



William "Tom" Thomas King

June 3, 1928 - February 26, 2019

William Thomas 'Tom' Glover King

William Thomas King, born on June 3, 1928 in Charleston, South Carolina, known as 'Tom', passed away peacefully at the age of 90 on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 in Lake Forest, California surrounded by his family. Born to John Heyward Glover and Margaret Bellinger Warren Glover, he had one twin brother; John 'Jack' Heyward Glover King. Tom is survived by his wife Nancy King, three daughters from a previous marriage Kristine, Judith and Karen as well as two step-children Joanna and Daniel,. Together Tom and Nancy have seven grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Tom's early years were spent on a farm in Walterboro, SC, which his father managed. A tragic farm accident took his father's life at the young age of 31. Unable to take on the role of managing the farm, Tom's Mother, Margaret moved into the City of Charleston, SC to live with her relatives. She had to work to support the twin boys, so she worked sewing overalls for the CCC camps, earning about \$1.00 a day—this was depression times. When the boys were not attending school, they were basically left unattended running and playing in the park and streets. Other family members encouraged Margaret to place the boys in the Charleston Orphan House, where they would be supervised, provided an education, food and shelter, and also taught strong work and social ethics. So, at age 9 both Tom and his brother Jack were placed in the orphanage. Unlike many horrible stories of other orphanages, COH was well managed, staffed, and respected and supported by the local community. Local merchants and others of better financial means made sure the orphanage had adequate funding and staffing.

Tom was a born Artist, gifted by God; he began to sketch at the young age of just 6 years old. During his residence at the COH, his talents were recognized by the superintendent, Miss Dora Sweatman, who arranged for Tom to be awarded his first art class under a private art teacher at Murray's Studio. Tom's first scholarship was from the Charleston Museum of Fine Art. At age 16, Margaret sent for the boys to join her and her new

husband, Lawrence King on the West Coast. So, Tom and his brother traveled alone on the train to the LA area, joining their Mother and step-dad in Laguna Beach, California. Margaret had the boys legally change their surname to “King”. Tom enjoyed his time in the beautiful town of what he and his brother would refer to as “Labena Guch”. Tom was not afraid of hard work. He worked throughout high school to help support his family rising at 4am to fold newspapers as well as after school and weekends at Bob’s Ice Cream Shop on Laguna’s Main beach as a self-proclaimed ‘Soda Jerk’. Tom was also athletic, playing on his High School football team, boxed and was later also a member of the schools’ cheer-leading squad. He finished high school at Laguna Beach High School where he was voted Best Artist for his Class of 1949 (‘49ers).

Tom continued his education at the Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles, California and at LA Trade Tech College, studying technical illustrations, blueprint reading, and airbrush illustration, as well as Life Study in oil painting at El Camino College. Tom later attended additional engineering classes at Fullerton State College to accommodate his transfer at work from Graphics into Engineering.

During Tom’s 33 plus years at his employer Rockwell International, he worked in the Graphic Arts Department on technical drawings, photo retouching, renderings of aircraft drawings including fighter jets and flight manual illustrations, color renderings of the Saber-liner Commercial executive jet structure and interiors, and inertial navigation guidance systems for atomic subs, MX Missile, GPS System and the B-1 Bomber. Tom closed his career as an Electro-Mechanical Designer on the Space Shuttle, rendering engineering drawings for the Space Shuttle payload cargo bay. Shortly after his official retirement, Tom was called back (spent another nine years as contract labor) to support the engineering/drafting efforts on the Russian docking system, enabling space shuttle hook-up to the MIR Space Station.

When not working, as a younger man, he enjoyed taking his daughters swimming in the ocean at Laguna, Sunday drives, camping, BBQing and visiting with family. He also enjoyed tennis and spent time on the tennis courts teaching his daughters to play. Tom also proved to be quite good with his hands building patios, laying bricks at the family home in Anaheim, and even built a playhouse for his daughters.

Later in life Tom enjoyed traveling the world with his wife Nancy and visiting family across the USA. He attended several Glover family reunions in his beloved Charleston, SC. In his retirement, Tom went back to what he loved most – painting. He continued his oil paintings and miniature water color comprehensives whenever he could manage to squeeze it, enjoying leisurely painting from his studio in Laguna Woods Village. One large original

painting, The Zealot of Masada, is hanging at the International Christian Embassy headquarters in Jerusalem, Israel.

Above all, Tom was a devoted Christian and loved the Lord. He created the stain glass for South Coast Christian Assembly, as well doing many other art projects including the architectural rendering of the then new South Coast Christian Assembly church in San Juan, California. He also served the Lord in ministering in the Gleaners' Jail Ministry and Orange County Rescue missions for over 10 years. He came alongside as a co-leader, with his wife Nancy, in the Crown Financial Ministry. Most recently, he was an active member at the Village Church in Laguna Woods.

Services will be held Friday, March 8th, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at McCormick & Sons mortuary in Laguna Woods followed by an honored guard burial at Ascension Cemetery at 11:30 a.m. in El Toro.

In keeping with Tom's wishes, and his desire for all to know God, in lieu of flowers, please donate in Memory of Tom King, to the Gideons Int'l.

Tom's favorite Scripture

Matthew 4:4: "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every WORD that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

Gideons International <https://www.gideons.org/>

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



McCormick & Son - March 05, 2019 at 07:52 PM



“ Nancy and Family,

Our thoughts and prayers are with you... I can't tell you how much your friendship has meant over the years. When I was just a young man working in Downey on the Space Shuttle, I met Tom. We worked in the same group, and we became friends. When I say friends, I truly mean that. We often talked about the goodness of God and he shared his story with me on how he became a born again christian. I was also treated to the beautiful story that is the love story of you and him. I truly believe that God brought Tom and I together at a time where we both needed a true friend and brother. When my time in CA was up and I moved back o Georgia, I'm so happy that we remained in touch. I'm also so happy that, when I got married, you guys got a chance to meet my family and spend time with us in Georgia. You guys embraced my wife Rosalind and our children like an Uncle and Aunt, and they came to love you guys just like I did. So when we recently received news from you of Tom's transition to glory, our hearts sank. i know at times like these, words aren't enough to offer total comfort to you and the family. But this I know - God is able, and He promised to never leave or forsake us. I and my family will miss Tom, but I know that he is with the Lord, and having a awesome time seeing "Kick Back Jack" again :-)! I'm thankful to God for allowing us to meet and become brothers and friends (forever). To God be the Glory

Love you always,

AL, Rosalind, Kiffinae and Korbin Sanders

Alvin Sanders - April 11, 2019 at 09:29 PM



“ Tom was my high school classmate and friend. He was a good athlete, but California rules made him ineligible by reason of being over the age of 18. I didn't know why he stopped in sports until many years later. He never complained about it. He was always a positive person.

Tom worked at many jobs to help his family. He got me a job folding the Sunday LA Times at Marriner's Bookstore in downtown Laguna Beach.. Those were early

morning occasions with lots of humor.

With his artistic talent, Laguna Beach was an ideal place for Tom. I liked his work very much- the landscapes in an impressionist vein. I thought it was classy for him to give art to his hometown- Charleston SC. And for Tom and Jack to rise above their years in the orphanage there. They were brave men.

I have never had a nickname except one which was the exclusive province of Tom. He always called me 'Sir John' no matter how long the time between our meetings. I think it was because he knew I was born in England. He was a fine man, all who knew him are the poorer today. John S. Gleed A fellow LBHS "Artist" of 1949

John S, Gleed - March 07, 2019 at 11:40 AM



“ We will miss Tom but feel so blessed to have been friends. His smile and humor will be missed. Nancy, you and family are in our prayers

lenora ward - March 06, 2019 at 11:18 PM



“ Dear Nancy and Family,

May God give you and the family comfort as you deal with the loss of your precious husband, Tom. In times past, we have enjoyed being with both of you and have many fond memories of our times together. The enduring memories we have and that we enjoy everyday are Tom's works of art. In our family room we have his print of a little cabin in the woods, entitled: "Days Long Gone By." It reminds Rita of her Grandfather's farm which she loved to visit. We also have one of Tom's prints which he did of the Dana Point Shipyards. We were very active in sailing at that time and it reminds us of all the good times we had, sailing out of the Dana Point harbor. Finally, we have very fond memories of the beautiful stain glass window he designed for South Coast Christian Assembly. Tom's great sense of humor and happy disposition were so enjoyable. Most of all, Tom's love of our Savior, Jesus Christ, was the driving force in his life. You both put Jesus first in your life and relationship. It was a joy to know Tom and he will be missed.

Much Love and Blessings,
Rick and Rita Burrows

Rick and Rita Burrows - March 06, 2019 at 02:25 PM



“ 51 files added to the album LifeTributes



McCormick & Son - March 05, 2019 at 06:39 PM



“ Nancy, I am so sadden to hear of Tom’s passing. My Thoughts and prayers are with you Love your second cousin Rene’

Rene Ritchey-McAuliffe - March 04, 2019 at 10:00 PM



“ We shall not forget our friend Tom who was a cheerful guy and gave us a picture of a print he had painted— so special!! Always loved to see him and you also Nancy- when you came in the doors at church. Also his beautiful art window that you shared at SCCA. You have been a beautiful example of a godly wife Nancy and may you be comforted and blessed and every need be met. We give Bibles through the Gideons in memory of Tom to tell of Jesus love which Tom shared in his life. Sending our love and prayers!! Court and Janet Braden.

court and janet braden - March 03, 2019 at 11:23 PM



“ Nancy,
We are so sorry to hear of Tom’s passing. Thank you for your friendship. I know Tom is having an awesome time in heaven with my Dad. We are praying for you!
Tom and Melanie Van Deusen

Tom and Melanie - March 03, 2019 at 07:23 PM



“ Tom was a sweet cousin, as was his twin Jack. Both kind and gentle, God fearing men. Tom was an artist of some renown and loved being around all his many cousins. We are sorry for our loss but rejoice in God's receiving him. Condolences to Nancy, Karen and other close family members. Rosemary Glover Bennett, 1st cousin.

Rosemary Glover Bennett - March 03, 2019 at 03:16 PM



“ Tom, when you smile, your eyes light up and there is always a joke or humorous quip not too long after. You are a caring and generous soul, always mindful that your artistic gift came from God. "God made me an artist," you always say. You lived in a world full of vibrant color, evidenced by your art and even the clothes you wore. You perceived the beauty of the Creator in everything you saw. You lived a well-ordered life and brought that beauty and order to your creative works that in turn reflected those eternal qualities into those who contemplate on your paintings. Your bedrock faith leaves a rich legacy in beautiful art and poignant memories of your kindness, creativity, and humor. I will always be grateful for your prayers for protection, especially when riding my motorcycle from which you strongly dissuaded me. And while I don't ever intend to stop riding, I guess, in memory of you my friend, I could try the frog legs.



Emma Clark - March 03, 2019 at 03:14 PM



“ Living in northern California never had the occasion to see Tom and Nancy very often, but we always made a point to meet one another for breakfast on my visits in the summertime. Our visits were special to me. Tom had a presence about him that you knew Jesus lived within his heart. A true man of God.
I will miss him.

Martin Visser

Martin Visser - March 03, 2019 at 01:24 PM



“ We met Tom & Nancy on a Fall Foliage tour many years ago and have enjoyed our friendship ever since. What a treasure to have visited them, seen the Pageant of the Arts with them, and are so thankful that they took time to see us in Ramona, CA plus Sequim, WA as well as here in Surprise, AZ. A few of Tom's prints proudly adorn our guest bedroom and have been enjoyed by many friends plus our family. We know Tom is at peace and thankful for his new home, but still, he will be missed by all of us left behind.

With love and friendship to our wonderful friend Artist Tom King and his loving wife Nancy,

Darryl & Joyce Hrin

Joyce Hrin - March 03, 2019 at 11:30 AM



“ We met Tom and Nancy several times when world traveling, attending the Pageants or just visiting our wonderful friends at Ward's church. Their love and graciousness will be forever remembered.

We look forward to our grand reunion before God's throne.

Even so, come Lord Jesus.

Fred and Betty Campbell

Fred & Betty Campbell - February 27, 2019 at 10:38 PM