



## William Thomas Coulson III

December 22, 1945 - May 6, 2025

William Thomas Coulson III was born in Pittsburgh, PA to William T. Coulson Jr and Ruth (Poad) Coulson.

He graduated from West Mifflin South High School in 1963. Attained his Bachelor degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in childhood education in 1967 and received his Masters degree from the University of Pittsburgh. William taught at McClellan Elementary School and became principal of Roosevelt Elementary School in West Jefferson Hills school district in 1971.

Tom and Sandi moved to North Port, Florida in 1989 and he worked in Sarasota County schools at Glenallen Elementary School, Tuttle Elementary School, McIntosh Middle School and opened Toledo Blade Elementary School in 1992. He retired in 2006 and moved to The Villages, Florida.

Tom is survived by his wife of 58 years, Sandi; sons Scott (Gina) of Plum Borough, PA and Ryan of Venice, FL; sister Elissa Hall of Monaca, PA; grandsons Noah, Reed, Zachary, Christian, Thomas and Chase and 1 great grandson.

# Tribute Wall

Lenny  
Mills

“ 🏠 🎓 Mr. Coulson I remember you since I was started first time ever went to North Port Toledo Blade Elementary School in North Port FL being a new student & yet since I was supposed to go this school in 1994-1995 school year but I went to Venice Elementary School due to no room to have ESE classes in NPTBES but by next school year comes I went this school from 30 years ago in August to have ESE classes. But hey I went there first in August 1995 then my youngest brother Austin in winter 1996 & my brother Matthew in August 1996. Boy you did great job to put North Port Toledo Blade Elementary School on the map in January 4th 1993 1 day away till my youngest brother Austin born while that school is open. Ever since you want A+ school like this is the best thing to do. Otherwise you put every students of the month by taking picture with you to earn rewards. It is awesome we did & yet you did hard work to asking us to raise the money for our school eagle statue to display on front of the campus. I was enjoy to see you from I was graduating 5th grade level in 2000 & bummer you won't see my brother Matthew graduated in 2001 & my youngest brother Austin graduated in 2004 for their 5th grade. Since you were retired from North Port Toledo Blade Elementary School principal in 2006 I haven't chance to go there by saying farewell for your retirement & also I should invite you to see my graduation speech I did on May 25th 2007 in North Port High School with others. But hey you did amazing job to do on our school news for us to watch TV & yet I still have it on my VHS tapes while my class did school voting in November 1996. I couldn't thanks enough you did helping my Charlotte County teacher to coming over to join Sarasota County Schools from Hurricane Charley 2004 since they don't have any access to call. Mr. Coulson you will be dearly missed by us, me Lenny Mills, my mom Dori Mills, my brother Matthew Mills & Austin Mills. 🎵 We are the Eagles we are the best. 🎵 Keeping condolences to the Coulson family 🏠 🎓



---

**Lenny Mills** - August 09, 2025 at 03:34 PM

MC

“ *Mr. Colson gave me my start in the public school arena. He was the most caring, kind and loving principal I've ever had the pleasure working for. He created such an environment of family. The teams he put together were outstanding. I loved every moment working with and for him. Working at Toledo Blade with he and his staff, are my fondest memories working in the public school system. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. God bless!* 🙏🙏🙏🙏

---

**Meredith McGirr (Knowles)** - June 16, 2025 at 02:32 PM

DF

“ *Tom was surely one of my favorite cousins! We had a lifelong (for me) relationship because he was a few years older than I. I have such fond memories of our childhood, playing in Grandma Coulson's big house. As adults we tried to get our families together as much as possible but time & distance kept our visits too far apart. I am so grateful for the love & generosity Tom & Sandi shared with me when my husband, Paul passed away a few years ago. We always promised we'd get together more frequently when we spoke but life & illness seemed to get in the way of that. I have such a sweet memory of an unplanned meeting with Tom & Sandi at the airport as we were coming & going from Pittsburgh a few years ago. We had such a lovely visit as we waited for our planes. He was a sweet, kind gentleman and his marriage to his beloved Sandi and their family was the joy of his life. I will miss him as I keep Sandi and their whole family in my prayers.*

---

**Doris Fannin** - June 13, 2025 at 12:22 PM

RB

“ Tom was my favorite principal to work with, both as a volunteer, employee, and friend. My children are better people for having a school leader like him. My heart goes out to his family. He will be missed.

---

**Ruth-Anne Bradley** - May 15, 2025 at 02:26 PM

NB

“ Tom was a terrific principal and a wonderful person. He was very supportive and helpful when I was dealing with unexpected death of far away family members.

---

**Nancy Bennett** - May 09, 2025 at 09:37 AM