



## Thomas Francis McCormick

March 31, 1945 - August 3, 2023

Thomas Francis McCormick, a devoted Husband, Father, Grandfather, and Navy Veteran, passed away on August 3, 2023, leaving behind a legacy of bravery, commitment, and unwavering love for his family and country.

Born in Albany, New York, on March 31, 1945, Tom enlisted in the Navy at the age of 17, setting off on a remarkable journey of service to the nation he held dear. His technical prowess and commitment were evident from the start.

Tom's service led him to the renowned vessels USS NEW JERSEY (BB 62) and USS FORRESTAL (CVA 59), where he played a vital role in ensuring the ships' effectiveness during the Vietnam War and other conflicts. As part of the naval forces, he valiantly faced the challenges of war, demonstrating unwavering determination and courage, ultimately serving on a total of 11 Navy ships: (USS Forrestal, USS Radford, USS Sproston, USS Philip, USS Dale, USS Exultant, USS New Jersey, USS New Orleans, USS Howard Gilmore, USS Sampson, USS Mount Whitney).

Throughout his 32-year military career, Tom exemplified extraordinary dedication and served with unparalleled distinction and eventually retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 4.

Tom's second career as a licensed psychotherapist furthered his deep desire and compassion to help. Every client felt an immediate connection and ease

with him. He had an uncanny ability to connect with adolescents and veterans alike. His second career spanned over 30 years, even providing advice to the medical staff who cared for him at the end.

Tom's passion for service was matched only by his deep affinity for animals, his compassion extended to all creatures, big and small. He cherished their companionship and made it his mission to care for and protect them.

Tom was an avid and lifelong fan of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and his daughters' college football teams. He celebrated their victories with an infectious enthusiasm. Watching games with him was a cherished family tradition and created unforgettable memories.

Beyond his dedicated service and passions, Tom's love for his family knew no bounds. He was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Carmen Stein, whom he married in 1995. Together, they built a life filled with love, patience, and support. Without hesitation, Tom fulfilled the role of father to Carmen's daughters Camille LaDrew and Candice Stein. Their family grew to include their beloved daughter, and the apple of his eye, Katherine McCormick, named after Tom's late mother.

Tom cherished his grandchildren, Alex LaDrew, Cole LaDrew, Vance LaDrew, McCayla Stein, and Ashlynn Stein, and embraced his son-in-law, Mark LaDrew, like his own son.

Tom also leaves behind his children from his previous marriage, daughter Shannon Cooper, her husband Erik Cooper and their children Jack Cooper and Rosie Cooper, along with his son Tommy McCormick, all of whom he loved deeply.

Beloved by all who knew him, Tom had an extraordinary gift of making people

feel welcomed, valued, and loved. He never met a stranger and treated everyone he encountered with kindness and respect. His warm smile and genuine interest in others endeared him to countless friends and acquaintances.

Tom, Carmen and the girls found great solace and a sense of belonging in Congregation Schaarai Zedek in Tampa, Florida, where he actively participated and contributed to building a supportive and welcoming Jewish community.

On Thursday, August 3, 2023, Tom left us, leaving a profound impact on all who knew and loved him. His dedication to duty, love for family, and active participation and contribution to his fellow servicemen and women will forever be cherished.

Tom will return to Hawaii accompanied by his wife, children, grandchildren, and his sister-in-law and nieces. Tom will be laid to rest at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. May he rest in peace, and may the memory of his love, sacrifice, and passion for his country, family, animals, and football forever live on in the hearts of those he touched.

In our family's greatest time of need, we were able to stay at the Fisher House Houston. In lieu of flowers, we request donations be made to the Fisher House Foundation. The Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military & veteran families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital.

<https://fisherhouse.org/get-involved/ways-to-give/memorial-gifts/>

## Cemetery Details

**National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific**

## Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Carmen Stein** - August 18, 2023 at 06:27 PM



*Tom and Vance Palo Duro Canyon*

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**Carmen Stein** - August 18, 2023 at 06:28 PM