



## Tiit Gentalen

August 31, 2012

### Obituary of Tiit Gentalen

Tiit Gentalen, 72, Lady Lake, FL died Friday, August 31, 2012 at the Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida. He was born in Tallinn, Estonia and became a US citizen in 1955. His family fled the Soviet occupation of Estonia in 1944 and lived in displaced persons camps in Germany until coming to America in 1949. An avid fisherman, he loved his retirement in Florida and fishing the Harris Chain.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Carol Gentalen (Menes), sons Erik (Melissa) and Kirk (Amy), grandsons Leif and Julius, and brother Tom (Linda).

A memorial service will be held Monday, September 10, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, The Villages, with Pastor P. Barry Huntman officiating.

Memorial donations may be made in his memory to: Moffitt Cancer Center ([www.moffitt.org/home/how-to-give/gifts-in-memory](http://www.moffitt.org/home/how-to-give/gifts-in-memory)) or Hope Lutheran Church building fund.

## Services

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# Tribute Wall

AM

“ *My sincerest condolences to the family Tiit Gentalen whom I knew well at Columbia College.*

Algernon a. Phillips, OD, MD - October 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tiit Gentalen*

October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ *I just would like to say how shocked and heart broken I am by the passing of a good friend. Tiit and I spent some time together fishing and more recently just sitting and chatting, just two old guy's shoot'n the breeze. I will miss those conversations and his friendship more than I can express. With sorrow I say "good bye my friend - see you on the back side". Dave elle*

Dave Elle - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ *Rightnow I jave tears in my eyes thinking about Tiit and what an amazing leader, mentor and most of all friend that he was to me. What I tremember most about Tiit is his always wrarm and welcoming smile and his sense of humor. He really cared for people, those 5 years years working with him at Smithsonian you could always see how much he cared for ALL OF US! My heart aches because we lost such a great man -- a great human being! Our oloss is heaven;s gain -- because heaven just got one big ange! G-d bless you always Tiit!!! Sam Belil*

Sam Belil - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ Dear Carol, dear Erik and Kirk with families. We are very sorry! We are with you in your mourning. In my mind Tiit was dear relative, sunny, friendly and very good person and so I'll remember him forever. I hope that dear Lord will take his soul in his gently hands.  
Helle

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**Helle and Maargus with family** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ My thoughts and prayers go to the family. Tiit was both my mentor and friend. I will miss him terribly but he will and always will be at my side daily!

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**Wendy McAllister** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ So sorry to hear about Tiit. We spent many hours playing basketball together. Ellen and my brother George and wife Vivian and I visited your home a few yrs ago. We send our condolences to you Carol and Tiit's brother Tom.

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**Harold Clapper Sr.** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Our deepest Sympathy to our very special friend Carol and her family. We will miss Tiit very much. Remembering all the wonderful times we had together in NJ and Florida. It was a shock to us but I guess God has plans for all of us and we know Tiit is at peace and probably finding a special place to fish. May God give you strength at this very difficult time. Your all in our prayers and here when you need us.

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**Judy & John Bonard** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ Sorry to hear about our classmate and he will surely be missed by us all,RIP Brother

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**Herbie Buck** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Carol: Tiit and I knew each other from our Time,Inc.days. He was a wonderful wonderful man. He and I shared the same birthday and always celebrated with Tony Motta and Sam Bilel. It is with such great sadness that he is no longer with us. I am so very very sorry for your loss. However, I have been very blessed to have known him. He will never be forgotton. Love Judy

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**Judythe Pinto** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Dear Carol and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Please accept my deepest sympathy. Tiit was a wonderful person. You must have so many wonderful memories of so many years and making a family together. We met at Tiit's fiftieth high school reunion in Catskill and I'm so grateful I went and got to meet you, even though we just talked for a little while. I will make a memorial donation, and again, my sympathy and best wishes to you and your family. Fondly, Meryl

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**Meryl Glass** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ Very sad to hear the terrible news. Tiit and I were friends throughout hich school and beyond. He definitely was a good man. I ptsy for him and his family.

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**Henry Coons** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ Carol, Erik, Kirk and family I am so sorry for yor loss, Tiit was such a great man. One of the few who walked the walk and talked the talk. He was a kind and caring to me growing up and left such a positive impact on me. May all your wonderful memories of him give you comfort at this difficult time. You are all in my thoughts and prayers,  
Teri

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**Teri Semlear Powles** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ We are so sorry about Tiit, Carol. He was a sweet, kind man, and was taken away from you and your boys way too early.

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**Hope** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ Dear Carol, In reading the condolences, I understand that you were the wife and friend of a very special man. You have great memories to cherish. ~~~~ Life is but a stopping place, a pause in what's to be. A resting place along the road, to sweet eternity. We all have different journeys, different paths along the way. We are all meant to learn some things, but never meant to stay. Our destination is a place far greater than we know. For some the journey's quicker, for some the journey's slow. But when the journey finally ends, we'll claim a great reward, and find an everlasting peace together with the Lord. **CONSIDER YOURSELF HUGGED.** Know that you are loved.

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**Georgia** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Heartfelt condolences to you Carol, Your sons and their families! Also heartfelt condolences to Toomas and his family! Commemorate- we are in mourning, that we have lost so cheerful and kind relative Tiit. On 10th of September we lighten the candles in Estonia to remember Tiit. We wish you all the strength and health to withstand this difficult moment,

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**Siivi, Helgi, Laida, Lillia with families and Aino** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Dear carol I wish I could of met tiit but your mom always told me about all of courage leaving his home land my prayers are with you keep in touch cousin lil

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**Lil Balkan** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Our deepest sympathy to you, Carol, in your loss. How blessed you were to be married to such a "prince" of a man. We will fondly remember the tour of the Lake Griffin waterways Tiit narrated for the Ladies Charity. He really loved the water and especially his fishing. Tiit always reminded us of Marian's brother, George, a fellow "heart and soul" fisherman. We have no question that Tiit is "resting in peace" in the loving arms of Jesus. See you there when we, too, are called Home. Lew and Marian

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**Lew and Marian Jones** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Dear Carol and family, I only was gifted to meet Tiit at the end of his too brief but quality life and I was impressed with his powerful presence. God was certainly with him and our world will be less because of his death. May God almighty and the Lord Jesus Christ be ministering to you all now from the power of a messiah who breaks deaths door. Mercy and Grace be yours in grief, Hope  
Lutheran Pastor Paul Mickelson

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**Pastor Paul Mickelson** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ We are truly sorry for your loss. I have so many wonderful memories from our high school days. A truly wonderful guy, who will be missed by all who knew him. Jim Marquoit

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**James Marquoit** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ My heart felt prayers are with you and your family.

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

AM

“ My sincerest condolences to the Family of Tiit Gentalen, I knew him well at Columbia College in the early sixties.

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**Algernon A. PHillips MD** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM