



Thomas John Stubblebine

September 18, 1944 - April 25, 2022

Col. Thomas (Tom) John Stubblebine, retired, age 77 of Haymarket, VA, was called to the Lord on April 25, 2022 while surrounded by his loving wife of 54 years and his 2 daughters.

Tom was born in Reading, PA, and grew up in West Philadelphia. Through the encouragement and mentorship of a grade school track coach, Tom became the first in his family to attend college after earning a track scholarship to St. Joe's University. After graduation, he joined the Air Force and began his 26-year career, retiring as a Colonel in 1992. After retiring from the Air Force, he began a second career as a government contractor.

Tom was also a devout Catholic and was passionate about his faith. Anyone who met him would agree that Tom loved life, and particularly loved traveling and exploring the world. He extensively toured Europe while being stationed there (twice), then later in life developed a passion for taking cruises. He took over a dozen cruises with his last one being to Bora Bora. His passions included singing, the sport of golf, and the Philadelphia Eagles.

Tom is survived by his wife, Mary, and his daughters Chelie VanBelleghem (Dan) and Hollee Alexander (Andy) and seven grandchildren: Emma and Charlotte Billingsley; Rylee and Finley Alexander; and Daniel, Kathryn and Elizabeth VanBelleghem.

Preceding him in death were his parents Robert and Helen Stubblebine, his brothers Jim and Jack, and his sister Anne McMenamin.

Family and friends will gather at a Memorial Mass at 12:00pm on Sat., May 7, 2022, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 8213 Linton Hall Drive, Gainesville, VA 20155. A reception will be held immediately after the mass in the parish hall. A Christian burial will follow at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date, to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in loving memory of Tom to the American Heart Association (https://www2.heart.org/site/TR;jsessionid=00000000.app30127a?px=24008232&fr_id=3930&pg=personal&NONCE_TO_KEN=B084C5459EE3E60D4221859D2AB0FD33)

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA 22211
<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/>

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

MAY 7. 12:00 PM (ET)

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
8213 Linton Hall Rd
Gainesville, VA 20155-2997
(703) 753-6700

Tribute Wall

JV

“ Captain Stubblebine at Soesterberg Air Base in the Netherlands-class act all the way. I was working in Accounting and Finance enlisted 1968 to 1970. He and his wife invited me and friend for dinner at their home off base. Thank you again because didn't get many chances for home cooked meal. He coached me in running my fastest mile. He and his associate Capt Deverxxx were nicest officers I met while stationed there Sorry to family for loss! So happy he retired a Colonel! Sgt John Vasoli (formerly South Philly now Marlton NJ and also big Eagle's fan.

John Vasoli - December 14, 2023 at 11:48 PM

DB

“ Tom was one of the kindest gentlemen I have ever met. When he was tackling medical problems and he would see you, he'd flash that big smile and ask "Hey, how are you doing?"
A wonderful Philly boy through and through! I will miss him.
Dennis Byrne and Florence

Dbyrne - April 30, 2022 at 06:52 PM

NS

“ The Stubblebine and the Saenz families have been good friends from our neighbor days 1977. I shared a number of pictures. How can 50 years go by so quickly? Tom, we miss you now and hope to see you again! In Jesus name we pray!

Nancy Saenz - April 30, 2022 at 02:23 PM

CI

“ I loved watching Tom and Dan "hang out" together. They shared a very special friendship. Tom was so welcoming to me when Dan and I were dating and then got married. He always, always had a smile and a few laughs to share with me. He was a cheerful and loving friend!

Catherine Irwin - April 30, 2022 at 11:32 AM

CV

“ I can remember growing up Dad would wake us up on weekends by singing cheerful songs at the top of his voice! It was impossible to be mad at him--haha. Chelie

Chelie VanBelleghem - April 28, 2022 at 10:30 AM