



Tom Porter

October 31, 1927 - November 13, 2014

Tom Porter, 87, of Sunrise Beach passed away on November 13 at Lake Regional Hospital after a short illness. Tom was born October 31, 1927 at Bethany Hospital in Kansas City, Kansas to Claude and Nancy Pearle (Thedick) Porter. He moved from Kansas City to Sunrise Beach in 1954 where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a custom home builder for more than 40 years working on properties throughout the Lake area.

Tom was a veteran of World War II in which he served in the U.S. Navy as an aerographer's mate stationed at Kaneohe Naval Air station in Hawaii.

Tom was very involved in his church, Kent Memorial Lutheran, where he served in numerous capacities throughout his life. He was also involved in his community as part of the Boy Scouts, Lions, Elks and American Legion as well as being one of the first Emergency Medical Technicians serving as a volunteer for the first Sunrise Beach volunteer ambulance service.

One of Tom's passions was education. Tom served on the Camdenton R-III School Board for 27 years from 1960-1987 serving the last 12 as Board President. His tenure on the Board made him the longest serving Board members in Camdenton R-III history and one of the longest serving board members ever in the State of Missouri. In the later years of his life, Tom volunteered with pre-school students at Hurricane Deck Elementary School

sharing his life's experiences with a new generation of youth.

Tom was preceded in death by his wife of 38 years, Marge Porter and his wife of 20 years, Jackie Porter as well as his granddaughter Carla Sitze Rodriguez. He is survived by his sister Mary Stanton (Bernard) of Kansas City, his daughter Cynthia Howard (Chuck) of Kansas City, his son Barney Porter of Sunrise Beach and his son David Porter (Lydia) of Kansas City; and his daughter, Cheryl Smith (Joe) of Hardeeville, South Carolina. He is also survived by ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Private family services will be held.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

Tribute Wall

TW

“ Our condolences Barney, David and family. Praying for you in this time of loss. Tom was a great man, and speaking as a former educator, he was the best School Board President we ever had. I always knew he held teachers in the highest regard and wanted the best for students of the Camdenton School District. His beginning of the school year speeches were always funny and heartfelt, I always looked forward to hearing what he had to say. And he always made sure we teachers knew how valuable he thought we were. Can't beat that.....Praying for comfort and the best of memories to surround you. - Trusten, Tracy, Alisha & Jacob

Trusten Williams - November 21, 2014 at 03:07 PM

SF

“ Our hearts go out to the Porter family during their time of grief. Soon the wonderful memories of such a generous caring man will prevail and that brightness will dim the sadness. We know how very respected and liked Mr. Porter was by our father/husband Larry for his positive, long community service. Godspeed Tom Porter.

Steven Maness & Family - November 19, 2014 at 11:31 AM

GC

“ As a Camdenton alumni and raised in Sunrise Beach I knew Tom from his days of Boy Scout leadership. He was a big help to many boys coming up thru the Scouts. I also appreciated his involvement for so many years on the Board of Education. I am presently a school board member and I have said in my running for election that Tom Porter's involvement made me want to be a board member. He was a great man.

George Carney

George Carney - November 19, 2014 at 11:02 AM

CE

“ My wife and I were fortunate to know Tom for a few years at the church and the Elks lodge. Tom was a special person.
Charlie and Mary Evans

Charlie Evans - November 18, 2014 at 05:14 PM

MH

“ I am so very sorry to hear of Tom's passing. We were in Mexico a few years ago and I was shopping , Ernie was waiting for me and when I returned he was talking to Tom they had met down in Mexico, small world. May God Bless Mary Hardin.

Mary Hardin - November 17, 2014 at 08:09 PM

SP

“ May God bless your family during this time. We were very lucky to have Tom as a neighbor and friend. Thank you for the memories you gave and the things you did for everyone. Thank you for your service to our country.

Stephanie (Hardin) Paro - November 17, 2014 at 07:21 PM

LW

“ I was very sad to hear of Tom's passing. I had the opportunity to share a table at a dinner with Tom and Barney. It was a very nice evening with great conversation. His passing is a great loss to his family and the community.

Lisa Watkins - November 17, 2014 at 02:17 PM

MP

“ Cynthia I am so sorry to hear of your dads passing. So many years have passed since we were neighbors at sunrise beach. Thinking of you Mindy Rumans Peters

Mindy Rumans Peters - November 16, 2014 at 08:12 PM

BM

“ I am grateful for the life of Mr. Porter. Thanks to his service and to the service of others in our armed forces, my family and I have been able to lead our lives in freedom and peace.

Bob in Grandview, Missouri - November 16, 2014 at 11:03 AM

ID

“ Will miss Toms smiling face and wave as he was out walking the little dog. Prayers for the family and rest in peace Tom.

Irma Daugherty - November 15, 2014 at 11:10 AM

TS

My husband Lou Slater passing was just nine days ago and now Tom, such a loss of two great men. I thank both of them for the time they spent in the service. God Bless them and may they rest in peace.

Tricia Slater - November 27, 2014 at 11:45 AM