



## Thomas Armstrong Walker

December 25, 1932 - October 15, 2018

On Monday, October 15, 2018 Thomas Armstrong Walker went to be with the Lord. He was 85 years old. Tom was a loving son, husband and father. He never met a stranger and loved people and animals. He loved teaching, telling stories, building & fixing things, cooking, baking and helping others.

Born on Christmas Day, in 1932 in Bedford, IN Tom had a huge love for Christmas. He made sure all he knew, young and old, had food and gifts to make them comfortable and happy and to share his joy for the Christmas season. He also shared other holidays with family and friends making sure no one was left home alone during a holiday. He was a quiet man with a strong sense for fairness. He had many talents and lived a full life. As life was not always easy for him he made the best of each day and encouraged others to do the same. As his struggles with health grew, it never stopped him from leading a full life. He pushed himself to make sure he took care of his wife, family and friends. As he helped others in countless ways, he was not one to ask help of others. He will be sorely missed.

Tom was in the military branch of the Army and served in the Korean War. He returned to the states where he completed his college education with his undergraduate degree at Purdue University and his masters degree at Indiana University majoring in Education. He taught automechanics for over 30 years starting at Valporaso, IN then moved to Martinsville, IN and finally moving to

Bloomington in 1965 where he taught at Bloomington High School South and retiring at Hoosier Hills Vocational at Bloomington High School North. He also taught automechanics at night for several years as well. He then worked at Curry Buick as a part-time retirement job for over 17 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ione & Ovan Walker and infant daughter Kimberly Sue Walker.

He leaves behind his wife Joann Walker of 64 years of marriage, two children, John (Sabrina) Walker and Mary Anne (Randy) Thacker. Four grandchildren Tony (Christie) Walker, Kyle Walker, Thomas J. (Ashley) Thacker and Amanda (Adam) Garrett, and three great-grandchildren Trevor Walker, Breeanna England-Thacker, Caleb Walker, Forrest J. Thacker and Ella Rose Marie Garrett and many cousins.

There will be a graveside service at Springville West Cemetery October 18, 2018 at 11:00AM for all his family and friends and a gathering of food and stories to follow at Redman Hall in Smithville, IN.

Condolences can be sent to the family through Allen Funeral Home and Crematory at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com). Donations, in his name, can be made to the White River Animal Shelter in Bedford, IN.

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ When I was a Senior at Bloomington High School, I heard over the morning announcements that our school's auto mechanics team led by Tom Walker won first place in a national auto mechanics repair competition. That was in 1969. A few years later, my brother introduced me to the auto mechanics night class at BHS. As Tom said, "Bring in your junkers and we'll fix 'em up." And we did. The classroom was the shop with 'hands on' instructions every Tuesday and Thursday night at 7pm. I took that 7 week class for many years. With the latest tools and equipment and expert instructions from Tom, I learned enough to mount and balance tires on rims, change brake pads and brake shoes, use a machine lathe on drums and rotors, change oil and filters, align the front end, change universal joints, align headlights, do a complete engine tune up, change wheel bearings, change a water pump, and rebuild an engine from the block up. Hanging high on the shop wall was a 4' x 8' sign that read, " There is never enough time to do it right, but there is ALWAYS enough time to do it over." For the next fifty years, Tom was a great friend to me. I prepared many milkshakes for Tom and Joann. Their favorite flavor is pineapple. Rest in peace, Tom. Your legacy will live forever.

~Les McCord

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**Les McCord** - November 02, 2019 at 05:04 PM



“ I hated to see Tom go he was a good friend. We had our treatments together. He always tried to help people and at Christmas he gave every one a gift. He will always be in our hearts. He is in a better place now. God speed Tom. Your Friend Genny Cliff

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**Genny Cliff** - October 20, 2018 at 05:18 AM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Thomas Armstrong Walker.*



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October 17, 2018 at 07:54 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Thomas Armstrong Walker.*



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October 17, 2018 at 02:08 PM



“ *Joann, I see that you have lost Tom. You know that I will always remember what you and Tom meant to each other and that you were my first ever employee.*

*As Always,  
Fred*

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**fred prall** - October 17, 2018 at 09:05 AM