



Thomas Loftin

November 9, 1919 - December 8, 2007

Thomas Woodrow Loftin, born November 9, 1919, went to be with his Lord on December 8, 2007. He was the fifth child of William D. Loftin and Lucy Iona Loftin, with four older brothers and five younger sisters. Tommy married his lifelong sweetheart, Imogene Brandy Lucille Brandenberger on June 1, 1942. He was an Army flight cadet and she was in nurses training, neither of which permitted their students to be married, so they eloped to Wilson County and kept their marriage secret until they both graduated. He later said that it took him years to make friends with his father-in-law after the elopement, but they became very close. He was a lifelong resident of San Antonio, growing up in the Denver Heights area and graduating from Brackenridge High School. He was an athlete in high school and attended Sul Ross College on a football scholarship. His family was very close, and he was an active organizer of a family reunion for the past twenty-five years. The Depression made times hard when he was young, and Tommy helped his family with the types of jobs that he could do. With his first good paycheck, he bought his mother a washing machine. With his second check, he bought his future bride an engagement ring, which she still wears. When WWII broke out, Tommy volunteered for military service. While waiting for entry into flight training, he began working for the Southern Pacific Railroad, and continued in that career as a conductor until his retirement in 1986. During WWII, he was a B-17 pilot and served at a number of US locations and in the European theater. After that service, he remained in the reserves and was recalled for duty during the Korean conflict.

He later joined the Texas National Guard as an airplane and helicopter pilot, eventually retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He often said that he had two careers that any young boy would love-railroading and flying. He enjoyed both of these careers as much as any boy thought he might. Tommy maintained active contact with many good friends from his childhood, his days at Brackenridge, his military service, his railroading, his church and his time as a rancher in Mason County. He was active in a number of veterans' organizations, and was a founding member of the Mid Thirties Alumni Association in San Antonio. He and his family were members of the Aldersgate United Methodist Church since 1952. He served in a number of leadership positions to support his church. Tommy enjoyed hunting and being in the outdoors with his family and friends. He and Brandy built a home on their ranch in Mason County, where they spent many good times with friends and relatives in the Hilda community. He loved animals, and pets were treated as full members of the family. Tommy was a loving husband, and exemplary role model as a father, and the most fun person that his grandchildren knew. His brothers and sisters and extended family always knew that Tommy was available to them to help with any need. His friendships were firm and steadfast, and his generosity was unstinting. He is survived by his wife of sixty-five years and three children, sons: George Loftin and his wife Karen of Houston, Patrick Loftin and his wife Marnee of Austin, and daughter, T.J. Mitchell of Mason County, Texas. Five grandchildren, six great grandchildren, one brother, four sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews also survive him. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Tribute Wall

LP

“ To the family of Thomas Loftin:

It is with great admiration and respect that I offer my condolences on the death of Mr. Loftin. I saw in the Express-News that he was a veteran of World War II, a member of the Greatest Generation, and of Korea. My lat

Leticia Van de Putte - January 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

OH

“ We will miss Tommy, our thoughts and prayers are with you all today. His friendship meant so much to us for many years.

Otis & Alyce Hale - December 15, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Pat and family,
This was a beautiful obituary and tribute to your father. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Stacy Lindsey - December 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Our sympathies to the entire family during this trying time.
*Losing a parent is difficult.
I met Mr. Loftin at George and Karen's wedding, and know that he was a kind and loving husband and father.
I lost touch with George and Karen, and would like for*

Julie Piland Mazel - December 11, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *Brandy,
I am so sorry for your loss. I know this is hard and I am sorry I could not be there for you today. Know that I love you and you are in my prayers.*

Rachel Searson born Ray - December 11, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *Our condolences to Pat and Marnee and family.*

Corliss Powell - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ *Pat and family,
May God's loving arms surround you with peace during this difficult time. My prayers are with all of you.
With God's grace,
Trisha Thompson*

Trisha Thompson - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *Pat,
From reading your Dad's obituary,
your Dad was a great man and will be missed by many. Please know my deepest prayers are with you and your family always.*

Marie Williams - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ *Pat, I am sorry to hear about you loss. My prayers are with you and your family.*

Helen J. Stevenson - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Mrs. Loftin, Pat, George & TJ...Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. We share memories of our time at Aldersgate and Mr. Loftin was the picture of a true gentleman. He will be missed. Love,
Janice Hale Martin

Janice Hale Martin - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ *To the Loftin Family*
I met Tommy through our friends, Florence "Flo" and Danny Smith. I was a Flight Medic assigned to the HQ AETC Surgeon's Office at Randolph. Often when I needed extra flight hours to remain current, I called Tommy and we got together

Ruben R. Hernandez - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Unable to be personally present I am with you in Spirit and offer my Heartfelt Condolences on the departure of my childhood special friend. With Love, Bernie*

Bernard McGaffigan - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *My deepest sympathies.*

Carla A. Goodwin

Carla A. Goodwin - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ Dearest Brandy and Family,
Tommy will surely be missed by so many. He was one of a kind and
what a wonderful kind.
God Bless and stay safe.
Love, Floyd and Adrienne

Floyd & Adrienne Smith - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ George and Pat,
I am very sorry for your loss. Your Dad's friendship meant a great
deal to me.
Bill Dolsen

Bill Dolsen - December 09, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ To the Loftin Family: Oh the hunting times and the love Tommie had
for my Daddy...missed him then and will miss him now. Love,
Barbara

Barbara Fleisher nee Buescher - December 09, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ I am so sorry to learn of Tom's passing. I have known his wonderful
sisters for years and have heard of this wonderful man. I know that
you will miss such a wonderful loving man. God blessed you with
having had him. My prayer and heart goes out to you.

Charlene Miller - December 09, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Tommy was my commanding officer where we both served in the TXRNG @ Martindale. He was a fine commander and a real gentleman. I look forward to seeing him again in Heaven. He is there now in the presence of our Savior, Jesus Christ and has begun his ne

Charley & Kathy Sawers - December 09, 2007 at 12:00 AM