



Dr. Thomas B. Stogdill, M.D.

May 23, 1935 - August 10, 2023

Dr. Thomas B. Stogdill, 88 of Bluffton, passed away Thursday morning, August 10, 2023 at Christian Care Retirement Community.

He was born on May 23, 1935 in Bluffton to James W. & Mabel Lois (Bryan) Stogdill. He graduated from Bluffton High School in 1953, where he was the Hi-Y President. In 1960, he graduated from DePauw University, followed by his one-year internship in South Bend. He was with the U.S. Public Health Service for two years on an Indian Reservation and was also assigned to the Coast Guard for three months, during which time, the ship he was serving on traveled to Okinawa, Japan.

Dr. Stogdill specialized in Family Medicine, starting his career in private practice in Phoenix, AZ for five years. He then moved to Southern California Kaiser Permanente Medical Group and was there for 11 years. Dr. Stogdill relocated to Utah and was an Associate Medical Director of FHP (Family Health Program, an HMO), along with being the Head of the Family Practice Department and was Area Chief at the Redwood Clinic for FHP. He was also Chairman of the Utah Governor's Council on Health and Physical Fitness from 1980 to 1982. He returned to Bluffton in 1986 to work at Caylor-Nickel Clinic, and was instrumental in establishing the Panos Free Clinic in 1991, where he served as Vice President of the Board for 15 years. He served the community in many roles. He was President of the board for the Council on Aging, a board member of the Boys & Girls Club and the Wells County Foundation, where he was chair of the grants committee. He was a Big Brothers/Big

Sisters volunteer and was a member of the Human Rights Committee for Bi-County Services.

Dr. Stogdill was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Decatur, where he served as Branch President from 1994-1999. He was a Fort Wayne Indiana Stake High Councilor, Stake Mission President, Stake Public Affairs Director, a Counselor in the Indiana Indianapolis Mission Presidency from 2003 to 2007 and as the Mission Medical Advisor. He served as an Institute Teacher from 1994 to 1999. For the 2012-2013 school year, He taught Seminary in his home. While Tom was in Utah, he served as a Seventy (Ward Level), youth Sunday School Teacher, counselor in Elders Quorum presidency, and a financial clerk, among other roles.

Tom was a published writer also. He wrote two books; "Memories of a Unicorn" and "Less Active Mormons: A Collection of Personal Interviews." On July 15, 1966, Tom and Lou Ann Carlson were married in Las Vegas. She preceded him in death in 1987.

Survivors include his sons; James Jay (Lois) Stogdill of Fort Wayne and Jordan Thomas Stogdill of Bluffton, along with 3 grandchildren, Kalia, Carson, and Shelby.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 21 years, Lou Ann and a brother, William J. Stogdill.

Visitation will be held Friday (August 18, 2023) from 3 P.M. to 7 P.M. at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday (August 19, 2023) at 1:30 P.M. at the funeral home with visitation for one hour prior to the service. Blair Shumard will officiate. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Bluffton.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Wells County Foundation for a scholarship fund (<https://www.wellscountyfound.org/support-us>) or directed thru the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can share online

condolences with the family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

3101 East Division Road
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-2832
<http://www.themonumentcenter.com/about/cemeteries/>

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 18. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Visitation

AUG 19. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

AUG 19. 1:30 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

JL

“ J. J. and Jordan, I am so sorry to learn of your father's death. When I didn't get his card and Christmas letter the day after Thanksgiving (he always sent his early so people would reply in their letters to any questions he might have) I worried about him. I was your next door neighbor on Rue Michael when you boys were young. You might remember my son Larkin who built a playhouse between our houses. After you moved away I heard from church members about your beautiful mother's illness and death. Many years latter I was a speaker at a genealogy conference in Fort Wayne and a man extended his hand and said "Hello, I'm Tom Stogsdill. I was your neighbor on Rue Michael," He needed help finding an ancestor's birth place in Germany. We corresponded frequently and with the help of a German genealogist, we found it. I always looked forward to his annual letter and the news about you and his grandchildren. I send you my sincere sympathy,
Joan Lowrey

Joan Lowrey - December 10, 2023 at 04:11 PM

J(

“ I am deeply saddened by this HUGE loss. Thomas was a friend to my entire family when we moved to Indiana and became members of the Decatur branch. I was in the 7th grade at that time. My family later moved back home to Utah and Thomas stayed in touch with my mother for many years, & sending Christmas cards after my parents got divorced. After my mother died, Thomas added me to his Christmas card list and sometimes it was the ONLY Christmas card I got and he was always so genuinely interested in how everyone was doing. I knew that the year, I didn't receive a card would be the year that Thomas would no longer be with us. That was this year I didn't receive one and found this obituary. I am in complete tears as I write this and he will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace.

Jennifer Lucinda Gillette (Jorgensen) - December 08, 2023 at 05:35 PM

CK

“ I always enjoyed Dr Tom- years ago he needed IV's and I was his HHC nurse- then later I would see him at Chr Care when I would go pass water to the residents and he was reading to the residents. More recently I interacted with him as he was a resident at Chr Care- we will miss this caring and serving man that had a great smile. Sincerely Carol Klopfenstein

Carol J Klopfenstein - August 23, 2023 at 11:47 AM

JH

“ Have such sweet memories of Tom being dear friends with my parents and him being genuinely interested in me and my family and being such a grand example of loving his Savior and being in service of those he came in contact. What a blessing to have known him! Rest in peace dear friend, and enjoy reuniting with those on the other side.

Jen Yoder von Harten - August 19, 2023 at 10:47 PM

DF

“ David and Rachel Clark, and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Thomas B. Stogdill, M.D..

David and Rachel Clark, and Family - August 17, 2023 at 02:05 PM

DF

“ David and Rachel Clark, and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Thomas B. Stogdill, M.D..



David and Rachel Clark, and Family - August 17, 2023 at 02:05 PM

DC

“ One of the best men I've ever met. A man of great faith and love of family. His influence for good has been felt by all he came in contact with and will continue to live through others for many, many years to come.

David Clark - August 15, 2023 at 04:47 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas B. Stogdill, M.D..



August 15, 2023 at 12:31 PM

BG

“ I had the privelege of working with Dr. Tom at the former Panos Free Clinic. He was on the Board of Directors and I first served as a volunteer then became assistant coordinator of the clinic. He cared so much for the people who needed the services there and was so very KIND to everyone. I was also a member of the Joy Pleasers Clown Ministry and Dr. Tom thought that was great and one day when he was scheduled to go out to Christian Care Retirement Center to read to the residents, he asked if I would go along with him as the clown. He was to drive me there and I would visit while he read, then he insisted on treating me to lunch at Richards. What a time it was and he seemed so pleased to be escorting the clown and of course many knew each of us. He was such a nice and caring man to everyone and my life is much richer to have known Dr. Tom and have the opportunity to work with him. Rest in peace, my friend and at last you have reunited with your dear wife. Condolences to the family.



BJ Gray

BJ Gray - August 15, 2023 at 12:04 PM

LC

“ Linda C. purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Dr. Thomas B. Stogdill, M.D..



Linda C. - August 15, 2023 at 01:32 AM

JB

“ Dr. Thomas was a very special person in my life. We met after I published an article in the *The Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette* in 2006 on the Bible and Science. He wrote to me about my article and we have been writing to each other ever since. We soon corresponded by email which was a god-send for both of us. We both were very interested in science and Christianity as well as medicine. I was teaching at the Medical College of Ohio then. Thomas was also an author and would also help me with my writing. He was an excellent editor and would often catch things I missed. He also did introductions to several of my books as well as challenged me on a few of my ideas. As a long-time subscriber to several science magazines, he was up to date on many aspects of science which helped to stimulate our conversations. We both had major reservations about many evolutionary claims and reinforced each other when these concerns surfaced in the scientific literature. It was also clear that he missed his wife enormously. He also loved his family, which he kept me updated on. I have now published 60 books and close to 1,800 articles could have not achieved this without Dr Stogdill's help.

Jerry Bergman - August 12, 2023 at 01:46 PM

MP

“ I had the honor of working for Dr. Tom many years ago at Caylor-Nickel Clinic. He's one of the BEST! Rest now in God's loving arms Dr. Tom.

Michelle Paxton - August 12, 2023 at 01:28 PM

NM

“ Condolences to Tom's family. I am a distant cousin as my mother was a Stogdill. At one time Tom and I exchanged letters regarding genealogy, and we also met at the former Dutch Mill a few times for "cousins' reunions. I always enjoyed our talks/meetings.

Nolan and Suzanne Markley - August 12, 2023 at 08:03 AM

PE

“ *I’m very sorry to hear about his passing. I spent a little time with him about 20 years ago. I was one of the people he interviewed for his book.*

Peggy - August 11, 2023 at 03:35 PM