



Mr. Gary Michael Thomas

November 20, 2014

Thomas, Gary Michael "Bee Man", 57, of Lakeland, Florida entered into eternal rest on November 20, 2014 as a result of cancer. He was a Lakeland native, an avid beekeeper, and veteran of the United States Air Force. He married his high school sweetheart, loved his family, grandkids, rock-n-roll music, and hunting with his son and grandson. He is survived by his wife of 39 years Christie; children Crystal Thomas and Jason Michael Thomas (Rebecca); mother Margaret Thomas; siblings Glenda Thomas and Glenn Thomas; grandchildren Michael, Cheyanna, Savannah, Susanna, Luke, Waylon, Jake, and Stormie; and great-granddaughter Ella. He was preceded in death by his father Lonnie Thomas. A Celebration of Life will be held Sat., Nov. 22 at 11:00 A.M. at Hopewell Funeral Home, 6005 CR 39 S., Plant City, where the family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 A.M. Interment at Hopewell Memorial Gardens. Expressions of condolence at www.HopewellFuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Hopewell Memorial Gardens

6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
(813) 737-3128
office@hopewellfuneral.com
<https://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hopewell Funeral Home
6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
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Celebration of Life

NOV **22**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Gary Michael Thomas



Hopewell Funeral Home - November 24, 2014 at 03:21 PM

ST

Beautiful Rememerence!!

Stacey L. Thomas - November 25, 2014 at 10:58 PM

LM

“ Dear Chris, Crystal & Jason, it has been a very long time since we've seen all of you. We think Jason was still in high school and Crystal had that beautiful little Cheyanna. We talk about you and Gary every time we see a bottle of honey. Whenever we talk to a beekeeper, we always mention your names and how much fun we had when we were extracting honey (getting stung by the bees) and eating the warm honey on our saltine crackers as it was going into the drums. Then there was the time we tried to wallpaper the bathroom. Not a good idea! Gary was such a good guy and he had such a big heart. He tried to act like he was a tough guy, but he was really a big pushover. Working with him at Land Span was a treat, especially when he was taking a nap in his office and making believe he was praying. All of the drivers loved him and could relate to him so well. He always had that grin on his face like he was going to get into mischief. He loved to get those greasy chicken gizzards from that fried chicken place on Kathleen Rd. There was so much grease coming out of the two bags and he just smacked his lips because he loved them so much. Then there was the time when we sold you and Gary the two calves and one of them got loose, went onto the neighbor's porches and took out one of the columns holding up the porch. Another bad idea! All we have are good and happy thoughts of Gary and we were so stunned to hear of him passing away. We know he was loved by all of you and we know you'll miss him dearly. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Your friends, Lloyd & Linda McCraney

Linda & Lloyd McCraney - November 29, 2014 at 07:32 PM

BM

“*Sadly, I only knew Gary for a short time. He was a good, faithful and loving family man. Gary and I had some great talks and we had planned to go shooting when he got to feeling better. I was really looking forward to that. I am sure we will get together in the bye and bye to fullfil that plan. Knowing Gary is in a far better place does not ease the pain of his loss but knowing we will all get together in the end eases the pain a little.*

Love, Bill

Bill Moffatt - November 29, 2014 at 10:50 AM

MT

“*My precious first beautiful baby boy. He was always so generous in spirit.. if you had a need he was there. I would like to share a story about how our saviour listens..He was a long distance trucker and he called me one night while driving a new route in the Smokey Mountains. It was snowing so badly he could not see and he was so tired. With narrow roads no place to pull over he called me in the middle of the night and asked me to pray for him. I dropped to my knees and prayed that God would show him what to do. The next morning he called and said that a voice had spoken to him and said Gary pull over now. He did .. and the next morning he awoke to find out the passenger side it was straight down the mountain. He looked out of the drivers window and said that you could look through the clouds and the sky looked like silver. I asked him who was the voice and in amazement he said it was the man that had trained him to drive the truck WR Jones. The amazing part was that Mr. Jones had passed away a year before.. God knew what voice he would listen to. He loved Jesus as I had taught him to.. like all of us he was not perfect.. but he is finally at peace. I will miss him for the rest of my life and will rejoice when I see him in Heaven. Love, Mom*

Margaret Thomas - November 24, 2014 at 09:35 AM

MT

“ Margaret Thomas lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Michael Thomas



Margaret Thomas - November 24, 2014 at 09:24 AM

CD

“ My most sincerest condolences to you and your family for the loss of Gary. Because of memories, there is no death. May God bring you and your peace during your time of mourning.

Cyrena Coon Delgado - November 23, 2014 at 06:37 PM

MT

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Margaret Dees Thomas - November 22, 2014 at 08:03 AM



“ Gary always made you laugh, not alot of people have that gift. He was an awesome man that would have gave you the shirt off his back . Gary you will be greatly missed but I know we will see you again one day so I wont say goodbye, only see you later! Love you!

Jessica Miranda - November 21, 2014 at 10:07 PM

CL

“ My sweet, sweet Poppy.. You were the most unique, amazing, caring and loving man I've ever known and I will forever cherish our memories together. I'm so thankful for all of our long talks and laughs we shared together, especially sitting there watching you play guitar, listening to all of your life-lessons that you learned, all of your trucking experiences. You were one of a kind Poppy and I love you more than you'll ever know. Love, Cheybug.

Cheyanna Lipscomb - November 21, 2014 at 09:38 PM

VF

“ I never met Gary, but i did know Chris and of course Crystal my son Jason's love. My son thought the world of Gary and enjoyed the time he got to know him. I know he will be missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this very difficult time. Vickie Forrest

Vickie Forrest - November 21, 2014 at 08:02 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mr. Gary Michael Thomas.



November 21, 2014 at 04:08 PM

AC

“ It is so difficult being away from our extended family at the time they need us the most. The only thing that makes it easier is knowing that Gary would have whooped our butts for missing a visit with our kids and grandkids "just for him". Gary will be a missed face popping in during movie nights and scrounging around for whatever goodies we had left and the laughter that would ensue as we caught up with life. You were a part of life as much as any brother could have been and you will be missed. We'll always know when something crazy happens to us, you'll be up there just laughing that laugh and hinting we need to take it easy.

To the Thomas family - we send our love and prayers. We know the last month has been an especially difficult one. Rest easy now, as you know Gary sure is!

Arland & Sylvia Creach - November 21, 2014 at 03:40 PM

GL

“ I love you and you loved me...we laughed, we cried and we fought together. My heart breaks at the loss of you but rejoices in the peace you have found. I will miss you always and remember your kindness, jokes and your guitar playing. Our family will never be the same Sis



Glenda - November 21, 2014 at 12:41 PM