



Tom Foster

February 1, 1947 - December 3, 2025

Tom Olan Foster, age 78, of New Martinsville, WV, formerly of Fort Myers, Florida, passed away Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at Wheeling Hospital in Wheeling, WV.

He was born February 1, 1947, in Tacoma, Washington, a son of the late Tom C. Foster and Margaret Rodhe Foster. Tom served as a paramedic in the US Army National Reserves. He was a business owner and specialized in windshield repair. Tom was an excellent multisport athlete and played baseball professionally for the Yankees organization for five years. He enjoyed football, fishing, and camping. Tom was an active member of the Bridge Street Church of Christ in New Martinsville, WV. Before moving to West Virginia, he was a member of the Gulf Coast Church of Christ in Fort Myers, FL.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Dustin Foster; and a sister, Rosalind Jackson.

Survivors include his loving wife of 15 years, Bonnie Foster; one daughter, Larissa (David) Williams of Naples, FL; one son, Zachary Foster of Naples, FL; two stepsons, Brian (Pamela) Strother of Beverly Hills, FL, and Jay (Debra) Strother of Newton, NC; one stepdaughter, Vicki (Tracy) Houston of Catawba, NC; numerous grandchildren including Jaxson, Russell, Legend, Jiya, Mark, Bridget, Ian, Ryan, Ayden, Michael, Mason, Nate, Noah, Lindsay, and Abby; and greatgrandchildren Scarlet and Jaxon. Tom recently reconnected with several biological relatives. These family members include John (Susan) Vibberts of Sandwich, MA, and Dory-Ann (Daniel) Waxman of

Portland, ME, and several nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at the Bridge Street Church of Christ in New Martinsville at the family's convenience.

Sympathy expressions at grisellfuneralhomes.com.

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Love is never having to say your sorry. Thank you, Tom for my many first's. From crayons to perfume. You have and will never be forgotten. I'm thankful to our Lord you found Christ. And you found your family. From your special place, "Brown's Point, WA." Diamond and Susan.



Suzan Davis - February 11 at 02:36 PM

BJ

“ Sorry to hear of Tom's passing. Wish I had got to meet him. We only got to talk on the phone a couple of times. I'm his first cousin on his biological mother's side.

Beth H. Johnstone - December 13, 2025 at 04:24 PM

LF

“ Dad, I love u and miss u so much...I know u are with Jesus and that gives me much comfort...Fly with the Angels and ill see u when I get there💜💜

If any family members want to reach out to me that would be awesome. I didnt know anyone on my Dad's side so email me if u would like to chat.

Larissa.foster.vq@gmail.com

💜 *LaLa Williams*

LaLa Williams (Larissa Foster) - December 11, 2025 at 08:18 AM

TC

“ Tom and I met when we were both about six years old. Our friendship got off to an inauspicious start. We met. There was an argument of some sort, which ended in me posting a sign in my front yard that read “No Tommy!” Every time I visited Tom and his family, his kids would post a sign in the yard that read “No Ty!” So, I never lived that one down. Tom and I played all kinds of sports together: baseball, touch football, stick ball, like a couple of dogs, anything with a ball. We got pretty good at it too, particularly baseball, as Tom would play professionally. On occasion, I would spend the night at Tom’s house with him and his mom. We got to stay up and watch horror movies on late night TV. Our favorite character was the Frankenstein monster. When we would greet each other, it was always with a healthy “GGRRRRRRRRRRRR!” It never ceases to amaze me that, after our childish antics, our partners and wives still agreed to be seen with us in public. In high school, Tom was too shy to ask girls for a date, but he would call girls he liked on the phone and talk to them without telling them who he was. One time one of the girl’s friends recognized his voice. So that puts an end to that. As it is wont to be, people go their separate ways, but we always stayed in touch. Bonnie and Tom would always call me on my birthday to remind me how old I was. They even came to visit us when we lived in Ocean Shores, WA. While Tom and I reminisced, Bonnie and Patti raided the “Junk,” I mean, the local antiques shops. Bonnie got to stick her toe in the Pacific Ocean for the first time. I will miss my lifelong friend, but I still have the memories. And if by chance we meet in the afterlife, I know what the sign in the front yard will read.

Ty Coburn - December 10, 2025 at 03:14 PM

ZF

Hello Ty, Thank you for the kind words for my father. I always enjoyed your visits. Somewhere out there is a picture of 4-5 year old me crawling over you while you held my little brother in your arm with disheveled just woke up hair. Hair that has somehow decided it no longer serves a purpose for me! Would love to connect again here's my email zcfoster@gmail.com. I'm in Florida, Naples... it's truly horrible with perfect weather and white sand beaches, and countless options for food/recreation/activities for fun...you would probably hate it but I'm here to accommodate regardless!

Zachary Foster - December 10, 2025 at 06:28 PM

TY

Hi Zach, great to hear from you. I'll be in touch.

Ty - December 10, 2025 at 08:43 PM

LF

Hi Ty.....thank u for this.....my email is larissa.foster.vq@gmail.com

Please stay in touch

LaLa Williams (Larissa Foster) - December 11, 2025 at 08:12 AM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of Tom Olan Foster, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete.
I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom.
You will not be forgotten...
My thoughts
and prayers to the family of

US Army National Reserve Veteran, Tom Olan Foster, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †*

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - December 10, 2025 at 05:27 AM

DR

“ *Los of good times in Church and get to gathers. Love you Bonnie you are in my 🙏 prayers*

Deanna Rogers - December 09, 2025 at 02:09 PM

MB

“ *Sorry for your loss. I chatted with Tom a few times on FB. I was nice connecting with him. I am one of his biological cousins!!
Megan Bernier*

Megan Bernier - December 08, 2025 at 09:47 PM

LF

*Hi my name is LaLa Williams...im Tom's daughter....I never knew anyone on my Dad's side....I would love to connect.
Larissa.foster.vq@gmail.com email me anytime.*

LaLa

LaLa Williams (Larissa Foster) - December 11, 2025 at 08:14 AM

SH

“*Tom was always smiling, and oh how he loved Bonnie. Bonnie I'm praying for you cousin. It may be tough for a while, but because of our Lord we will see the ones we love. May God take you by the hand and comfort you. I know you have a sister and cousin Brenda and Deb that will always be there for you. My heart breaks for you.
Love you cous,
Sheila*

sheangl@yahoo.com - December 08, 2025 at 09:08 PM

KB

So sorry to hear of Tom's passing. My loving thoughts and prayers are with you. 🧡❤️🙏

Kitty Bucher Bunkowski - December 09, 2025 at 02:03 AM

MM

I heard about Tom's passing - it was such a shock!! He always had a smile and happy things to share. I lost Dave in '21. Its not easy - just keep your good memories.

*Love you,
Mary Jane from Columbus, OH)*

Mary Moser - December 09, 2025 at 12:12 PM

PC

Dear Bonnie. I was so sad to hear about Tom's passing. I remember fondly when I met Tom and you in July of 2021 at Ty's home in Ocean Shores. Ty was so excited to see Tom again and meet his "coffee queen" bride! It was a fun time: when we were all together, you and I spent the day touring the antique shops, your first steps in the water of the Pacific Ocean, and most importantly, the time Tom and Ty got to spend together reminiscing about their younger days, laughing and joking with one another! A great friendship and cherished memories! I always enjoyed Tom's posts on FB. Tom will be missed very much! Take care of yourself!!! Blessings!

Patti Chitty - December 09, 2025 at 02:11 PM

BM

Bonnie, I went to Stadium High School in Tom's class '65. Unfortunately I did not know him well. But on behalf of our Class I will be sending you a card & a planter of succulents. I love them because they require very little care & last for a long time. Please know that we think of you & Tom's family at this time & that he is remembered by many of his classmates.

Bette Yeager Miller - December 09, 2025 at 09:41 PM

RT

Gee Bonnie, how things change. I didn't even know that Tom was sick. So sorry to hear about your loss. We will always remember the good times in Ft Myers.

Russell Thomas - December 10, 2025 at 09:04 PM

MC

I know this is late...but I just learned that Tom has passed. I was an eighth grader in 1966 when Tom helped coach our jr. high baseball team. I learned a lot about baseball from Tom. I don't think Tom realized how proud all of us from Browns Point were of him being drafted by the NY Yankees. I only wish I would have told him..R.I.P. Tom...you will be remembered and missed.

Mark Carr - March 21 at 08:44 PM