



Thomas E. Pierson

March 15, 1925 - March 21, 2009

Thomas E. Pierson died suddenly on March 21, 2009 in Naples, FL. He was 84 years old. Mr. Pierson was born in Grasonville, MD on March 15, 1925. He attended school in Grasonville, MD. On October 12, 1942, Mr. Pierson married Lorraine Jones of Chester, MD who predeceased him on May 5, 1995.

He served in the U.S. Coast Guard during WWII in Normandy and later volunteered to serve in Okinawa and mainland Japan aboard the USS LCI 83. Mr. Pierson received an honorable discharge as a gunners mate second class. After the War, Mr. Pierson entered the plumbing business through the GI bill program and in 1951 started Thomas E. Pierson Plumbing. Highly regarded and having earned a reputation for attention to detail, he later expanded, became Thomas E. Pierson and Sons, Inc. and diversified to include heating, cooling, sanitation services and Nanticoke Homes without ever compromising his principles. He retired as a successful businessman and entrepreneur in 1980 and during 1982-1986, Mr. Pierson served honorably as a Queen Anne's County Commissioner. He married Mary Lou O'Hare Rosendale of Centreville, MD on November 16, 1996.

During the 1960's, he was selected to serve on the Bi-racial Committee for Public Accommodations. He was later appointed by Governor Tawes of Maryland to the State Plumbing Commission and for 24 years served under four separate governors holding the position of Chairman of the Board for ten of those years. In 1972, he was also appointed by the Governor of Maryland as Chairman of the Adhoc Committee to write the State Plumbing Code and Guidelines for which he later received a Governor's Citation. He served on the Queen Anne's County High School Building Committee for the initial construction of that facility. Mr. Pierson was a member of the Master Plumbing, Heating and Cooling State Association and served on the Board of Directors. He was also a member of the Queen Anne's County High School Vocational Training Committee. He received both the "Man of Year" award and the "Businessman of the Year" award from the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Pierson was a member of the Immanuel United Methodist Church of Grasonville, MD

and St.

Peter the Apostle Catholic Church of Queenstown, MD. He was a charter member and past

Commander of the Grasonville VFW Post #7464, a member of the Queenstown American Legion

Post #0296 and a member of the Bay Country Moose Lodge #831. He was also a past member of

the Kent Island Yacht Club and Prospect Bay Country Club.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Pierson of Centreville, MD; three sons, Douglas Pierson and his fiancé, Doris Korkowski, of St. Michaels, MD, James Pierson and his wife, Betsy, of Stevensville, MD, and Martin Pierson and his fiancé, Penny T. Crouch, of Grasonville, MD; five step-children, Christopher J. Rosendale, Jr. of Centreville, MD, Eileen Rosendale Garza of Magnolia, TX, Matthew Rosendale, Sr. of Glendive, MT, Daniel D. Rosendale of Centreville, MD, and Michael Rosendale of Stevensville, MD; four siblings, Robert Pierson of Grasonville, MD, Jerry Pierson of Chester, MD, Catherine Heim of Stevensville, MD, and Gloria Kelly of Stevensville, MD; four grandchildren, Monica Pierson of Stevensville, MD, Lacey Pierson of Easton, MD, Corey Pierson of St. Michaels, MD and Katie Pierson of St. Michaels, MD; twelve step grandchildren, Cari Rosendale of Centreville, MD, Christopher J. Rosendale, III of Centreville, MD, Rebecca Kellum of Millington, MD, Sara Garza of New York, NY, Matthew Rosendale, Jr. of Casper, WY, Brien Rosendale of Bismarck, ND, Adam Rosendale of Bismarck, ND, Daniel C. Rosendale of Centreville, MD, Caroline Rosendale of Centreville, MD, Benjamin Rosendale of Centreville, MD, Megan Rosendale of Morgantown, WV, Jacob Rosendale of Stevensville, MD; and two step great grandchildren, Braden Kellum of Millington and Regan Kellum of Millington. Mr. Pierson was also loved by many as Tom, Tommy, T.P. and Pop-pop. His kind spirit, impeccable character, gracious nature and sincere love of family, friends, children and dancing were both undeniable and infinite. We are blessed to have known this truly great man.

Friends and family may call from 2 to 4pm and 6 to 8pm on Friday, April 3, 2009 at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A., 408 South Liberty Street, Centreville, MD. A funeral mass will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, April 4 at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church in Centreville. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Easton. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to Hospice of Queen Anne's, Inc., 255 Comet Drive, Centreville, MD 21617 or Chesterwye Center, Inc., P.O. Box 96, Grasonville, MD 21638. Online condolences may be sent to <http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

Events

APR **Service** 11:00AM

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Our Mother of Sorrows Church
303 Chesterfield Avenue, Centreville, MD, US

Comments



“ Royce and I are so sorry for your loss. I (Martha) remember Mr. Pierson as I work for the County and knew that he was a most gracious man and so very well liked by all. He will be missed by those who knew him well. May God bless you and the family.

Martha & Royce Herman

Martha & Royce Herman - April 07, 2009 at 08:50 PM



“ Dear MaryLou & Family,
We wish we could have attended the services for Tommy. I am sure he will be missed by all and our prayers go out to you.

Love, Roger & Rena

Roger & Rena Dye - April 03, 2009 at 07:33 PM



“ Tom will be remembered as a very family-loving, and giving person, who made our loved one, Mary Lou very happy. We will miss him.

Michael & Sue O'Hare - April 02, 2009 at 12:24 PM



“ Hi Mary Lou,
Sorry to hear of your loss. May it help to know that others care.
Virginia Hampton
Boise, Idaho

Virginia Hampton - April 01, 2009 at 11:18 PM



“ We are so saddened to hear that your husband passed away so suddenly. You know Jay and I always held you both close to our hearts. God's peace.

Marty Kunkle & Andy & Nick - April 01, 2009 at 02:41 PM



“ Mr Tommy will be remembered by all of us as a kind man with a big heart. He has made us all better for knowing him and he will be missed by all. He was a big part of our family and was loved by us all. There will be a big emptiness without him. He always made the day better.

Thank you Mr. Tommy for all of the joy you have brought into our lives and for making my grandmother happy for all of those years. We love you and you will be so missed.

Rebecca and William Kellum - March 30, 2009 at 10:57 PM



“ Dear Mary Lou and family,

We are truly sorry to learn of the passing of Tommy. He was a true gentleman and will greatly be missed by everyone. Our thoughts are with all of you this difficult time.

June and David

June & David Clark - March 30, 2009 at 07:17 PM



“ Tommy and I go back a long time since World War II. He married my first cousin, Lorraine, and every time we met during the years we always laughed about my borrowing his white shirt when I stood in his church and became godfather for his son, Marty. Our deepest sympathy to all the family and may the memories of this wonderful gentleman be a comfort. Donald and Betty Anderson

Donald and Betty Anderson - March 30, 2009 at 12:20 PM



“ We were so sad to hear of Tommy's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time.

We have very fond memories of our time with you in China. Debby Hardy e-mailed us the news about Tommy and we wanted to express our sympathy.

Deborah Hales & Carolyn Myers - March 30, 2009 at 12:01 PM



“ Dear Mary Lou and Family, As others have said, it was a true honor to have known Tommy. He was one of the first people we met when we moved to The Shore and after our first meeting we said to each other "Now that's a real gentleman." He was proud of his family and made his friends feel like family. Please accept our heartfelt condolence and take comfort in the beautiful memories you shared with this wonderful man. May God's strength be with you. Bob & Debbie Hardy

Bob & Debbie Hardy - March 29, 2009 at 06:15 PM



“ Tommy was my kind of guy, all the way: A gentleman, totally considerate and kind to people whenever and wherever he met them along the way. Fun too! He will be missed so much but I think I know where he is!

Karen & Doug Salter

Karen & Doug Salter - March 28, 2009 at 08:24 PM



“ MaryLou We cannot express the sadness we feel for your loss. Tommy was such a sweet man and I looked forward to my hug when he would come into the office. He will be missed by all.
Fran & Bob Fooks

Bob & Fran Fooks - March 28, 2009 at 05:19 PM



“ To Mary Lou and the entire Pierson/Rosendale family, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Such a sad sudden loss, but what a beautiful life! I'll never forget what a kind gentle soul Mr. Tommy was. He loved his family and his community and showed it in every way possible. When I was a scared young reporter for the BayTimes, he was a County Commissioner. No matter how many times I asked him questions, he was always so patient and kind. May you all find comfort in the memories of his wonderful life!
Lisa

Lisa Lister Adkins - March 27, 2009 at 01:49 PM



“ Mary Lou and family: What a shock it was when we received the call that T.P. had left us. What can we say about this wonderful gentleman? He will always remain in our hearts and the love he had for others will surely live on. What a wonderful boss he was and respected all of us in the office, as we did him. There will never be another T.P. and he inspired so many and there was never a stranger to him. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to you at this time. May God give you strength to face each new day and always know that he will be by your side. We thank God for having T.P. in our lives. Love, Lynda and Gene Palmatary

Lynda Palmatary - March 26, 2009 at 05:25 PM



“ Tom Pierson was a remarkable man and it was a pleasure to see him and Mary Lou together.

Tom made visitors to their homes in Queenstown, MD or Bonita Beach, FL feel like honored and loved guests.

We felt as if we knew Tom our whole lives after meeting him for the first time. He was a gentleman who truly loved family and life. We will miss him so much and are better people for having known him.

Tom and Meg O'Hare - March 26, 2009 at 04:55 PM