



## Thomas Huettemann

January 13, 1957 - October 10, 2022

Thomas Berns Huettemann, Colonel USMC Retired, 65, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Lady Lake, Florida on October 10, 2022.

Tom was born in Heidelberg, Germany. He graduated from Coffee High School in Florence, Alabama and afterward served four years in the US Navy aboard the USS Simon Lake. He attended the University of Florida where he met his wife, Carol, and upon graduation received his commission in the United States Marine Corps. After retiring from thirty-four years of military service, he devoted his time to his wife and his work at Hines VA and New Orleans VA Medical Centers.

Tom is survived by his wife, Carol Huettemann, née Volpe; daughters Tiffany and Felicia Huettemann; son Joel Huettemann; sisters Karina McDaniel, Erika (Robert) Simons, Evelyn Daubenspeck, and Doris Meurer; and brother Bill Huettemann. He is preceded in death by his parents Hildegard Drake and Erik Huettemann; sister Eva Hüttemann; and brother Gottfried Hüttemann.

An avid Harley rider, fisherman, workshop tinkerer, and caretaker of backyard chickens, Tom lived life with fun-loving enthusiasm and a contagious sense of humor. He was his children's biggest fan and his wife's closest friend and confidant. Carol, Tiffany, Felicia, and Joel will be forever grateful for the unmatched love and dedication he showed them, and they could not be prouder of the man he was.

Private service was held for immediate family at Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory in Leesburg, Florida. Memorial contributions may be made to

Fisher House Foundation or SemperFi & America's Fund.

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ My heart aches 💔 I proudly serve under Captain Thomas Huettemann in Supply Company at Quantico Va. Off duty I was his karate teacher for several years. 🙏 Prayers going up for his family. 🙏

Msgt Ronnie Dargan USMC Retired - October 22, 2025 at 11:22 AM

KM

“ When we all gathered at Tom's and Carol's home one year during our Simons Thanksgiving get-together, Tom requested that we bring Nakia, Bob's and Erika's dog that they adopted from me. Nakia wasn't too fond of other animals - being a rescue dog, she had never been properly socialised to other animals. The horses belonged to Tom's neighbor but were taken care of by Tom and Carol. Even though they were across a fence, Nakia clearly had issues with them. Tom was undaunted and while he took me on his golf cart to show me his property he insisted on taking Nakia along. Nakia walked along side of us or rode with us and forgot about the horses. As she trotted along side us it was clear Tom loved having her along and showing her a fun time. It was a sweet moment. It was definitely one of my favorites that I will always cherish.

Karina Huettemann McDaniel - October 23, 2022 at 12:08 AM

BS

“ This is Bob. Tom, Erika and I lived together in Gator Town Apartments while Tom went to High School. One thing we often ate for supper was bass fillets we obtained from the pond across the street. We ate them so often, Tom got tired of eating them, so he purchased a 3 pound tube of hamburger meat. Erika and I found him at the stove cooking all 3 pounds of the meat and thanked him for providing supper. But, no, he explained that this was his supper, and we would have to get our own.

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**Bob Simons** - October 22, 2022 at 10:57 AM

ES

“ When Tom lived with Bob and me in a one bedroom apartment we often went fishing across the street in a stocked retention pond. Our freezer was full of big bass and bream. One day we caught a huge soft-shell turtle that kept repeatedly biting the hook off my fishing pole. That time must have been the third time. So Tom ran home to get a big trash can and a landing net to grab it with. The turtle was so big that the soft part of the shell bent around inside the trash can. We guessed it weighed about 35 pounds. We brought it home and butchered it right there on the front lawn of the apartments. It was not a pretty sight. Tom then carried the carcass into the bathroom and separated the meat from the shell. It must have smelled awful, because when he was finished he ran outside, holding his breath and dumped the bones in the dumpster. The meat was frozen until a month later and we had a delicious gourmet stew out of it.

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**Erika Simons** - October 21, 2022 at 10:03 PM