

# THOMAS "TOM" KUCHINIC



Thomas "Tom" Kuchinic of Upper St. Clair, PA, passed away peacefully on Friday, June 20, 2024, at the age of 89.

Born April 27, 1935, to Louis and Anna (Barnett) Kuchinic near Finleyville, PA, Tom was one of five brothers from a second-generation Pennsylvania coal-mining family. He is survived by his son, Thomas Bradford Kuchinic (Coconut Grove, FL); his loving companion,

Charlene Lemper; his son-in-law Richard Fencel (Sarasota, FL); and his cherished grandchildren, Ryan Fencel, Troy Fencel, Natalia Kuchinic and Sonia Kuchinic; sister-in-law Cathy Kuchinic, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Tom was predeceased by his parents; his four brothers, Louis (Rosemary) Kuchinic, Robert (Ann) Kuchinic, Dr. John "Jay" Kuchinic and Edward (Cathy) Kuchinic. Tom's wife Joanne (Bonnett) Kuchinic; and daughter Joa Fencel also predeceased him.

Despite humble beginnings, Tom created an extraordinary and exciting life. He worked landscaping jobs to put himself through college at The University of Pittsburgh, graduating in 1959 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He was a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity where he forged lifelong friendships. He served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves for 10 years. Tom married his wife Joanne Bonnett in 1959. They shared a love of entertaining friends and family and hosted memorable parties and gatherings over many years.

Tom went on to a very successful career as a business executive with numerous corporations, including working at Mesta Machine Co. for 23 years, where he served as Vice President of Sales and on the company's board of directors. He later served as President and CEO of SMS Schloemann Siemag and Morgan SMS, and as a Vice President at Mannesmann Demag Corporation. He retired from full-time work in 1992 after serving as President and CEO of Hoogovens Technical Services. Tom's work took him all over the world, including South America, Europe, Asia and Africa. His favorite city was Paris, which he visited many times. Both Tom and Joanne had a keen eye for art and artifacts, and Tom collected and brought home treasures from countries far and wide.

Tom enjoyed an active lifestyle over the years, skiing out West and sailing in the Caribbean, passions he passed on to his children and grandchildren. He last skied at age 82 with his son and granddaughters in Steamboat Springs, CO. Despite his demanding career, Tom always prioritized family, creating treasured memories through annual vacations at the Jersey Shore and abroad, and hosting family reunions.

Tom was a member of the St. Clair Country Club for 57 years, and a member of The Duquesne Club.

A visitation and Celebration of Life will be held at **BEINHAUER FUNERAL HOME**, 2820 Washington Road, McMurray, PA on Saturday, July 20 from 10 am – noon, with a memorial service to follow. A reception and buffet luncheon will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at St. Clair Country Club, 2300 Old Washington Rd., Upper St. Clair.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Tom's memory may be made to the Cancer Research Institute (CRI) or a charity of the donor's choice.

Tom's legacy of love, adventure, and family will forever inspire all who knew him.

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