



## Thomas B. Garlick Jr.

September 17, 1937 - March 27, 2025

Attorney Tom Garlick passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 27th. He was born in Rochester, New York, to Dr. Thomas and Mary Garlick, and was a graduate of LeMoyne College of Syracuse, New York, and Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C. After a judicial clerkship, he joined a Rochester litigation firm, where, after 3 years, he became a partner, adding his name to the firm title, Hickey, McHugh & Garlick. Tom married his beloved wife, then Eleanor (“Nancy”) Regan, in 1965.

After 16 years of practice with this firm as a trial attorney, he was offered the opportunity for a change of scenery (and weather) and moved to sunny Naples, Florida, opening a Naples law office for a large, regional, upstate New York law firm, Harter, Secrest & Emery. He grew the Naples office from just himself to 16 attorneys before he left to accept an offer from a large Tampa firm to form Naples and Fort Myers offices for it. He grew their combined Southwest Florida offices to 20 attorneys during the next 4 years. With that accomplished, he left to form his own firm in early 2001. Tom practiced law for nearly 60 years, and he and Nancy lived in Naples starting in 1981.

Tom was Florida Bar Board Certified in Real Estate Law and a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator. He avidly participated in the cultural and civic life of the region, principally through the Philharmonic Center for the Arts (now Artis-Naples Philharmonic) and the Greater Naples Area Chamber of Commerce in both volunteer and professional capacities, and in a number of volunteer programs for several other charitable organizations for which he provided legal services pro-bono.

Tom was a graduate of the Leadership Collier Program of the Naples Area Chamber and was active in its alumni program. He was a Member and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Council of Collier County, and a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Chamber of Southwest Florida. He was a member of both the New York and Florida Bars, as well as the Collier County Bar.

Tom served on the Board of Governors of the Ave Maria School of Law for many years.

He and Nancy travelled extensively in Europe, but his favorite trips were family vacations with his three grown children. He was a longtime member of the Naples Yacht Club and enjoyed cruises and fishing trips as his schedule allowed. Tom was an avid Gulf Coast and Florida Keys backwater and offshore fisherman and boater.

He was predeceased by his wife Eleanor (“Nancy”) Garlick, his parents, Mary and Thomas Garlick, Sr., and his sister, Jo Oberstar. He is survived by his children Mary E. Katherine Garlick (Anastasia), Thomas B. Garlick III, (Vivian), and Timothy Garlick (Michele), cherished grandson, Elijah S. Garlick, and sister Maureen Webb.

A memorial visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Shikany’s Bonita Funeral Home 28300 Tamiami Tr. So., Bonita Springs, FL. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 1:30 PM at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Naples. Burial services will be held at the Oakwood Cemetery in Penfield, NY.

Donations for the Ave Maria School of Law are requested in lieu of flowers.

To sign his guest register or to leave online condolences please visit [www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com](http://www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com).

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany’s Bonita Funeral Home Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

Penfield, NY

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

APR 2. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home  
28300 Tamiami Trail So.  
Bonita Springs, FL 34134  
(239) 992-4982  
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

## Mass of Christian Burial

APR 3. 1:30 PM (ET)

St. Agnes Catholic Church  
7775 Vanderbilt Beach Rd.  
Naples, FL 34120

# Tribute Wall

MD

“ *In memory of Thomas B. Garlick, Jr.  
I met Tom when we were freshmen at Le Moyne College in the fall of 1956. As fellow Rochesterians, we often shared travel from Rochester to Le Moyne and back on weekends. During the Christmas season, I joined him working for the Main Post Office in downtown Rochester as auxiliary letter carriers to deal with holiday mail volume. I learned about residential and business locations that were novel to me as a suburban kid from Irondequoit.*

*Tom's roommate, Milo Tomanovich, and I were welcomed into the Garlick family and visited Dr. Garlick, Mrs. Garlick (Mary) and sisters Jo and Maureen at their Alexander St. home often during college years. In the summer of 1958, we spent vacation time at their Rock Point, MD, home on the Wicomico River in St Mary's County, MD. We learned the technique of harvesting blue crabs from the river by crewing with their neighbor, "Captain" Henry Stein, whose crabbing business supplied several restaurants in Washington, D.C.*

*Having missed their wedding in 1965 because of a Navy assignment, I was delighted to join Tom and Nancy for their fiftieth wedding anniversary fete at the Naples Yacht Club in the fall of 2015. I got lost in Naples while trying to find the Yacht Club, but arrived, sheepish and disheveled, just in time for toasts, cake and dance music.*

*Tom and I had several good chats during February and March about his health and his readiness to return to God and his beloved Nancy. We also reminisced about the "James Street Gang," a group of Le Moyne College friends who shared a rental house at 1428 James Street in Syracuse for our final college year. On behalf of that group -Milo, Pat, Gil, Joe- as the survivor, I salute you, Tom, and commend you to the Father. Amen.*

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**Michael Doyle** - April 03, 2025 at 07:18 PM

JC

“ *Linda and John Cardillo extend our condolences to Tom's family. We enjoyed parallel paths in civic , cultural and professional endeavors and enjoyed his dry humor , enthusiasm and view of life.*

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**john p cardillo** - April 03, 2025 at 07:12 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas B. Garlick Jr..*



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April 02, 2025 at 09:58 AM

JC

“ Hey Onion, I see you have moved on. We had great ride at Le Moyne. Maybe you will now get the chance to meet the real Elliot Ness! Tell Bernie , Milo and all the gang I will be along. Thank you for being, Tom.  
Jim Coyne Mendon, NY

Jim Coyne - April 02, 2025 at 08:31 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Thomas B. Garlick Jr..



April 01, 2025 at 02:38 PM

HH

“ From a former partner and friend at Harter Secrest and Emery I enjoyed our times together and earlier when we were both in the Reynolds Arcade Building, I enjoyed our times together. H Robert Herman ( Bob )

H Robert Herman - April 01, 2025 at 01:22 PM

CC

“ Tom was one of our first clients when we opened our public relations agency. He was a true gentleman and business mentor and will be missed greatly.

Clay W. Cone, President  
Cone Communications Co.

Clay Cone - April 01, 2025 at 12:53 PM

MR

“ Tom Garlick greeted me with open arms 22 years ago when I came to Naples to join The Chamber of Commerce as its new President. Tom had for many years been The Chamber's key attorney. He always billed for his services and then at the year's end, gifted The Chamber back an amount that totaled to his fees: in essence serving as pro bono counsel. Tom continued to give me guidance and advice thru several important legal and political/association-relationship issues. He was always kind, direct and supportive. We shared past experiences from Syracuse and Upstate New York. Tom also gifted me his historical perspective of Naples' norms and growth. He was a totally decent, strong, competent and good man and distinguished attorney, Memory of Tom Garlick will always be a blessing.  
Michael V, {Mike} Reagen, Ph.D. 3/1/25

mike reagen - April 01, 2025 at 12:02 PM

JF

“ Tom and I met when he moved to Naples in 1981. We shared an office overlooking Naples Bay. I consider Tom one of my best friends. We shared good times flying to the keys, lunches, and other adventures. I will miss him very much.  
signed Josh Foss

Josh Foss - April 01, 2025 at 11:28 AM

CR

“ Tom was a wonderful mentor to me when I was a very young lawyer and an even better friend. I have wonderful memories of fun times together! May he rest in peace. Cathy Kaman Ryan

Cathy Kaman Ryan - April 01, 2025 at 10:54 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas B. Garlick Jr..



March 31, 2025 at 02:14 PM