



Thomas Gary Ellis

June 8, 1958 - March 3, 2021

On Wednesday, March 3, 2021, Thomas Gary Ellis our loving husband, father, and grandfather passed away peacefully at the age of 62, after losing his battle with Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease in Statesville, North Carolina. Gary was born on June 8, 1958 in Douglas, Arizona to Gilbert Ellis and Vallie Rae. Gary lived the majority of his life in Willcox, Arizona. Gary had been married to the love of his life for over 40 years. They raised two children, David and Deslie. Gary began working at the Mobile gas station for his brother, Dicky at the early age of 11 years. He developed a work ethic that could match no other, that he passed on to his children. He never stopped until the work was finished. He then began driving the tow trucks for Ellis Towing in his late teens. He genuinely cared about all the people he served in our community, their families and their needs. All of the residents of Willcox knew they could count on Gary 24/7. In 1988, he took over the management of Dick's Truck and Auto and served the Willcox Community with the utmost integrity. In October 2016, Gary retired to Mooresville, North Carolina where he spent the remainder of his life. Gary enjoyed traveling many places with his family including: Hawaii, Alaska, Mexico, and numerous road trips throughout the United States. Some of his best memories were the many ski trips taken with family and friends. Gary was a wonderful father and devoted husband that dedicated his very being to his wife and children. There was nothing he would not do for his family. Gary was preceded in death by his father, Gilbert, mother, Vallie Rae, brothers, Charles, Billy, Sonny, Sisters: Peggy Taylor and

Nancy Flint. Survived by his wife, Dina, son David (Samantha) of Simi Valley, California and, daughter, Deslie Massie of Cornelius, North Carolina, grandsons: Aven Ellis and Nash Ellis of Simi Valley California, brothers: Dicky (Charlotte) Ellis, Darrell (Linda) Ellis, Steve Ellis, Alan Ellis and sisters: Barbara (Gene) Brillon, Kay (Mark) Lohn and numerous nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life will be from 2:00 to 5:00 pm on Friday, May 7, 2021 at the Coronado Vineyards in Willcox. In lieu of flowers, donations will be accepted in his name by the Serenity House of Mooresville, 110 Centre Church Road, Mooresville, North Carolina 28117 (704) 664-2004.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 7. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (MT)

Coronado Vineyards
2909 E. Country Club Drive
Willcox, AZ 85643

Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas Gary Ellis*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Slideshow*



Samantha Ellis - June 06, 2021 at 11:34 AM



“ *Sincere condolences to the family*



Rae Weiler - May 12, 2021 at 12:58 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Thomas Gary Ellis.*



May 05, 2021 at 10:30 AM

AT

“ Our condolences to Dina, David, Deslie and families. ❤️🙏

Anselmo & Bertha Torres - May 03, 2021 at 10:01 PM

AT

“ Anselmo & Bertha Torres lit a candle in memory of Thomas Gary Ellis



Anselmo & Bertha Torres - May 03, 2021 at 09:59 PM

JJ

“ Our deepest heart felt sympathies in your loss.

Jim and Kathy Cook

James B Cook II - May 03, 2021 at 06:37 AM

JM

“ Such sad news. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Family during this difficult time. Such a good man. Rey-Jonnie Martinez

jonnie martinez - May 02, 2021 at 02:00 PM

RW

“ Robert and Virginia Wood send our condolences and prayers to the Ellis family. Gary was a true friend and will missed deeply. I was fortunate to have shared good times with Gary during High School in our younger days. He always was dependable, reliable and determined. Gray left his mark on all who knew him. Rest in peace brother.

Robert and Virginia Wood - May 02, 2021 at 12:38 PM

MV

“ *Michael R Valenzuela lit a candle in memory of Thomas Gary Ellis*



Michael R Valenzuela - May 02, 2021 at 11:48 AM

GM

“ *Gus & Rita Morales sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Gary Ellis*



Gus & Rita Morales - April 26, 2021 at 07:25 PM

RT

“ *Hi Dina and Ellis family,
I am so sorry for your loss, you are definitely in my prayers. I always enjoyed stopping at his gas station every time we visited Willcox. We would always catch up on things and it would be great to see him and Alan. Hugs and prayers for everyone. Gods Blessings on the whole family.*

Ramon Torres

Ramon Torres - April 23, 2021 at 12:37 PM

LB

“ *Gary always had a kind, caring smile and greeting! His hard work, helping people, generosity, and friendship will never be forgotten! Miss him!*

LaDonna Burgess - April 22, 2021 at 03:12 AM

TB

“ Tommy & Rita Bedolla lit a candle in memory of Thomas Gary Ellis



Tommy & Rita Bedolla - April 22, 2021 at 12:06 AM

LW

“ Gary will be missed. He was a wonderful man! My deepest condolences to Dina, Deslie and David!! I hope the good Lord comforts you continually!



Lina Weaver - April 21, 2021 at 08:12 PM

SA

“ Susan&John Arbuthnot lit a candle in memory of Thomas Gary Ellis



Susan&John Arbuthnot - April 21, 2021 at 09:35 AM



“ Springtime Wishes was purchased for the family of Thomas Gary Ellis.



April 21, 2021 at 01:19 AM

CB

“ Gary was a very humble person and really cared about people. He was a good friend.

Our love, prayers and condolences.

Marty & Cheryl Bowlby

Cheryl Bowlby - April 21, 2021 at 01:16 AM

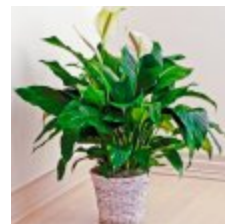
KS

“ Gary was always there for the Border Patrol when agents called for a tow. He knew every square inch and every dirt road. He always showed up timely. Other tow drivers had to call for directions. Gary went above and beyond for us. I'll never forget him.

Kathleen Splittstoesser - April 21, 2021 at 01:04 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Thomas Gary Ellis.



April 20, 2021 at 08:27 PM



“ Blanca Aguirre lit a candle in memory of Thomas Gary Ellis



Blanca Aguirre - April 20, 2021 at 07:55 PM

FP

“ *When I was 12 years old, I was happy to help Gary clean out the pit at the KS gas station. We surprised many by doing the job I one day. The whole time on the job we talked but did not stop. His work ethics were built from day one. My classmate is resting in peace.*
Fernando

Fernando Peralta - April 20, 2021 at 07:38 PM