



Thomas William Traxler

June 8, 1953 - January 20, 2020

Thomas William Traxler 66, passed away unexpectedly at home on Monday, January 20, 2020.

Tom was born on June 8, 1953 in Painesville, Ohio, to Hayes Robert Traxler and Wanda Colleen Davidson Traxler. He moved to Tallahassee when he married the love of his life Sharon, over 33 years ago. Thomas was always a hard and dedicated worker, and has been working at the Florida State University College of Law for more than 10 years.

Family was the world to Tom and he was an amazing husband and father to two boys and two girls. He was the "doer" in the family, making sure everything was taken care of from the cooking, grocery shopping, and cleaning (and his cleaning was sometimes too good because he was notorious for getting rid of things). He absolutely loved life and did whatever he could to make everyone smile. The Traxler family has always been a very close family and Tom made sure that continued as the children have now grown into adults.

Tom never met a stranger and he had friends from all walks of life, from co-workers to University Presidents. He was a real "people person" and would strike up a conversation with anyone, anywhere, at any time including whatever stranger happened to be sitting next to him at the movie theater!

In addition to loving his family, Tom was also enthralled with aerospace research, NASA, and aeronautics. He loved visiting the Kennedy Space Center (where the obituary picture was taken) and Cape Canaveral along the Space Coast of Florida. His wife Sharon recently purchased a membership for Tom at the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, which is the largest NASA center and where Saturn Launch Vehicles were developed for the Apollo program. Sharon had plans to take Tom there in the near future. Maybe the family can make the trip together in his honor.

The family believed they would have many, many years to come with Tom and they are already missing him terribly. Tom is survived by his devoted and loving wife Sharon Traxler, and his children who thought the world of him, Clayton Traxler, Anna Traxler, Leah Boles and her husband John, and Wilson Traxler and his wife Dakota. He is also survived by two sisters Debra Rothermel and her husband Terry, and Kandy Saxon. Tom was predeceased by his parents and his brother Greg Traxler.

One of Tom's dearest friends told Sharon that Tom loved 3 things:

1. Family,
2. Florida State University (the school and the football team), and
3. NASA.

And he couldn't have been more correct.

Tom was loved by many, and liked by all. A genuinely good-hearted, caring, and funny guy. He will be sorely missed by all of those who were lucky enough to know him. Sharon and the kids could not have been more proud of Tom and the role model he was for them all.

A Celebration of Thomas W. Traxler's Life is being held at the Rotunda of the Florida State University College of Law on Tuesday, January 28th, 2020 at

4:00 p.m. All of those who knew Tom are invited to come and share stories and good memories about Tom with his wonderful family and countless friends.

p.s. Tom - just between you and her, Leah says "squeeze one, two, three, and is waiting for the fourth."

The family is being assisted by Skip Young and cared for by Jackie Fulford of Young Fulford Funeral Home and Crematory, Tallahassee, Florida.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 28. 4:00 PM (ET)

Florida State University College of Law
425 W. Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tribute Wall



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas William Traxler.*



January 27, 2020 at 08:37 AM



“ *As my mentor towards supervision, Tom taught me by example to lead with my heart. People are not at all, just "POCKETS ON A VEST" Respect and Appreciation first, second, for everyone all the time.*

The life and work lessons you shared will live on through me. I will truly miss you my friend.

Eric Perkins

Robert (Eric) Perkins - January 26, 2020 at 08:07 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas William Traxler.*



January 25, 2020 at 07:14 PM

BL

“ *Just a little note:
First my prayers are with the family. I know he will surely be missed with family, friends and Florida State University. I worked with Tom for several years wonderful person, talked a long about his family. The trip he would take with his wife. Prayers are going up.
BJ Lewis, FSU Family*

BettyJean J Lewis - January 25, 2020 at 04:52 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas William Traxler.*



January 25, 2020 at 12:40 PM

JB

“ *Sharon, I'm so sorry for your and your family's loss. After reading his obituary I'm sorry I never had a chance to meet him. He sounds like such a treasure of a human being. Peace be with you and may the Lord wrap his arms around you and give you comfort.*

Jimmy Branch

Jimmy Branch - January 25, 2020 at 12:17 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas William Traxler.*



January 25, 2020 at 11:17 AM

TC

“ I have worked with Tom on almost every renovation project at the FSU Law School over the past 10 years, & have known him for several more years, while renovating the FSU Presidents Office and many others. I am truly saddened by our loss. He was a friend & coworker that can not be replaced. My prayers are with his family, friends, & coworkers.

Tim Christie - January 25, 2020 at 09:18 AM

RP

“ From shrimp days at the club to trying to fill his role as the Zone 1 Ninja plumber. I will always be grateful to him being the first person to hire me at FSU. He did so much for me professionally and personally. My family sends their thoughts and prayers

Ryan P. - January 24, 2020 at 05:25 PM

AC

“ Tom was a wonderful leader, mentor, and friend to me. I met Tom 13 years ago and words cannot express how he has impacted my life. Anyone can be a boss, but it takes so much more to be a leader like knowledge, empathy, and dignity. Tom had all of these qualities needed to be a leader and was highly respected by all. He was always happy to help anyone that needed it and took great pride in all that he did. Tom was also a character that always had a smile on his face, cracking jokes just to make others smile and he was very proficient at that. Every individual that Tom came in contact with got the upmost respect and dignity extended to them, proving that he had a true concern for all and an honest moral compass. I am a better person because of Tom and I am so lucky that I was able to know a great man like him. Tom was a man of great virtue, and is missed sorely, but we can take solace in the fact that he has such a profound and positive impact here. Tom I miss you so badly and will work everyday to even become half of what you were to so many.

Anthony Cline

Anthony Cline - January 24, 2020 at 05:20 PM

AS

“ My heart goes out to Tom and his family. I am at a loss for words. I have been a student at the law school for a year and a half, and not a day went by that I did not see Mr. Traxler smiling. He was there in the wee hours of the morning and often after the sun had gone down, exuding dedication and goodwill. You could always tell he enjoyed life. I will genuinely miss my conversations with him weekly, sometimes daily. Rest easy, Mr. Traxler, thank you for gracing FSU Law for as long as you did.

Abby Salter - January 24, 2020 at 04:10 PM

LW

“ *Lori Wingfield lit a candle in memory of Thomas William Traxler*



Lori Wingfield - January 24, 2020 at 09:51 AM

NI

“ *Tom was like an uncle to me. I had been knowing him since I was a little girl. I first met him when my grandmother (Willie Belle Clark) was working in the mail room in the bk building. Ever since then he has always been nice and checked on me occasionally. Tom will be truly missed. I send my love and condolences to the family.*



- Ni'Jala Jackson

Ni'Jala - January 24, 2020 at 08:09 AM