



Thomas Tyrell Nowlen

November 11, 1925 - November 16, 2012

Mr. Thomas Tyrrell Nowlen, 87, of Benton Harbor, Michigan, passed away peacefully on Friday, November 16, 2012 at Royaltan Manor Rehabilitation Home. Memorial services celebrating his life will be held on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 12:00 Noon at the Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service, 2506 Niles Ave., St. Joseph. Visitation with his family will be for one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. Please share memories, messages and photos at www.florin.net.

Mr. Nowlen, born on Nov. 11, 1925, was a 1944 graduate of Benton Harbor High School, where he played on the football team, tennis team, and was a member of the student council. Thomas then went on to join the Navy where he studied and trained at Notre Dame University. Thomas continued his studies at Kalamazoo College, in Kalamazoo Michigan, where he played on the renowned Kalamazoo College tennis team. Mr. Nowlen graduated from Kalamazoo College with a degree in economics in 1949.

Upon graduation from Kalamazoo College, Mr. Nowlen proudly worked for the Nowlen Lumber Company. Mr. Nowlen was a member of the Home Builders of America, and the Benton Harbor Exchange Club. Thomas was also a long time member of Peace Temple United Methodist Church, in Benton Harbor Mi., where he coached basketball for youth programs at Peace Temple United Methodist Church for many years. Mr. Nowlen and his children found great fellowship, life time friendship and support in the congregation of Peace Temple, and would like to thank them.

Mr. Nowlen was a talented athlete. He played tennis, racquet ball, was an avid skier, and an accomplished sailor, building his own Lightning Class sailboat and competing in races within the Lightning Class.

Mr. Nowlen was preceded in death by his wife Frances Carrie Nowlen (McTague) and is survived by his three children: David Nowlen of Austin Texas, Todd Nowlen and daughter in law Debbie Tom of Phoenix Arizona, and Jennifer Boyer and son in law Parris Boyer of

Benton Harbor Michigan. He is also survived by his four grandchildren: Mary Alyse Nowlen, Frances Mallory Nowlen, Patrick Tyrrell Nowlen, and Alanna Clare Nowlen, all of Phoenix, Arizona; his nieces and nephews: Cynthia Lennox Nowlen of Muskegon, Mi., Steven Patrick Nowlen and Cathy Nowlen of Albuquerque, NM., Sharon Leigh and Scott Hanshue of Dowling, MI., Kathryn Diane Johnson of Cocoa Beach, FL., Elizabeth Jeanne Griffin of Seattle, WA. and Aaron Hunter Griffin of Bothell, WA.

Our father dedicated his life to us and we will miss him. We will remember fondly camping, canoeing, going to the YMCA each Friday night, times with him at our Grandfather Stanley's home on Lake Michigan, Peace Temple outings, and thousands of other amazing adventures. Thank you Dad for all your love. We love you and will miss you!

We also would like to thank all the staff of Royalton Manor and Great Lakes Caring Hospice for making the last month so peaceful for our father and for us. Your kindness, patience and support was immeasurable, and has made this experience so much easier. Thank you!

The Nowlen family.

Cemetery Details

Private Burial

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **24.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
2506 Niles Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085
staff@florin.net

Service

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Tribute Wall



“ I know this is a stretch but Thomas's brother Stanley Nowlen was married to my Paternal Grandmother, Freeda Eunice (Kettelhut) Nowlen until his death in 1977. I have Stanleys WWI wings (pilot) and some medal and would very much like to return them to his family. Please email me juniebug540@gmail.com if any family members can.

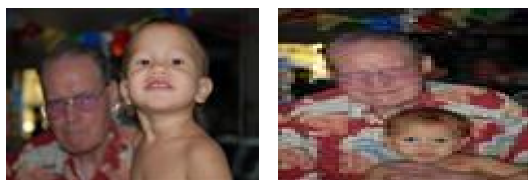
My love and condolences.

Lisa (Kettelhut) Sanchez

Lisa Sanchez - August 08, 2021 at 02:27 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:46 AM



“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:45 AM



“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:45 AM



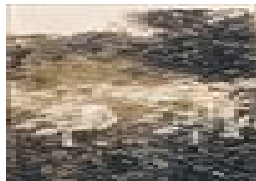
“ 5 files added to the album *New Album Name*



jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:44 AM



“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:44 AM



“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:44 AM



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jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:43 AM



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jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:43 AM



“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:37 AM



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jennifer boyer - November 27, 2012 at 09:35 AM

LS

“ *Todd, Jennifer, David & families,*

Sincere condolences on the passing of your father. My prayers and thoughts are with you. I remember your father being at all of the BH events, always there to support you, and the rest of the BH family as well. I hope many happy memories with him will help ease the pain.

Laurie (Wightman) Schmidt & family

Laurie Schmidt - November 24, 2012 at 10:02 AM

SE

“ Todd, Dave and Jennifer.....I am so sorry for your loss. Your Dad was one of those guys who I thought might live forever. I look back so fondly on all those times coming over to the house and was always welcomed so warmly by your dad. I so vividly remember always managing to come by when you were having dinner and I would have a Burger King with me and he would try his hardest to get me to eat one of his infamous casseroles, to which I would decline and he would shake his head in exasperation and laugh. Your house was a place of refuge for me for many years and I really do appreciate your dad's welcome, candor and caring during those times. He did such an amazing job of raising you guys and influencing the rest of us vagabonds. He was a great man and I feel so lucky to have known him. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Steve Edwards and his clan - Brechin, Scotland

steve edwards - November 24, 2012 at 02:55 AM

KN

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Kathryn Nowlen-Johnson - November 21, 2012 at 05:41 AM

KN

“ Thomas Tyrell just recently followed Albert Nowlen (from Brandon, FL) who just passed on September 15. They will both be missed dearly. The last time I had a chance to visit Michigan, Tom and I went to my old (his current) church in Benton Harbor. We travelled all around looking at old houses built and owned by Nowlen family members and had an opportunity to look through many old photos and memorabilia. It was a rewarding visit, and I'm glad I had the chance to spend quality time with Tom. May he rest in peace. He's in good company in heaven and will be welcomed with open arms. Our thoughts and prayers go to his children and grandchildren. May they be blessed to have known him through his short journey on Earth. " Rick and Kathy (Nowlen) Johnson ~ Cocoa Beach, FL

Kathryn Nowlen-Johnson - November 21, 2012 at 05:33 AM

PE

“ *Patrick, Connie and Dale Eaman purchased the Exotic Grace for the family of Thomas Tyrell Nowlen.*



Patrick, Connie and Dale Eaman - November 20, 2012 at 03:33 PM

CN

“ *David, Todd and Jennifer,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Steve & Cathy Nowlen*

Cathy Nowlen - November 20, 2012 at 11:05 AM

DS

“ *David, Todd, Jennifer, and families,
So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Doug & JoAnne Smith*

Doug Smith - November 19, 2012 at 03:59 PM