



## Edward Thorpe

May 4, 2014

### Obituary of Edward Thorpe

Edward Brian Thorpe, age 66, peacefully passed away on May 4, 2014 in Leesburg, FL after a long battle with Pulmonary Fibrosis and Lung Cancer. He is survived by his wife, Rosalyn E. Thorpe, and three children, Edward Blaize Thorpe II, Kate Mansfield Thorpe and Patrick Brian Thorpe. He was preceded in death by Kate Witt Thorpe, the children's mother.

A retiree of the Miami Beach Fire Department, Brian served as a Firefighter, EMT, Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Investigator and Educator. Brian was a decorated member of the Miami Beach Fire Department and US Army Veteran having served a tour Vietnam. During his tenure with the fire department, Brian was instrumental in the development and organization of the Miami Beach Honor Guard, was awarded the Medal of Valor, and the Distinguished Service Award Medal, among many other accolades and commendations.

Within the local community, Brian was known for being a first responder. Where and whenever there was work to be done or a task to attend, Brian was quick to take action. As a dedicated leader, Brian never took credit without recognizing his team, and made sure that those around him were learning by being involved every step of the way. Brian's influences are too

long to list; he was a confidant and mentor to anyone in need.

Brian had a tremendous passion for life, loved to laugh, and loved to make others laugh. He was always quick with a joke or a prank. His dynamic spirit was felt by all who met him, and he was a great friend to all. Possessing a vibrant personality, he commanded any room he entered, and had a gravity that pulled others to him. He always joked about being a terrible golfer, but still loved to chase the ball down the course, he especially loved the camaraderie he shared with his golfing buddies.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said "It is not the length of life, but the depth of life." Brian exuded that joie de vive, and lived his life to the fullest. In the past several years, his "happy place" was time spent on Beech Mountain, N.C. where he enjoyed the beauty and splendor of the mountains, wonderful friends and God's bountiful nature and gifts. We can only hope that his attitude is embraced by others, and that we too, live, laugh and love as much as he did. Always a man with sage advice, we try to remind ourselves that "Life Goes On," as he always said.

The family requests donations are made in Brian's name in lieu of sending flowers. Suggested charities include Sunny Shores Sea Camp for children afflicted with Cystic Fibrosis, Wounded Warriors Project, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, or a charity of their choosing.

Services will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at the Beyers Funeral Home Chapel located at 1123 West Main Street, Leesburg, FL 34748 at 1:00 P.M. There will be a reception at 4:00 P.M. at The Leesburg Opera House, Circa 1889, Banquet Hall, 2nd Floor, 108 S. Fifth Street (corner of Main Street and 5th), Leesburg, FL 34748.

## Services

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# Tribute Wall

SG

“ This wonderful man saved our sons life he was our neighbor and our precious Doug had a severe seizure and stopped breathing. He passed one month before Bob Griffin exactly the same age we were such close neighbors in Jonesboro Ga, Blaize, Katie and Patrick were precious children, God Bless these children  
love  
Suzi Griffin Hampton Ga

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**Susie Griffin** - November 05, 2018 at 06:14 PM

BC

“ I just learned of Brian's passing from his cousin Michael. I dated Brian for 4 years when we were young adults and we remained great friends for many years. I am so shocked and saddened to hear this news. Our New Jersey gang of friends had so much fun and Brian was an instrumental part of this. Deepest condolences.

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**Beth Waldron Cliver** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Hi Roz, I just heard from Donna at Regions about Brian. I am so shocked. Please contact me when you get a chance my cell is 239 293-8972.

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**Merrie from Regions Bank** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ I met "Uncle Brian" and "Auntie Em" through their niece Christy. What an impression they left on me. My impression of "Uncle Brian" was a distinguished, classy, full of life, funny guy. I feel like I got to know him through Christy and am so saddened to hear of his passing. May your memories offer you some peace Auntie Em....With Sincere Sympathy, Becky Hurst Port Richey, FL

Becky Hurst (Friend to Christy S, Brian's niece) - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ Brian was a funny man, proud of his Irish ancestry and had a laugh to go with it all. He will be sorely missed. We made our Cursillo together. The ride home was a scary one, as Brian was a Vietnam veteran. Since that moment, God healed his heart, helped him to deal with the loss of Kate and led him to Roz, his new love. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.PS: one day I'll share the story of :the rifle:!

Ralph & Lorraine Geronimo - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ One of the best memories I have is helping you find a beach dress for your marriage to Brian. And the joy he brought to your life, this special man. I know there is an angel watching over you as you grieve. My thoughts and prayers remain with you. With Love.

Carole Reddish - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ We are saddened to hear about the passing of Brian. His upbeat personality made it a pleasure to be around him at the station and in the trenches. He will be missed. Our heartfelt condolences to his family.

Jake and Leslie Sachs - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LG

*“ Brian was and forever will be my brother in Christ. I will always remember his optimism and great outlook of life. He is in heaven now smiling down on us. Like we both used to say in the Cursillos; "De Colores!" and untill we meet again!*

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**Luis Garcia** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CS

*“ My heartfelt condolences to my Auntie Em, Blaize, Patrick, and Katie for the passing of your beloved husband, father, and my true hero. In our lives we cross paths with few and far that leave a life long impression. My Uncle Brian was one of those few and far. Although this is a very sad and trying time for us here on Earth the heavens above now have a new kid on the block to help guide others experiencing difficult times Lucky them and lucky us to have known, loved him, and to be loved by him. I am eternally grateful for all that you did for Jeffrey, Paige, Jillian, and myself. We will love you always. Always in a special place in our hearts, Christy, Jeffrey, Paige, and Jillian .*

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**Christy Strmensky** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MD

*“ You will be missed brother fire fighter. Our sincere condolences to the family.*

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**Mary and Jason Dole** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MP

*“ We are blessed to have known Brian. He was like a brother to us. We have great memories that we will cherish. We will never forget Brian!*

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**Monsie and Jose Padilla** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Ros, Our condolences go out to you and your family. Brian was one of the happiest, joy-filled people we have ever known, especially when he was pulling a prank on someone. He brought much laughter and many smiles to our lives and it was an honor to have called him our friend. You all will be in our prayers. Debbie & Ken

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**Debbie & Ken Samac** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VL

“ We love you, Brian, and all of your precious family still here on earth. Pray for us; and before we know it, we will all be together, celebrating the joy of eternity in the presence of our King! Jesus never fails! For now, dear Ros, Blaize, Katie and Patrick, know that our hearts and prayers are with you during this special time. Amazing grace will take you to that place of peace that surpasses human understanding and to the wonder and knowledge that all of the promises of our Lord are true. May the fervor and fire of His love for each of you lead you to know, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that Heaven IS for real and that love is a little bit of heaven on earth. We love you so much. >3

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**Valli and Marty Leone** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I must be a bit selfish. I was not as close to him as I was back in Perrine, but the fact that Brian was out there doing what he did. Seemed to give me a good feeling. No matter the situation, Brian had a way of making me happy. I was happy that others had that benefit of his friendship too. The beauty of Brian is that long after this week end , and after the pain passes, he will continue to make me and others happy. He is not the type of person one can forget. I will look forward to his memory showing up in my life and making me happy! Our hearts are heavy for the Thorpes, and we pray the Lord is good to them. He is risen !

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**Jim, Jane and Seamus McCarthy** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ My condolences to the family. He will be sorely missed. I can thank TOG for my time in the Prevention Div. The experience was invaluable.

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**David Frazier** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ R.I.P. Brian will be truly missed. One memory stands out for me was how wonderful and helpful he was for Michael Hornick and our family through our difficult times. He was always here for us and we are forever grateful. He made us laugh, his yell made us jump, but there was always laughter. My prayers go out to everyone in our family.

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**Teresa Hornick** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ Our hearts are joined to each of you during these difficult moments. We pray The Lord's love & peace comfort you and His Angels watch over and care after each of you. Rosalyn, Blaize, Katie, and Patrick, you are loved and kept in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Ernie and David** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ We send our condolences and wishes to the family of peace and healing. Al and Verline Delisle

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**Al & Verline Delosle** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Our deepest condolences to Roz, Katie, Blaize and Patrick. We are so glad our path in life crossed with our dear friend Brian. We cherish all the memories we hold in our hearts and times we spent making those memories. He will not be forgotten. R.I.P Brian. We love you.

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**Jack and Johanna Kuwik** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ What a beautiful tribute to this wonderful man! He was loved, admired and respected by all who knew him. I'm sure he has know idea how many hearts and lives he touched. To Rosalyn and the Thorpe family, my sincere prayers for comfort and peace in the Grace of our Lord. Farewell, my Emmaus Brother. Jesus Christ is Risen!

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**Maryann Perry Hanrahan** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ I will miss Brian dearly and will always remember the laughter and stories we shared together with all of us during the last 20 years. I will especially remember Brian's Irish jokes. He has opened the doors to heaven with his smile and Irish jokes. May God be with Brian and his family and give them strength during this difficult time. Love you Brian.

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**Doris Barber & Family** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ My condolences to the entire Thorpe family as well as the community who loved, embraced & cherished Mr. Thorpe. I hope knowing how well regarded he was and how many lives he touched in a positive manner offers some level of comfort.

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**Ralph I Dunne** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Brian will live in our hearts forever. Such a good and kind friend. Memories will keep us happy till we are all together in our Lord's house. Love and hugs to our darling Roz and the family. God bless you all.*

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**Ted and Joyce holtzman** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *I am a first cousin to Brian's first wife Kate. Although he married into the Witt family, he was always considered family true and true, even after he married Roz. We love Roz too! I had a mad crush on Brian when I was a little girl. Such good times back then. Rest in peace, Brian. Will miss you so. My love and condolences go out to Roz, Katie, Blaize and Patrick.*

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**Carrie Witt Foster** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Edward Thorpe*

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October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM