



Tom Hosch

February 9, 1941 - March 20, 2021

Lawrence 'Tom' Hosch

Tom was born on February 9th, 1941 in Litchfield, Minnesota. His parents were Lawrence “Larry” Clement and Margaret Mary Hosch. He was the second of four children, Frank, Greg, and Mary. He was raised in Columbia Heights, attended Immaculate Conception School primary school and attended Columbia Heights High School, graduating in 1958. He worked in a print shop as a type setter after school, learning much about the printing process and the machines. He began working on the street department for the City of Columbia Heights in July, 1959. Tom was always interested in cars, and started learning how to make simple repairs.

One of Tom’s mentors who also worked at the city, Mel Osterberg, introduced him to Joan Duntley. Tom and Joan fell in love and soon were engaged to be married. During this time, Tom was drafted for service in the U.S. Army and left home in November 1963. Tom served the Army for two years in Munich, Germany, becoming a radio technician. During this time, he purchased a 1956 Volkswagen Beetle, and would travel around the country when he was on leave. During a special time, his brother Frank came and visited him, and they toured many Southern European countries in the Volkswagen. He maintained the Volkswagen until he left Germany, and the car had over 300,000 Kilometers when he sold it. During his service, he also made many life-long

friends.

After returning from Germany, he and Joan married in May of 1966. They lived briefly in an apartment in Fridley before purchasing their home of 36 years in Columbia Heights. Tom also resumed his employment with the City of Columbia Heights and applied for a public works mechanic position. He got the job and began learning to repair basically every piece of equipment that the city owned, from lawn mowers to road graders, fire engines and police cars. Tom was a self-taught mechanic who could literally fix almost anything and eventually became the shop foreman. He worked for the city for 38 years, retiring in February 1997. He spent many nights after work helping others with their car repairs. He really enjoyed helping others and repairing things that were broken down. He was always the go-to guy for numerous friends, neighbors and his family.

He had many hobbies, including photography, developing his own film, hunting and fishing. He and his brother and two other friends formed the Hyland Flyers flying club. The club operated out of the Anoka County Airport, where they built their own maintenance hangar and maintained a large paid membership and nine aircraft.

They raised four boys, Mike, Steve (Teno), Bill, and Andy and a dog, Schwartz. During this time, Tom, Jo and the boys participated in Cub Scouting, with Tom eventually becoming a Cub Scout Cubmaster. He was very active in the Cub and Boy Scouts, becoming a well-respected district leader serving for many years. He donated lots of time and energy to the Challenger District for Boy Scouts with special needs, organizing all sorts of events and the district camporee. His volunteering never stopped – raising money/food donations for several organizations and countless other charitable events.

When the kids were growing up, camping became increasingly important and being outdoors was a focal point. In June 1980 the family took the family tent trailer and went on a month-long camping trip to California, up the West coast, into Canada and back home, traveling over 8000 miles! Our family spent many summer vacations at Scenic and Bear Head Lake State Parks in Northern Minnesota.

Tom joined the Columbia Heights Fire Department as a volunteer paid-on-call firefighter in April, 1970. During his service he helped many people and saved lives. He became an Emergency Medical

Technician (EMT), making many life-long friends and attaining the position of Captain. He was severely burned once during a fire where a back draft occurred in the basement of a home fire and he and another fire fighter were blown up the basement stairs and out the back door of the home. He missed parts of many family gatherings and holidays, but always was happy to have been helping other people. He served on the fire department for 20 years, retiring in August, 1990.

Tom enjoyed traveling and the planning for the big trips. Tom took several more trips back to southern Europe during the 80s and early 2000s as a civilian tourist.

Tom and Jo enjoyed many good years with their children: Mike, Teno, Bill, and Andy, their spouses, Jane, Ann, Michelle, and special friend Jenny, and grandchildren: Katie, Nick, Bobby, Melissa, Johnny, Tommy, Amy, Amanda, Jason, and great grandchild, Amy's daughter Audrey.

Tom had an older brother Frank who passed away in 2012. Tom has a younger brother Greg (Karen) and a younger sister, Mary (John). Tom has a

niece Kari and nephews, John, Peter, Chris, Larry, and a large extended family.

He took care of his son Mike during multiple bouts with cancer. He was like a second doctor, providing physical and mental therapy, and was a strong advocate. Again, he was a “Dad” like no other.

In 1998, Jo found out that she had multiple myeloma. Tom again switched into gear and tried his absolute very best to support her every need. However, even with Tom’s excellent care, Jo passed away in November of 2002.

Tom was a life-long member of the Catholic Church, attending Mass every Sunday, even when he was camping or hunting and away from his home parish. He was an usher at Epiphany Catholic Church and also enjoyed being part of the Knights of Columbus. Tom especially enjoyed contributing to the service part of the organization.

After a short while, Tom met Kathy Pattock. Kathy had also lost her spouse and the two had known each other in high school. Tom and Kathy were married in April 2004. They sold their respective homes and bought a home together in Andover, MN. As Kathy recalls, Tom was a very kind and giving man and a gentle giant. He was always ready and willing to help others. They had many fun times at the cabin with family and friends. Tom enjoyed spending time with Kathy’s family including Brian (Carol), Tim (Amy) and Tracy (Mike) and their respective children Andrew, David, Emma, Joe, Noah, and Sam. Tom was the planner for many trips, whether it be to Europe or the United States. He loved to travel and we always had other people who went with us. He was the guide and driver when we got to Las Vegas, going to places like Red Rock Canyon. Kathy and Tom resided in Andover until the onset of Tom’s Lewy Body dementia. They transitioned to Epiphany Pines in January 2018 where they stayed until Tom’s condition worsened. Tom

eventually had to move to a memory care facility and moved to The Willows at Arbor Lakes where he lived until his death. In the last year, you may have found Tom trying to “fix” something in his room like his wheelchair, the walker, the bed, the table, etc. as it was part of who he was.

Tom passed away on Saturday, March 20th, at 11:30am. Thank goodness for the memories. He will be dearly missed.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

2600 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-3391
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 25. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Columbia Heights Chapel
4101 Central Ave NE
Columbia Heights, MN 55421
(763) 789-4436
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Visitation

MAR 26. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Church of the Epiphany (Coon Rapids)
11001 Hanson Boulevard Northwest
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Mass of Christian Burial

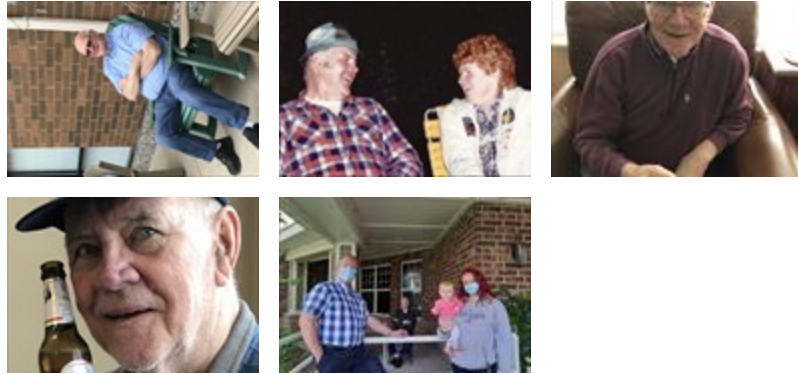
MAR **26**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Church of the Epiphany (Coon Rapids)
11001 Hanson Boulevard Northwest
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Tribute Wall



“ 15 files added to the tribute wall



Steve Hosch - March 26, 2021 at 01:58 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Tom Hosch.



March 24, 2021 at 07:58 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Tom Hosch.



March 24, 2021 at 04:39 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Tom Hosch.*



March 24, 2021 at 10:07 AM



“ *Kathy and Families,
We were so saddened to hear of the loss of Tom. We always loved to hear his stories whether they were from traveling, or simply the topics of the day. Eric always marveled at how he could remember to have “that MN root beer” there when we visited. We were so happy when you found normal, down to earth, gentle and kind Tom, Kathy. This earth has lost a wonderful soul, but heaven has surely gained. All of our love, sympathies and prayer, Jim, Nancy and family*

jim and Nancy McChesney - March 24, 2021 at 07:30 AM



“ *Kathy, my prayers and thoughts are with you and the entire Hosch and Pattock families. You all were so blessed to have Tom in your lives and I know he felt the same. Tom was a true gentleman and a kindly and congenial individual and admired and loved by so many. May God's love and comfort surround you all during this time of sorrow and may wonderful memories of Tom fill your lives with joy in the years to come. Rodney Beystrom*

Rodney Beystrom - March 23, 2021 at 11:25 PM

RA

“ Remembering good times from grade school to graduation...Tom was a good friend. Wish we could've had one more visit like the photo we are sharing...Love from both of us. Dean and Mary Althaus



Richard & Mary Althaus - March 23, 2021 at 08:00 PM

RH

“ We are so grateful to have had a friend like Tom. He was so kind and gentle and would do anything to help someone. We will miss his smile, his humor and his friendship. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Kathy and Tom's family.

Rest in the Peace of Jesus Tom Hosch!

Love, Dick and Rita Haider

Rita Haider - March 23, 2021 at 03:05 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Tom Hosch.



March 23, 2021 at 01:57 PM

AH

“ Always had a smile on your face and a joke to tell. Best Grandpa a girl could ask for.

Love you always, Amy and Audrey.



Amy Hosch - March 23, 2021 at 09:56 AM

DO

“ Tom Hosch ...

A remarkable man w/an extra special family.

Always smiling and caring to others. Truly selfless. We are so grateful for having had a friend like you in our lives. Forever in our hearts.

See you on the other side!

God bless,

Debbie and John Olin

Debbie Olin - March 23, 2021 at 09:10 AM

TS

Kathy, Oh, the fun times we had. Pontooning on Fish Trap, traveling to Poland, Italy, Greece. The time Tom and Len went missing in Santorini. Lots of laughs. Tom and Len will be watching over us. Both of you will always be in our prayers. Love and hugs

Terri Sanoski - March 23, 2021 at 12:09 PM

RO

“ *Kathy, My prayers & thoughts are with you at this time. You have been
A wonderful caregiver for Tom...You are one special gal. Please
Know you are in my thoughts & prayers. Sending my Love* 🧡🙏

Rosie Osendorf - March 22, 2021 at 09:46 PM

GG

“ *Dear friends,*

We are so sorry for your loss. Big hugs from afar.

Love Glen, Vicki, Puck

Glen Goodwin - March 22, 2021 at 09:17 PM