



Thomas "Thom" McGaffey

July 31, 1947 - May 9, 2017

Thomas "Thom" McGaffey of Pearce/Sunsites died at home on May 9, 2017. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on July 31, 1947 to William Fletcher McGaffey and Jean Gardner McGaffey. Thom was a retired Electronics Engineer working in the Silicon Valley of California. In the late 1960's he was a Deputy Sheriff for San Mateo County and provided security for Clint Eastwood during the filming of Dirty Harry. He was a lifetime member of the Reaction Research Society of California, involved in amateur experimental rocketry. Thom was a volunteer member of the Pearce/Sunsites Fire District. In 1976 Thom met Laura Papenfuhs in an Adult Education Class and after a 9 week romance they were married on October 31, 1976 in Carson City, Nevada. He is survived by his loving wife of 40 1/2 years Laura, a cousin Duane (Stacy) Gardner and Laura's family; Dorothy "Aunt Dot" Coburn (Laura's mother's sister), Steve (Linda) Papenfuhs and their niece Gianna Favaloro, Linda-Ruth Cardozo and her partner Sarah Cardozo and their sons Nathan and Noah Cardozo and Karen (Richard) Parker and their son Jason Parker. Preceding him in death were his parents. A Celebration of Life will be held on June 24 at 2:00 p.m. at the Sunsites Community Center. Contributions may be made in his name to the Pearce/Sunsites Fire District. You may express condolences at www.westlawnchapelmortuary.com Arrangements entrusted to Westlawn Chapel, Mortuary & Crematory of Willcox, Arizona.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **24.** 2:00 PM (MT)

Sunsites Community Center
Treasure Road
Pearce, AZ 85625

Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas "Thom" McGaffey*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *Laura I am so sorry for your loss . You have been in my prayers .
Ellen Clugston*

Ellen Clugston - June 24, 2017 at 08:16 AM



“ *Laura, my heart hurts with you. You are in my prayers.*

Millie Cichon - May 28, 2017 at 12:01 AM



“ *6 files added to the album Sunsites-Pearce Volunteer Firefighter*



Laura McGaffey - May 23, 2017 at 11:38 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White* was purchased for the family of Thomas "Thom" McGaffey.



May 23, 2017 at 11:35 PM



“ *THOMcGAFFEY*

As long as we live, they too will live; for they are now are a part of us; as we remember them. ^[1]_[SEP] *Jewish Prayer*
Rest in peace, brother. I appreciate and will always remember your loving devotion to my sister. You have been her fierce protector and daily companion, providing her with home and security, and standing up for her against the unkindness and unfairness of this world. You reminded us all of the importance of loyalty, compassion, duty, and unconditional love. I hope your spirit is soaring in heaven, free from pain and content in the joy of a job well done. May your memory be a blessing.

Linda Cardozo - May 22, 2017 at 11:01 AM



“ *I am saddened to hear about Thom's passing away. My thoughts are with you and your family.*



Chuck Gibson - May 11, 2017 at 10:56 AM