



Thomas C. "Tom" Fracci

April 7, 1926 - July 22, 2021

Thomas C. "Tom" Fracci, 95, of Mentor, passed away Thursday, July 22, 2021 at Symphony of Mentor. A lifelong resident of Mentor, he was born April 7, 1926 to the late Joseph and Serafina "Fannie" Fracci.

Tom was devoted to his family, friends, and community. He attended Mentor High School before being drafted into the U.S. Army in 1944. Tom attended training in Ft. Knox Kentucky where he became a mechanic and Tank driver. After being assigned to the 67th Armored Regiment, assigned to the 2nd Armored Division, Tom was sent to Europe. Surviving the Battle of the Bulge in 1945, Tom's unit was one of the first American forces to enter into Germany as the war came to an end.

After returning home to Mentor, Tom helped with the family business, Fracci Florist. In 1948, Tom began his service to the Mentor Community. Tom was hired as one of five full time Patrolmen with the Village of Mentor. In 1962, he was promoted to sergeant before again being promoted to Captain in 1966. Tom served as Chief of Police from 1976-1981, where he was instrumental in the growth and development of Mentor. A dedicated public servant, Tom always put the needs of his officers and residents first.

Tom married Darlene, his wife of 63 years in 1958 before having his daughter Jill and son Joseph. Over the many years, Tom, a tireless worker, owned or

operated over 20 local businesses, bars, and restaurants with his brothers, friends and children. Employees loved and respected him. In his later years, Tom spent much of his time in his garden with his grandchildren. Tom also developed a reputation as a regular smiling face and storyteller at the local breakfast counter. Tom was also best known for driving around town in his beloved Army Jeep.

Survivors include his wife Darlene Fracci; children Jill (David Orahoske) Fracci, and Joe (Kathryn) Fracci; grandchildren Daniel, Michael, Annabella, and James Fracci; brother Robert (Janice Pinzone) Fracci; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Preceding Tom in death are his parents Joseph and Serafina Fracci; and siblings, Leonard (Jeanne) Fracci, Dorothy (Perry) Volpone, and Helen (Dick) Sopko.

The family will receive friends from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, July 31, 2021 at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor OH 44060.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in Thomas's memory to the Alzheimer's Association, Cleveland Area Chapter, 23215 Commerce Park Suite 300, Beachwood, OH 44122 or Hospice of the Western Reserve, P.O. Box 72101, Cleveland, OH 44192 or donate online at www.hospicewr.org. Offer condolences at www.brunners.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 31. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center

8466 Mentor Avenue

Mentor, OH 44060

(440) 255-3401

ajs@brunners.com

<https://www.brunners.com/>

Tribute Wall

JR

“ We met Tom shortly after moving into the Case neighborhood seven years ago. Bob often visited him as he sat in his garage, surrounded by his treasured memories, and listened to his stories. What a character!! We should all be so lucky to be able to share the stories that played such an important part of life.

We used to watch him take off in his beloved jeep.....and just laugh and shake our heads! We can imagine your own many memories over the years. May they provide laughter and healing in your family's journey of grief!

Sincerely,
Jane and Bob Richmond

Jane Richmond - July 30, 2021 at 07:54 PM

KR

“ Tom was my Sgt., Capt., and Chief at the Mentor PD in the 60s and 70s. R.I.P. Tom.

Keith Rohrbaugh - July 28, 2021 at 08:09 AM



“ With Distinction was purchased for the family of Thomas C. "Tom" Fracci.



July 27, 2021 at 10:05 AM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Thomas C. "Tom" Fracci.*



July 26, 2021 at 01:25 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Thomas C. "Tom" Fracci.*



July 26, 2021 at 08:26 AM



“ *Love, Bob and Darlene (Davis) Waters purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Thomas C. "Tom" Fracci.*



Love, Bob and Darlene (Davis) Waters - July 26, 2021 at 07:48 AM



“ *May Chief Fracci rest in peace. I met him in 1982 shortly after he retired. We became good friends over the years and shared lots of good memories often at his favorite spot - Yours Truly. He was a founder of the Lake County police chief group and truly an icon of local policing. I will miss him. Condolences to his family and friends.*

Jim McBride - July 25, 2021 at 11:43 PM

GF

“ *My sincere condolences to the family. The Chief is a legend at Mentor PD. Gone but not forgotten.*

George Ferguson - July 25, 2021 at 10:51 AM

AH

“ *A fine man from a fine family. I am grateful that our families paths crossed over the decades. With sincere condolences, Alice Ann Hengesbach*

Alice Ann Hengesbach - July 24, 2021 at 06:26 PM