



Thomas Maske

September 3, 1934 - April 7, 2018

Thomas Dale Maske, 83, of Anna, passed away at 10:23 PM on Saturday, April 7, 2018 at Integrity Health Care of Anna.

He was born September 3, 1934 in Iowa City, Johnson County, Iowa, to Dale and Margery Maske. At the age of 16 Thomas was diagnosed with polio and spent his remaining 67 years in a manual wheelchair because of the disease. After graduating from high school in 1952, Thomas went on to graduate from Oklahoma State Tech in 1954. He married Sylvia Estal on December 28, 1954 in West Branch, Iowa. Despite being confined to a wheelchair, Thomas spent much of his career traveling the world with visits to England, Germany, China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and Australia. Thomas and his family lived in Taipei, Taiwan from 1970-1976 where Thomas served as the Director of Purchasing for Admiral Overseas Corporation. After returning to the US, Thomas served with several corporations and a non-profit entity in a variety of positions typically involving purchasing. He spent ten years before retirement as the owner of Jiffy Print in Evansville, Indiana.

Thomas was very active in civic organizations and the United Methodist Church. Some of the awards and citations that he received over his life include the Civitan Outstanding Lt. Governor Award (Mt. Carmel, Illinois Chapter) in 1985 and the Civitan Key Award in 1987. Thomas was an active Amateur Radio Operator (KA9EYS) for many years and received the

R.A.D.I.O. – President's Award (Mt. Carmel, Illinois Amateur Radio Club) in 1984. Thomas was awarded the Davenport Jaycee Club's Person of the Year Award in 1963 for co-chairing a mass-inoculation drive to eradicate polio. He served as the church treasurer for Anna UMC from 2003-2013 and also as a church trustee. In addition to these activities, Thomas enjoyed boating on the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, photography, and was an early advocate of personal computing starting in 1985 and continuing as an avid Mac user for the remainder of his life.

Beyond all these things, Thomas was a husband and father, grandfather and great-grandfather who inspired his family by never allowing his handicap to dictate his circumstances. Whether living overseas, driving automobiles, all-terrain vehicles and boats, or navigating a flight of stairs in his wheelchair, Thomas never let human obstacles get in his way and he relied on his Lord for the spiritual ones. This is Thomas' legacy and how he will be remembered.

Thomas is survived by his wife for 63 years, Sylvia; children, Mark (wife Mary) Maske of Austin, TX, Jocelyn (husband James) Brown of Albion, IL, Jay (wife Tara) Maske of Olathe, KS, and Craig (wife Marjorie) Maske of Plantersville, TX; ten grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and brother, Dick (wife Judy) Maske of West Branch, IA.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dale and Margery and a granddaughter, Jessica Brown.

Graveside Services for Thomas Maske will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, April 13, 2018 at McGinnis Cemetery with Pastor Bill Minor officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the United Methodist Church and will be accepted at the cemetery or funeral home.

Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Graveside

APR 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

McGinnis Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas Maske*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Thomas came to the Anna Methodist Church several years ago, very willing to do his share. He volunteered to be the church Treasurer and did an excellent job keeping our books and budget in the "black". Thomas was always willing to set up programs on the computer and assist the church secretary. Thomas and his lovely wife Sylvia were active members of our community. Rest in peace my friend. Linda and Frank LaFoon*

Linda LaFoon - April 25, 2018 at 04:52 PM



“ *Jocelyn , I am very sorry for your loss. David .S*

david s - April 24, 2018 at 03:52 PM



“ *I served in the Mt. Carmel Civitan club with Tom for several years. He was a hard worker and always full of energy. He was also very outgoing, positive and kind in his treatment of others. I am thankful I was blessed with the privilege to know him. I am so sorry for your loss.*

Doug Painter - April 17, 2018 at 05:55 PM



“ *Dick & Judy Maske. We send our deepest sympathy to all your family.*

Bobbie Jo Donohoe - April 12, 2018 at 06:10 PM

 Ann
Maske

“ Dear Sylvia, Tom's sons, daughter and, of course, brother Dick, Ann and I are so sorry to hear about Tom's passing. Although I haven't seen or talked to Tom in many years, I'm fully aware of his courage and spirit over the last 67 years. I was in high school with Tom and beside him that Friday evening in Columbus Junction at our scheduled football game. I was aware that Tom had been feeling quite puny the previous week, but knew he was determined to make the game. In fact he was in a few plays. Tom was not on the team bus to return home. His parents, my Uncle Dale and Aunt Marge, took him directly to University Hospital in Iowa City. My family and I were advised the following morning that Tom had been diagnosed with early signs of polio. Tom's obituary pretty much tells his life story and all the many, many, many accomplishments he has achieved while wheeling in his chair. It would be impossible for me to describe them all. I truly believe that Tom is deserving of the ultimate, finest reward possible and that would be home in Heaven. God bless Tom and, of course, you Sylvia and all the kids. Peace be with you now and forever.
Love, Cousin Jim

Ann Maske - April 11, 2018 at 09:04 PM

LT

“ Love, James (dad) Brown and Pam Taylor purchased the Delightful Dieffenbachia for the family of Thomas Maske.



Love, James (dad) Brown and Pam Taylor - April 10, 2018 at 05:35 PM

JD

“ *Thoughts and prayers Sylvia and family. I wil miss not emailing Tom he enjoyed finding Maske's and letting me know so I could continue searching our Maske family*

josn dinnel - April 08, 2018 at 07:45 PM