



Tom Fraley

August 12, 1931 - April 13, 2018

Tom Fraley was born August 12, 1931, in Horatio, Arkansas, and passed from this life April 13, 2018, in Rolla, Missouri, at the age of eighty-six. Preceding him in death were his parents Gordon Fraley and Josephine Lowe, and his wife of sixty-two years, Nadine Walker Fraley.

Surviving him are his children Scotti Siebert and husband, Dick, Springfield; Joni Fraley, St. James, and Chris Fraley and wife Mary, Rolla; grandchildren Jarred Bol-linger, Taylor Robarge, and Nathan Fraley; and great-granddaughter, Ellen Fraley.

Tom served in the United States Navy during the Korean War, and later attended Coffeyville Junior College in Coffeyville, Kansas. While at Coffeyville, Tom played on the football team, which won the national junior college championship in 1956. Tom and other members of that team were inducted into the National Junior College Football Hall of Fame in 2007. Tom graduated from Northeastern State College in Tahlequah, Oklahoma in 1958, before accepting a teaching position in Salem. While teaching physical education and driver's education Tom also coached Tiger basketball, football, and track, touching the lives of many students and players. During his coaching years, during the summer months, he and good friend and fellow coach, Ben Koeneman, managed the Salem Municipal Pool during the first several years it was open.

After his coaching years he worked for Western and American States insurance companies as the branch claims manager for south central

Missouri. Tom maintained his ties to the Salem Tigers and Salem schools by serving for many years on the "chain gang" at football games and as a judge for Salem's annual spelling bee. After his retirement Tom worked several years in the photo lab at Salem's Wal-Mart, where he was known to make appearances as Santa Claus during the holiday seasons.

Tom made many life long friends in Salem and loved the Salem community. He and Nadine were members of the Salem Golf and Country Club for many years, where they enjoyed golfing with friends and family. He was a true family man, a good man, and a good friend. He will be greatly missed by all who loved him and forever remembered by all whose lives he touched.

Tom's family invites his friends, former students, and family friends to join them in a celebration of a life well lived on Friday, May 11, from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at Spring Creek Golf Club, Salem, Missouri.

A Scholarship fund in Tom's memory has been established and will be awarded to a graduating Salem High School athlete in the spring of 2019.

Contributions may be sent to: Town & Country Bank, c/o Tom Fraley Memorial Scholarship Fund

P.O. Box 349 Salem, MO. 65560

Tribute Wall



“ *Tom Fraley*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Tom Fraley*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *Mr. Farley was my drivers' education teacher and a good one. He will be missed. I have been missing him already since he left Salem Residential Care earlier this year. My sincere sympathy to the family.*

Jo Ann Blackwell - April 19, 2018 at 05:27 PM



“ *Scotti, Joni, and Chris: I have lost one of the best and closest cousins in our family. Tom was always extra special....he made me laugh, even though he was ill he could still remind me of the fun we had as kids. Some of that fun was not shared with our mothers of course. I have many memories from the "old" days, but also as we became parents ourselves. Lots of reunions, fish fries, picnics...the Fishpaws really knew how to cook and entertain. My heart aches for you and even knowing he is in a better place now, it's hard to give him up. All of my prayers and love will always be with you. God bless you and your families!!*

Margaret Wade - April 18, 2018 at 01:21 PM

JS

“ *My Mom and I always enjoyed our visits with Tom at Salem Resodential Care.
Tom was one of these nicest men I know and will be missed by so many!
My thoughts and prayers go out to each of you.
Jan Shaw*

Jan Shaw - April 17, 2018 at 10:51 PM

LF

“ *Len Freeman lit a candle in memory of Tom Fraley*



Len Freeman - April 17, 2018 at 07:50 PM

HO

“ *Helen Oke-Thomas lit a candle in memory of Tom Fraley*



Helen Oke-Thomas - April 17, 2018 at 02:36 PM

JS

“ *Many good memories of Coach. Sorry for you loss. Jeff Shelton
SSHS Class of 1967*

Jeff Shelton - April 17, 2018 at 01:01 PM

BA

“ *Barbara Abbott lit a candle in memory of Tom Fraley*



Barbara Abbott - April 17, 2018 at 10:31 AM

 Kat Hanson

“ *Kat Hanson lit a candle in memory of Tom Fraley*



Kat Hanson - April 17, 2018 at 05:54 AM

DR

“ *Chris and Mary
I am so sorry for your loss. He was amazing.
Dana Rodriguez*

dana rodriguez - April 17, 2018 at 12:02 AM

BP

“ *Brenda Pace lit a candle in memory of Tom Fraley*



Brenda Pace - April 16, 2018 at 10:20 PM

BK

“ *Many years ago while working for USDA/ASCS in the Weaver Building, Tom worked in another office in the same building. He was always cheerful and kind. My prayers go out to his family.*

Betty Boze Kunkel - April 16, 2018 at 09:01 PM