



## Larry Thomas "Tom" Coleman

June 8, 1954 - January 22, 2022

Larry Thomas "Tom" Coleman, age 67 of Kirtland, passed away January 22, 2022, at University Hospitals Lake West Medical Center in Willoughby. He was born June 8, 1954 in Iaeger, WV.

Tom loved working with his hands and carried his affinity for hard work and craftsmanship his entire life. A work ethic and a love of crafts that he attributed to his family coming from West Virginia, a trait of which he was extremely proud. He was a sign painter who worked for Pepsi-Cola in the 1970s then branched out on his own and stayed with the craft the rest of his career. In his home community of Lake County, Ohio, Tom was revered for his ability to hand letter boats, cars, and Harley Davidson motorcycles, some of which he made himself. He also enjoyed working with stained glass, wood, and loved to camp and fish. In recent years Tom started to handcraft knives from antique saw blades, most of which he gave away to anyone that he called a friend.

Tom met Sharon, the love of his life, when he was 15. They dated through high school and got permission from Sharon's mother to marry at a young age. He joined the Marines and served with pride in the United States Marine Corps, 3rd Marine Air Wing Crash Fire Rescue #7051, a unit that extinguished aircraft fires. When Tom and Sharon's first son, Jason was born, he brought home a pair of toddler's Levi jeans from the commissary at Camp Pendleton in California that every child in the family, including his second son, John, and

all of his grandchildren, nieces and nephews have worn since then.

Though Tom sometimes sported a tough exterior, he was compassionate and he cared for animals he found in the neighborhood. He loved to take care of local wildlife and made sure they had food throughout the year. He was extremely proud of his boys, Jason and John, for carrying on as craftsmen and working with their hands to make things that everyday people could love and use—Jason as a signmaker, John as a sheet metal worker.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Sharon (Jenkins); son, John (Elara) Coleman; grandchildren, James and Spencer Coleman and Clinton and Uma Coleman; siblings, Zelma (Chuck) Mitchell, Eva Higginbotham, John (Kim) Coleman, and Kim (Bobby) Jeremia; cousin, James (Carol) Bryant and many other loving family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his son, Jason Coleman; parents, Farley Coleman and Pearl (Mullins) Gardner, and sister, Shirley Wood.

A celebration of Larry's life will be held at the Kirtland Community of Christ Meeting Hall, 9017 Chillicothe Rd., Kirtland, Oh 44094 on Saturday, October 22nd, 2022 from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Friends and Family are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Lake Humane Society, 7564 Tyler Blvd # E, Mentor, OH 44060; or online at <https://www.lakehumane.org/>

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Mentor, OH.

Offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

OCT **22**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kirtland Community of Christ Meeting Hall  
9017 Chillicothe Rd  
Kirtland, OH 44094

# Tribute Wall

TH

“ *My prayers are with the whole family. I haven't been a part of their lives since the early nineties but I never forgot them. Tom was always fun to be around. I worked with him for a little while at Cyberex and did some other stuff with him. He will be missed I'm sure.* ”

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**Terry Harrold** - January 31, 2022 at 04:18 PM

KC

*Thank you so much for sharing. Miss you.*

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**Kim Coleman** - February 01, 2022 at 11:05 AM

 John  
Coleman

“ When Tom's boys were young 7 or 8 yrs. old, me & tom took them & another one of there friends camping out at east branch in middlefield. They had a beach there, all kinds of things to do, the boys liked fishing. These were the days you could let them go play & not worry to much, wellllllllll, while they were all playing off somewhere me & tom took one of the garbage bags which was full of bottles & cans, we tied a rope around it & hoisted it up into a tree, maybe about 15 or 20 feet, tied the rope off around the base of the tree, we got a fire going & and the kids were coming back tired & hungry, just about dark. After dinner the kids were all sitting around the fire, Tom started to tell them an old scary story, long & drawn out, all the time I'm standing by the tree, slowly cutting at the rope and when the climax off the story hit, I sliced one more time and the garbage bag came barreling thru the trees & landed in the fire ! OMG these kids couldn't have jumped any higher or screamed any louder, I thought they were going to kick us out of the campground. I never laughed that hard in my life, half the boys peed them selves. Just remember hi-fiving my bro to another successful scare !! We also lovedddddddddd Halloween !! Love u bro !

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**John Coleman** - January 31, 2022 at 03:19 PM

LB

“ Tom was a wonderful neighbor. We enjoyed his help and many warm-hearted conversations. He will be missed. I'm thankful that I did have the privilege of sharing Jesus with him and know his name is written in the Lamb's book of life.

*Stay strong Sharon our prayers are with you and we expect to break bread together occasionally!*

*Hugs, Lisa, Jenni, and Madge Ciofani*

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**Lisa Basham** - January 31, 2022 at 01:56 PM