a faithful member.##imported-begin##Robbie and Shirley Robins##imported-end##

September 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Tommy was a GREAT man who showed me the love of Jesus much of my life. When he married my grandmother, Evelyn, I was sceptical but Tommy turned out to be such a blessing. In the summer when I would visit he & nannie would take me to the beach, usually to the Outer Banks. Nannie would not get in the water much but Tommy always swam & played in the water with me. One time there were these boys, just a bit older than I was. They were surfing and I wanted to ask if they would teach me but I was intimidated by the situation. While I was boogie boarding Tommy caught one of them on shore and asked if they were willing to teach me. The young man approached me & I spent the rest of the afternoon learning to surf with these 3 boys. Now, I am NOT a surfer but the day was amazing & all because Tommy wanted me to have a great time & that stinker thought it was a riot to embarrass me.
LOVED HIM!!!!##imported-begin##Heather Larson##imported-end##

September 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM