



Thomas Joseph Kendra

March 21, 1949 - November 11, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Thomas Joseph Kendra, a loving father, brother, and cherished friend, who peacefully departed this world on November 11, 2025, in Astor, Florida.

Born in Springfield, Massachusetts, Thomas grew up in West Springfield, where he developed a strong work ethic and a deep sense of community. A proud graduate of Springfield Trade School in 1966, he went on to honorably serve our nation in the United States Marine Corps from December 12, 1967, to December 9, 1971. As an air traffic controller with the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing based in El Toro, California, he exhibited dedication and professionalism, skills that would serve him well in his subsequent career.

Thomas found his calling as an engineer in the plastics industry, contributing to various companies throughout his career. He lived in numerous places, but his heart found a home in the beautiful landscapes of Portland, Oregon, and Methuen, Massachusetts, before settling down in Astor, Florida, where he enjoyed the outdoors and embraced the community around him.

A greatly passionate man, Thomas loved music, the outdoors, and had a particular fondness for guns and cars. He shared his love for the outdoors with others in a meaningful way, volunteering as an instructor with The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Hunter Safety Program in Ocala, Florida, before the

pandemic.

He leaves behind his beloved dog, Kathryn, who was not just a pet but a true companion during his later years. Thomas is survived by his two sons, Adam Kendra and his wife Courtney, along with their son Callan of Clackamas, Oregon; and Evan Kendra and his wife Laura, along with their daughter Raelynn of Manchester, New Hampshire. He is also remembered by his loving siblings, brother Michael Kendra and his wife Karen of Chester, Maryland, and sister Joyce LaViolette and her husband Gabriel of Four Oaks, North Carolina.

Thomas was predeceased by his devoted parents, Helen (Lysonski) Kendra and Fred Kendra, who instilled in him the values of kindness and hard work that guided him throughout his life.

A Celebration of Life and burial will take place at the Veteran's Cemetery in Agawam, Massachusetts, at a date yet to be determined. In this time of sorrow, let us remember the joyous memories and the impact Thomas had on all of our lives—always carried on in our hearts. In lieu of flowers, please feel free to donate to the ASPCA in his memory.

Rest in peace, Thomas. Your strength, dedication, and love will forever inspire those who were fortunate to know you.

Tribute Wall

MB

“ 4 files added to the album *Thomas Kendra photos*



Michael Kendra, Tom's brother - December 01, 2025 at 08:04 AM

MB

“ We spent many years doing things together in our younger days, drifted apart, but began spending more time together during the last 10 years. The road trip we made together in MA a few years ago was fantastic! We drove to Agawam MA for a memorial service and spent three more days driving around the Springfield area, then the Berkshires. Every night we picked a different restaurant, including the Munich House in Chicopee where we ordered freshly made Polish cuisine and a trip to Schermerhorn's Seafood for lobster and steamed clams. We drove by places where we used to live, visited old fishing spots, and reminisced about people we knew and things we did way back when. We even went to the MGM casino at Tom's request, and I staked him to play some poker. He walked away a winner with an extra 65 cents in his pocket!

Tom and I spoke on the phone frequently and visited each other a few times every year. I've attached two photos taken during these visits. One was taken in the DC area at the Marine Memorial. Tom served in the marines and was very proud of his service, so going to this memorial was high on his bucket list. The other was taken in Florida when he arranged to take a guided bass fishing trip together. I'll miss him, but I am thankful for all of the precious time we had together. Many good memories and no regrets.

Michael Kendra, Tom's brother

Michael Kendra, Tom's brother - December 01, 2025 at 07:59 AM

DL

“ Growing up with Tom, Michael and Joyce I always remember Tom as my tall, blonde, quiet cousin who seemed to have towered over me at the time. I thought he was 10 feet tall. Always polite to my parents and always bending down to kid with me as he was rushing out the door. Many fond memories of my life spent in their house and knowing Tom in his younger years. Sending my sincere condolences to his entire family at this difficult time. Much love, cousin Deby (Allen) Lutterschmidt.

Deby Lutterschmidt - November 28, 2025 at 10:35 AM