



E. Thomas Giugni

March 22, 1931 - September 8, 2016

Everett Thomas “Tom” Giugni passed away peacefully Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016, at his home in St. Helena, California. He was 85.

Tom was born in St. Helena on March 22, 1931, to Elsie and Everett Giugni and was the oldest of two children. Tom was second generation Italian-American and St. Helenian. He grew up in Oakland and St. Helena and attended St. Helena schools. He met his wife Lennis (Colwell) in elementary school and they began dating while they were in high school.

Tom graduated from St. Helena High in 1948. He was active in sports, playing basketball and baseball and worked after school for his Dad at the Oakville Grocery. After graduation, Tom attended St. Mary’s College of California and served in the US Navy during the Korean War, assigned to the USS Kula Gulf out of Norfolk, Virginia and Corpus Christi, Texas. After finishing his service, Tom completed his B.A. at St. Mary’s with an emphasis in Spanish education, world classics, history and philosophy. Tom was a lifelong learner and later completed his M.A. at San Francisco State College and his Ed.D. at Nova University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida both with an emphasis in Secondary Education Administration.

Tom and Lennis were married on Dec. 9, 1952, in Rutherford, California. Their marriage spanned 61 years prior to Lennis’ death in 2013. Tom and Lennis started their family in 1954 when their first son Tom was born in Corpus Christi. After completing his service with the US Navy they moved back to St Helena and continued to raise a family to include three more sons, Mark, Terry and David.

Tom began his career teaching for the St. Helena Unified School District at the junior and senior high schools. While at the high school he served as the baseball coach, athletic director, and finally principal. During Tom’s tenure as coach, the baseball team won three league championships. In 1961, Tom and Lennis moved to Lompoc, California where Tom served as the junior and senior high school principals before becoming Assistant Superintendent of the Lompoc Unified School District. Tom and Lennis moved to Fairfield,

California in 1967 where Tom served as Superintendent of the Armijo Joint Union High School District and the first Superintendent of the Fairfield/Suisun Unified School District. In 1978, Tom became the Superintendent of the Sacramento City Unified School District, and in 1986 he became the Superintendent of the Long Beach Unified School District. Tom retired from Long Beach in 1994.

In 1994, Tom and Lennis moved back to St. Helena where Tom served as a consultant for CTAC (Community Training & Assistance Center), based out of Boston, Massachusetts, Executive Director of ACSA (Association of California School Administrators), principal of the St. Helena Catholic School and a marketing consultant for Cenergistic, an energy conservation company.

Tom exemplified his dedication to his profession and the communities in which he and Lennis lived by serving on numerous boards and committees. Tom was an active member of the Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Fairfield and the St. Helena Catholic Church. Tom enjoyed traveling the world with Lennis, his yearly visits to Lake Tahoe with family, and keeping in touch with friends and family through his weekly letters and annual Christmas letter. Tom cherished his time with his family and friends.

Tom is survived by his sons and their spouses/partners, Tom and Gretchen, Mark and Betsy, Terry and Joanne and David and Darrel; he is also survived by his grandchildren, William and Tyler, Andy (wife Jennifer) and Katie, Laura (husband Brandon), Nic (wife Kelly), Mikey and Caleb; plus six great-grandchildren, Dane, Chase, Audrey, Ernest, Michael and Ryder.

Tom will be remembered during a rosary at 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 23, 2016 at St. Helena Catholic Church, 1340 Tainter St., St. Helena, California, and celebrated during a Mass at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016, also at the St. Helena Catholic Church. Interment will be private.

In Tom's memory, contributions may be made to the Tom and Lennis Giugni Memorial Scholarship Fund. Contributions will support scholarships for students pursuing a career in education. Please mail checks to 1777 Adams St. St Helena, CA 94574.

Previous Events

Rosary

SEP **23.** 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

St. Helena Catholic Church
1340 Tainter St
St. Helena, CA

Mass

SEP **24.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

St. Helena Catholic Church
1340 Tainter St
St. Helena, CA

Tribute Wall



“ *E. Thomas Giugni*

September 29, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *E. Thomas Giugni*

September 29, 2022 at 02:55 PM

JH

“ *Tom was an extraordinary educator, administrator, and member of the Board of the Center for Civic Education. We will miss him terribly.*

John Hale - September 30, 2016 at 05:00 PM

CM

“ *To Tom's family: Tom was one of those people whom I didn't know well, but who exuded a general goodness and positive spirit. He and I served at the 5 PM Mass in St. Helena when Fr. Brenkle was pastor. My memory of him is a man devoted to his wife and family, his church and service to the community. May he rest in peace.*

Cathy Marsten

Cathy Marsten - September 28, 2016 at 03:29 PM

TG

Cathy, thank you. Dad was a caring, generous man. TommyGiugni

Thomas Giugni - October 01, 2016 at 10:01 AM



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



September 23, 2016 at 11:03 AM

TG

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Thomas G Giugni - September 22, 2016 at 12:03 AM