

## Thomas Walter

October 24, 1953 - March 1, 2025

Thomas Arthur Walter, 71, of Walkerton, Indiana, passed away with his wife by his side on Saturday, March 1, 2025 after a sudden diagnosis of advanced stage metastatic melanoma cancer. He was born October 24, 1953 in Rensselaer, IN to Robert and Tennis (Deardurff) Walter. On August 18, 1973, he married Debra (Woodruff) Walter at St. Augustine Catholic Church, Rensselaer. They were married for 51 years; had four children, fourteen grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

Tom is preceded in death by his parents; siblings, Paul Allen Walter (Brother), Helen Jean Walter (Sister), and Harold Walter (Brother); and grandson, Alexander Walter. He is survived by his wife, Debbie; children, Michael (Ashley) Walter, Dan (Erica) Walter, Cassie (TJ) Phelan, and Stacy (Scott) Banks; grandchildren, Brendan Walter, Kyle Banks, Tylar Walter, Hunter Banks, Hannah Banks, Isabel Kogiones, Kirstin Banks, Delilah Phelan, Simone Walter, Isla Walter, Charlie Phelan, Corinna Walter, Sienna Walter, and Bella Walter; great-grandson, Jaydon Banks; and siblings, Bob Walter, Russ (Laury) Walter, and MaryAnn (Ron) Stockberger.

Tom graduated salutatorian from Rensselaer High School in 1971. He graduated from Purdue University in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He was a member of St. Patrick's Church, Walkerton and an active member of the Knights of Columbus #5709. Tom, and his father, were

both recipients of the American Legion Citizenship Award. Tom was an active member and supporter of the Town of Walkerton and John Glenn School Corporation. His career at Larson-Danielson Construction Co., Inc. spanned 47 years, starting as professional engineer and retiring as Vice-President. He was also an active hobby farmer. Tom loved to follow Purdue sports and was a true Boilermaker. He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed adventures including White Water Rafting. In his later years, he enjoyed traveling the world with his beautiful wife.

Tom enjoyed Saturday morning breakfasts with his friends. He had an infectious laugh that others loved. Tom was a friendly and welcoming man who was loved by many. He was a devoted family man who was actively involved in all of their lives. Tom had an incredible impact on many lives. He had a way of mentoring others and being a father figure to many. He used his knowledge and resources to serve as a devoted pillar of his community, workplace, and most importantly his family.

One of Tom's proudest accomplishments was the Hoosier Homestead Farm Sesquicentennial Award for the original Walter Homestead in Rensselaer, marking 150 years of continuous Walter family ownership. He spent much of his later years maintaining his farm and participating in the USDA's Wetland Reserve Program.

Viewing will be Monday, March 10, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM EST at Rannells Funeral Home in Koontz Lake Chapel with reciting of the Rosary at 7:00 PM EST. Funeral services will be Tuesday, March 11, 10:30 am EST at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Walkerton. Private burial following at Mt. Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Rensselaer. Memorial contributions can be made to: Bernard Westhues Scholarship Fund, c/o Knights of Columbus #5709, 807 Tyler Street, Walkerton, IN 46574.



# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

Rensselaer, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 10. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rannells Funeral Home - Koontz Lake Chapel  
7984 N. State Road 23  
Walkerton, IN 46574  
(574) 586-2120  
rannellsfh@mchsi.com  
<https://www.rannellsfuneralhome.com>

## Rosary Service

MAR 10. 7:00 PM (ET)

Rannells Funeral Home - Koontz Lake Chapel  
7984 N. State Road 23  
Walkerton, IN 46574  
(574) 586-2120  
rannellsfh@mchsi.com  
<https://www.rannellsfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Mass

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MAR 11. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Patrick Church  
801 Tyler Street  
Walkerton, IN 46574

## Burial

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MAR 11.

Mount Calvary Cemetery  
Rensselaer, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Walter.

March 11, 2025 at 04:18 PM



“ Decadent Delights Chocolate Gift Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.



March 11, 2025 at 02:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Walter.

March 11, 2025 at 02:42 PM



“ Kalissa Gambrel purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Thomas Walter.



**Kalissa Gambrel** - March 10, 2025 at 08:20 AM

KG

“ Kalissa Gambrel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Walter.

Kalissa Gambrel - March 10, 2025 at 08:20 AM

TG

“ The G. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Walter.

The G. - March 09, 2025 at 07:14 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.



March 07, 2025 at 07:30 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.



March 07, 2025 at 02:07 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.



March 07, 2025 at 12:12 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.



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March 07, 2025 at 11:44 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.



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March 07, 2025 at 11:33 AM

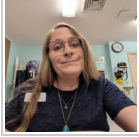


“ *Jake, Jennifer, Norah & Lucy Pippenger* purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Thomas Walter.



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**Jake, Jennifer, Norah & Lucy Pippenger** - March 06, 2025 at 11:25 AM



“ *I worked for Larson-Danielson for many years. My daughter would come in to sell whatever. She would bebop into Tom's office every time. She was greeted by a hug and some laughter. I was told to keep her out of his face. But Tom loved kids and he loved when she would come in. He was very generous and donated to her school things all through her high school years. Tom was a good man and he will be very missed. Prayers for his family and friends.*



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**Suzi Kirkland** - March 06, 2025 at 10:53 AM

FP

“ *Condolences to Tom's family. Tom and I worked together on many projects at Valparaiso University. I also knew him through his family in the Rensselaer community. It was a pleasure to know and work with Tom. Our relationship always reflected our friendship whether business or personal. Blessing to all at this difficult time. Fred and Charlene Plant*

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**Fred Plant** - March 06, 2025 at 09:32 AM

TK

“ *Thoughts and Prayers with the Family. To fellow Brother Knight Thomas Walter, rest in peace. Knights of Columbus Council 14366 New Buffalo Michigan.*

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**Thomas M. Klochan** - March 05, 2025 at 04:03 PM

EA

*We send our condolence to the Walter family. Our prayers go out to you each time we had interaction with you. We've always had such a good time such loving people Almejo.*

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**Eric and Patty Almejo** - March 11, 2025 at 07:04 PM

TK

“ Thoughts and Prayers with the family. I just started with Larson Danielson in October and had the honor to share an office with Thomas (Mr. Walter). The funny thing is my name is Tom also, and there are other Tom's in the office too. So in his great wisdom Thomas (Mr. Walter) started giving us nicknames. He welcomed and treated me like I had been with the Larson Danielson team for years. With his smile and daily humor, my time knowing him will stay with me forever. I am truly deeply honored to have met and shared some time with him. Thomas M. Klochan

Thomas M. Klochan - March 05, 2025 at 03:13 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.



March 05, 2025 at 02:01 PM

LK

“ Larry And Judy Koebcke lit a candle in memory of Thomas Walter



Larry and Judy Koebcke - March 05, 2025 at 11:53 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.*



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March 04, 2025 at 05:14 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Walter.

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March 04, 2025 at 05:14 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.*



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March 04, 2025 at 04:14 PM



“ *Tom was one of a kind. He was there for me after I was involved in a bad auto accident a few months ago. I met Tom after I became a Catholic and joined the Knights of Columbus. He always had a smile on his face. He was willing to help those in need. He will really be missed in many ways. Rest in peace friend.*

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**Bill Doan** - March 04, 2025 at 01:29 PM

MB

“ *MaryAnn*

*I am so sorry to hear about Tom. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you*

*Myles*

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**Myles Beeching** - March 04, 2025 at 12:39 PM

PM

“ *Pat and Bobbie Moosmiller purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Thomas Walter.*



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**Pat and Bobbie Moosmiller** - March 04, 2025 at 09:06 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Walter.*



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March 03, 2025 at 06:56 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Walter.*

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March 03, 2025 at 06:56 PM

BH

“ Brian and Cindy Harnish purchased the Serenity Prayer 30" Sonnet for the family of Thomas Walter.



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**Brian and Cindy Harnish** - March 03, 2025 at 05:24 PM

BH

“ Brian and Cindy Harnish planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Walter.

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**Brian and Cindy Harnish** - March 03, 2025 at 05:24 PM

GR

“ I had so much respect for Tom. He taught me a lot throughout the years I worked at Larson-Danielson and the last 6-years working as Tom's assistant. He was a hard working, honest man with so much knowledge. We kept in touch after I left LD having dinner or just communicating through email or talking on the phone. If it wasn't for Tom, I wouldn't be in the position or the person I am today. I'll never forget the Purdue pen I bought Tom for Christmas one year. Tom told me he took it to church and while the preacher was delivering the sermon, Tom's pen started to play the Purdue song! Tom was truly kind hearted. His laugh brought joy to everyone! Tom, it was with great honor working for you, you will be missed dearly. My heart goes out to Debbie and the whole family.

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**Genia Reutter** - March 03, 2025 at 10:24 AM