



Mr. B. Thomas Tinkel

May 7, 1937 - August 20, 2014

B. Thomas Tinkel, 77 of Bluffton passed away at 4:50 p.m. Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Tom was born on May 7, 1937 in Bluffton to Dale D. & Mary E. (Brown) Tinkel. He graduated from Liberty Center High School with the class of 1955. In 1959, he graduated from Purdue University with his B.S. in Education. He obtained his Master's Degree in Education and Counseling from Ball State University and a Certificate of Psychometry. He taught in the Montpelier, Bluffton and Huntington School System. While working as a science teacher and counselor at Bluffton, he also was the coach of the 8th grade basketball team, an assistant varsity coach along with coaching baseball and golf.

Mr. Tinkel started the Special Education Program at North Adams Community School, where he worked for 11 years. He also worked for 20 years at Crossroads Children's Home in Fort Wayne where he was the director of education. He also served as the Director the Huntington / Whitley County Special Education Co-op program, where he retired. He was very active in the State of Indiana Special Education Association. He was a longtime member and former president of the Parlor City Country Club and a scratch golfer. Tom loved Indy Racing and was an avid sports fan. He spent many years as a high school varsity football official and was a member of the Liberty Center Baptist Church.

Survivors include his children; Scott (Janet) Tinkel of New Hope, PA., Julie Bennett of Fort Wayne, Amy (James) Atkinson of Phoenix, AZ., and Larson (Amy) Manifold of Middlebury, Indiana. He was proud of his six grandchildren; Madison Lynn Tinkel, Spencer Thomas Tinkel, Jackson Phillip Bennett, Ashlynn Grace Bennett, Brekken Thomas Manifold and Asher Jett Manifold. He is also survived by a sister, Sarah Huffman of Liberty Center.

Calling hours will be held from 4 to 8 on Sunday at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Funeral Services will take place at 10:30 on Monday (August 25, 2014) in the funeral home with calling for one hour prior to the service. Pastor Aaron Westfall will officiate. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the Riley Hospital for children through the funeral home. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the Tinkel family at www.thomarich.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **24**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Visitation

AUG **25**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Service

AUG **25**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
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Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. B. Thomas Tinkel*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - August 25, 2014 at 07:26 AM



“ *Mr. B. Thomas Tinkel*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Thoughts and prayers for Tom's loving family. God's peace be with you.*

Jamie Bennett - August 25, 2014 at 10:21 AM



“ *My sympathy to the Tinkels on your loss. -April Smith*

April Smith - August 24, 2014 at 03:45 PM



“ *Sending you all love, and remembering that great putting green in your front yard. The "best ball" in heaven just got better. With sympathy...and many fond memories. Kim Mann*

Kim Mann - August 24, 2014 at 09:06 AM

SW

“ Sending my sympathy for your loss. He and his wife, Jett, are together in God's light now.

Sue Wildes (Jett's sister)

Sue Wildes - August 24, 2014 at 08:05 AM



“ Lavender & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. B. Thomas Tinkel.



August 23, 2014 at 08:49 AM

BM

“ Tom was a great friend and dedicated educator. My thoughts and prayers to the family. Sincerely, Bob McCaslin

Bob McCaslin - August 22, 2014 at 07:19 PM

SF

“ Tom was always my hero in the cousins rank. Energetic, full of fun and being four years older he always got to go with older cousins on night time adventures [movies, sports in Ft. Wayne, just taking Grandma Browns old Ford out to "blow the dust out of her pipes". The younger cousins all got to stay home. I just wanted to go along.
My condolences to all of us.

Stephen Fisher - August 22, 2014 at 12:43 PM



So sorry for your loss. you are in my prayers.
Marguerite

marguerite vasconcellos - August 22, 2014 at 09:47 PM