



## Thomas M. Hearne Jr.

June 3, 1943 - March 27, 2023

Thomas Myers Hearne, Jr., 79, of Bonita Springs, Fla. and Maple Grove, Minn., died March 27, 2023 after a long battle with heart disease.

Born in Boston, Mass. on June 3, 1943, Tom was the son of Dr. Thomas Myers Hearne, Sr. and Verona Kobe (Pauling) Hearne. Verona died of breast cancer when Tom was a young child.

Tom Sr. remarried Jean Harrington Hearne who was a loving stepmother to Tom. He graduated from Melrose High School in Melrose, Mass. in 1961.

Tom earned a BA degree with honors in mathematics from Clark University in Worcester, Mass. in 1965. He began graduate studies at Northeastern University in Boston, Mass., and received a Ph.D. there in 1969. His doctoral dissertation, "On the Finite Group  $2(F_4(2))$ ," explored set theory.

He started his career as a math professor at Indiana University, Bloomington and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he met his wife, graduate student

Leanne

Christensen of Hurley, S.D. Tom and Leanne were married on September 6, 1975, on the Christensen family farm. He went on to earn his MBA from The University of Tennessee in 1976. His first role in his new business career was with the national accounting firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. He held accounting and finance positions at several companies, including ending his career as Chief Financial Officer of Check Technology Corporation.

Tom and Leanne had two sons, Jim and Mike. They lived in Tennessee, Minnesota, California, Illinois, and, after retirement, Florida. In each new place, they quickly made deep and lifelong friends. Tom loved spending time playing games and enjoying food and wine with friends and family. After retiring, he volunteered to prepare taxes for low-income taxpayers in California and Minnesota. Tom loved teaching his grandkids to play chess, Uno, and other games. Tom was highly curious and intelligent, deeply feeling, playful, funny, and a loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents Thomas Myers Hearne Sr. and Verona Kobe Hearne, stepmom Jean H. Hearne, and sister Dorothy (Dot) Pauling

Sundstrom and her husband Roy Sundstrom. Tom is survived by his wife Leanne Hearne, sons Jim Hearne and Mike Hearne, Mike's wife Alli Stolper Hearne, and their children Sam Hearne and Hannah Hearne. He is also survived by his sister Shirley Hearne Franchi, brother Peter Hearne and his wife Martita, brother David Hearne and his wife Libby, and lots of nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life for Tom will follow at a later date. Donations may be made to the Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation.

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

Arrangments are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home and Crematory Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

# Tribute Wall

AL

“ My deepest condolences to the entire Hearne family on the homegoing of Thomas M. Hearne, Jr. a couple of years ago in 2023. His wife, Dr. Leanne Hearne was my nutrition professor at Tennessee State University in the academic year of 1977 - 1978. I didn't know Thomas, personally but I had heard great things about him by knowing Leanne. I was a freshman nutrition major during that time frame. I know that Leanne left our University for a teaching position at Middle Tennessee State University & then moved on to Minnesota for a promotion to work at Land O' Lakes. I went on to become a registered dietitian & worked for Army at the U. S. Army Natick Soldier System Research & Development Center as a Food Technologist for 37 years. I retired 5 years ago in 2020 right before COVID-19. I pray that God continues to hold this family in the palm of His hands because the best is yet to come. I thank Leanne for her professional guidance & support during the formative years of my education & career. I hope to be able to catch up and chat after these many years of separation. All the best to you and your entire family.

Anthony Lee, Retired R.D.  
Framingham, MA  
(508)361-7735

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Anthony Lee - March 25, 2025 at 11:37 PM



“ Thomas M. Hearne Jr.

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October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM

EP

“ Tom was fun and I enjoyed his sense of humor. Leanne is amazing and I want to acknowledge all that she gave to Tom in helping him throughout his healthcare challenges. Sending love to family, friends and others as we celebrate his life.

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**Ellie Peterson** - April 07, 2023 at 02:17 PM

KM

“ I worked with Tom some number of years ago. I remember him well. The thing I most remember is his smile, his laugh, and the fact that he seemed to always have a witty quip on the tip of his tongue. He was a good man and it has been an honor to know and work with him!

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**Kevin Mitchell** - April 03, 2023 at 11:02 AM

KS

“ I will miss this funny and unique individual forever.

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**Kathryn Sterner** - March 31, 2023 at 01:48 PM

DW

“ During our many high school visits to Nahant Beach in Lynn, Mass., Tom liked to share his sense of humor and Individual Significance by walking down to the Ocean at Low Tide "Commanding" it to come back in..... It always did.

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**Dick Withington** - March 31, 2023 at 09:40 AM

JH

“ Tom and I worked together at Gelco and later on at Check Tech. His formidable intellect, quick wit, highly refined sense of humor and willingness to contribute whenever needed, bailed me out many times during my career.

*Rest in peace, Thomas.*

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**Jay Herman** - March 30, 2023 at 06:09 PM

LR

“ Tom was a huge asset to our bridge group, and I remember when I first met him, I thought "This guy is really quirky and funny and a great bridge player.!" However, he often would get in nutty moods and make crazy bids, I think just to see how it would affect others at the table. Of course, he often made those crazy bids, much to our surprise and dismay! Tom was so caring and generous with his time and friendship. I will truly miss him.

*Lynn Rubin*

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**Lynn Rubin** - March 30, 2023 at 09:49 AM

DS

“ Tom was a fine gentleman and we share our deepest condolences with the Hearne family. We will miss our visits with Tom. Jennie and Dan Stolper



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**Dan Stolper** - March 28, 2023 at 11:22 PM