



Thomas John Gowan Sr.

July 2, 1928 - March 14, 2019

Thomas John Gowan, Sr., 90, passed away peacefully with his children and family by his side on March 14, 2019. He was born July 2, 1928 in Post, Texas and later moved to El Paso, Texas. He was a locomotive engineer for Union Pacific Railroad for almost sixty years and was the last engineer to be certified to operate a steam engine train. Throughout his years on the railroad, he also worked numerous jobs to help support his family; he was a teacher, a preacher, and a police officer, just to name a few. He provided education for his family, both through the school system as well as in life, by embarking on numerous road trips from the west coast to the east coast throughout the United States and even into Canada. He was a history buff, and with each place the family traveled, he would share important historical facts and insights. The adventures from those trips provided a lifetime of memories that have been passed to future generations. Upon his retirement from the railroad, he moved to Comfort, Texas where he enjoyed his life in the beautiful hill country.

Thomas lived life in such a way that he was unequivocally a hero to all his children, instilling a faith in Jesus Christ and a work ethic to always provide for family and trust God. Family always came first for him, and he stopped at nothing to provide for them and always be there for them.

Thomas was preceded in death by his parents Elizabeth and William Gowan, his sister, Loraine, and his first wife, Minta Gowan. He is survived by his brother George (Betsy), his four children Thomas Gowan Jr. (Suzanne),

Gregory Gowan (Crystal), Lisa Ramirez (Issac), and Debbie Hawkins (Travis), as well as his nephews and nieces, Dolph Quijano Jr. (Dana), Vicki Castillo, Bill Gowan, and Richard Gowan (Catherine). Though divorced, he was still loved and cared for by his ex-wife and mother of his children, Sarah Gowan, and his “adopted” daughter, Wanda Liszewska, Sister Maria Elżbieta. The pride and joy of his life was found in his numerous grandchildren: Oralia Leonard (Jason), Savannah Gowan, Nataliya Gowan, Jessica Ramirez, Kayla Hawkins, Adriana Ramirez, McKenzie Gowan, Kaitlyn Ramirez, Caleb Hawkins, Madison Gowan, Molly Gowan, and Zane Gowan. Last but not least, he is survived by his faithful companion, aptly named Dog.

Services will be held at 12:00 p.m. on March 16, 2019, at Mission Park Funeral Home Chapel in San Antonio, Texas. Burial will be at Terrace Cemetery in Post, Texas on Sunday, March 17 at 10 am. Pall Bearers will be his sons Thomas Gowan Jr. and Gregory Gowan, his grandsons, Caleb Hawkins and Zane Gowan, as well as his son-in-law Issac Ramirez, and his grandson-in-law, Jason Leonard.

Happy trails to you, Dad. Till we meet again.

Cemetery Details

Terrace Cemetery

Post, TX

Previous Events

Chapel Service

MAR 16. 12:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Graveside Service

MAR 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Terrace Cemetery
Post, TX

Tribute Wall



“ Tommy was a dear friend and I have so many great memories with him. I will miss him very much. My condolences to the family and you are all in my prayers.

Yvette Lerma - March 16, 2019 at 10:24 AM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



March 16, 2019 at 01:49 AM



“ Charlie Pairis and Wanda Heckel purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



Charlie Pairis and Wanda Heckel - March 16, 2019 at 12:33 AM



“ Tommy you were and still are a Reader's Digest "My Most Unforgettable Character I Ever Met". "Charlieeeeeeeeeee to engineer {HOGHEAD} Tommieeeeeeeeeee Gowan, Kickem!" That will do. Goodbye my friend. Retired Southern Pacific Conductor Charlie Pairis

Charlie Pairis - March 16, 2019 at 12:23 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



March 15, 2019 at 06:44 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



March 15, 2019 at 03:57 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



March 15, 2019 at 12:12 PM



“ Mike & Mary Hawkins and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



Mike & Mary Hawkins and family - March 15, 2019 at 11:37 AM



“ *Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..*



March 15, 2019 at 11:14 AM



“ *From Charles Kaffie and Charles Kaffie III purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..*



From Charles Kaffie and Charles Kaffie III - March 15, 2019 at 10:54 AM



“ *Sico Hoelscher Harris LLP purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..*



Sico Hoelscher Harris LLP - March 15, 2019 at 10:50 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..*



March 15, 2019 at 10:02 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..*



March 15, 2019 at 10:02 AM



“ *Tommy was a great guy and mentor, I was very blessed to be his friend, please know that Tommy and all his family are in Terri's and my prayers.*
Chuck & Terri Fleming

Chuck - March 15, 2019 at 12:42 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..*



March 14, 2019 at 10:48 PM



“ *Tommy was such a special character. He will be missed by all of us. Our prayers are with all the family at this very sad time. Farrell & Pat Forry and Family*

Farrell G Forry - March 14, 2019 at 09:17 PM

LC

“ Love, Vernon and Jennifer Carr purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



Love, Vernon and Jennifer Carr - March 14, 2019 at 09:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



March 14, 2019 at 07:57 PM



“ Heaven's Comfort was purchased for the family of Thomas John Gowan Sr..



March 14, 2019 at 06:07 PM