



Thomas Clarence Sutphen

December 12, 1924 - February 13, 2015

Thomas Clarence Sutphen, age 90, of Hilliard and Sanibel Island, died peacefully at Kobacker House surrounded by his family on February 13. Born in Columbus, Ohio on December 12, 1924 to Gail Mills and Harry Sutphen. Survived by his wife of 67 years, Tamea Bartholomew Sutphen; daughters Susie Herb, of Durango, CO, Pat (Marcus) Aden, of Frisco, CO, and Julie Phelps, of Columbus; grandchildren Scott, Andy (Crystal), and Brooke Herb (Devin Hencmann), Olya and Christopher Aden, Megan, Steven (Allison), Michael Phelps; and his beloved dog Lady. He was preceded in death by his brother and sister-in-law Robert & Lois Sutphen. Tom graduated from Grandview High School in 1943 where he recently gave the commencement address. He then went directly into the service where he was in The Army Air Corps during WWII. He worked as a mechanic on B-24s, establishing a love of engines, whether it be cars, boats, or fire trucks. He was happiest with greasy hands working on his classic cars. He attended Ohio State where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. Tom loved life and lived it to the fullest. He went to work for his father selling fire equipment and developed the aerial platform that revolutionized the fire-fighting industry. He was the President of Sutphen Corp. where his passion was selling his product. He won the Iacocca Award recognizing excellence in the auto industry. He and his wife were members of several car clubs and traveled to numerous car shows all over the country winning many awards. Member of First Community Church, Scioto Country Club, Catawba Island Club, Captiva Island Yacht Club. He loved tinkering, creating and fixing things, as well as hunting, fishing, boating, skiing and was known for his dancing. He loved his family dearly. Family will receive friends from 4-7pm Monday, February 16 at the Schoedinger Northwest Chapel, 1740 Zollinger Rd. Private service and interment at Green Lawn Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.Schoedinger.com. Contributions may be made to the Sutphen Family Fund at the Columbus Foundation, 1234 E. Broad St. Columbus, OH 43205, or the American Cancer Society of Central Ohio 5555 Frantz Road, Dublin, OH 43017, in his memory. A celebration of life will tentatively be held on May 2.

Events

FEB **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

16

Schoedinger Northwest Chapel

1740 Zollinger Road, Columbus, OH, US, 43221

(614) 224-6105

Comments



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time of your passing. With fond memories of my time of knowing you and the loyal employer you were to me. Rest In Peace , my friend.

Steve Garver

Steve garver - 12 hours ago



“ God be with you Tom and all your Family. He was a great man and friend I am very sorry to hear of his passing but glade to have known and worked with him for twenty years. He and his stories will be missed by all who knew him.

David Ogden
Retired Assit. Maint Sup.
Syracuse NY Fire Dept

David Ogden - 19 hours ago



“ On behalf of the Veteran & Vintage Auto Club, I can truly say that Tom will be missed. To Tamea and the rest of the family, our prayers and thoughts are with you during this difficult time.

Marilyn Coleman

Marilyn Coleman - 21 hours ago



“ I send condolences to the Sutphen Family. Tom was not only a good guy, he was a friend. When I was 20 he once said to me, "Youngin, I'll be the teacher and you be the learner and we will always get along." and that's how it always was. Rick Flora and Flora's Diesel Repair Service

Rick Flora - 22 hours ago



“ Mr. Sutphen, I remember so well at CIC. I remember him bringing groups up to go fishing. I was a young manager then and I remember how kind he was to me and how much fun he had with his associates and clients. God bless and thanks for the memories

Mike Schenk General Manager Catawba Island Club



“ The Waterous Company purchased the Fireside Basket - White Rose and Calla for the family of Thomas Clarence Sutphen.



The Waterous Company - Yesterday at 09:57 AM



“ Dear Tamea, We are so sorry to hear of Tom's passing. He was such a special person and we have enjoyed knowing and spending time with the 2 of you on many CCCA CARavans. Always cheerful and fun, he was a delight to be with. He will be missed by many. Our love and best wishes to you at is a difficult time. Floy and Lee Barthel

Floy Barthel - Yesterday at 09:26 AM



“ Tom and the sutphen family has employed me for 34 yrs...tom always stopped throughout the shop to let us all in on his latest adventures.he was always full of life....he is going to be greatly missed.....Tom and Lois becker

tom becker - 18 hours ago



“ Dear Tamea, Susie, Patty, Julie, and the Sutphen extended family,

We were so saddened to learn of Tom's passing. Tom was an icon in the emergency services industry. He contributed so much to so many across the country. We pray that God give you the strength and grace to get through this very difficult time. We will all miss him greatly!

Steve and Valerie Cole

Steve & Valerie Cole - Yesterday at 08:52 AM



“ Packing up the dreams God planted
In the fertile soil of you
Can't believe the hopes He's granted
Means a chapter in your life is through

But we'll keep you close as always
It won't even seem you've gone
'Cause our hearts in big and small ways
Will keep the love that keeps us strong

And friends are friends forever
If the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say never
'Cause the welcome will not end

Though it's hard to let you go
In the Father's hands we know
That a lifetime's not too long
To live as friends

With the faith and love God's given
Springing from the hope we know
We will pray the joy you'll live in
Is the strength that now you show

But we'll keep you close as always
It won't even seem you've gone
'Cause our hearts in big and small ways
Will keep the love that keeps us strong

And friends are friends forever
If the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say never
'Cause the welcome will not end

Though it's hard to let you go
In the Father's hands we know
That a lifetime's not too long
To live as friends.....AMEN

MICHAEL E STURGILL - Yesterday at 08:49 AM



“ so sorry, prayers are with you.

john vail - Yesterday at 06:39 AM



“ Since it is the 16th day of the month I was reading Proverbs Chapter 16 this morning. Two verses in this Chapter really remind me of Tom Sutphen. The first is Proverbs 16:23 which says "A wise mans heart guides his mouth, his words promote instruction." You were never around Tom that he didn't always take a few moments

to share grave and prudent instruction of where we have come from and the extremely bright future of where are going.

The second verse is Proverbs 16:26 which says "The labor's appetite works for him, his hunger drives him on." Toms appetite for innovation not only in the Fire Truck Industry but all automotive and aeronautical industries always amazed me. We will truly miss him and we Honor his hunger in innovation. Thanks Tom

Jeffrey Williams - Yesterday at 06:34 AM



“ Goshen Ohio Fire Department past volunteers department members extending condolences and prayers to the Sutphen family of the passing a great Sutphen family man.....

Erwin Walker Jr. - Yesterday at 11:52 PM



“ Bradley and Susan Cashion purchased the Phalaenopsis Orchid Plant for the family of Thomas Clarence Sutphen.



Bradley and Susan Cashion - Yesterday at 08:34 PM



“ The Officers and Members of the Mattydale Fire Department and Auxiliary join in extending Heartfelt Sympathy to you and your family at this time of sorrow



Mattydale Fire Department, Mattydale, NY - Yesterday at 08:08 PM



“ The Members of the City of Elkins WV FD send Our Sincere Condolences to the entire Sutphen Family, we purchased our first new Sutphen Ladder from Tom in 1967. We still continue to provide a safe service with our 2010 Sutphen Ladder.....quality that Tom strived to provide. He will be missed.....

City of Elkins FD - Yesterday at 07:25 PM



“ Jerry Stevens Sr. purchased the Angel Arrangement for the family of Thomas Clarence Sutphen.



Jerry Stevens Sr. - Yesterday at 06:27 PM



“ Our thoughts, prayers, and condolences to the Sutphen family and friends. We ask that God be with the family and friends in this time of loss and help them to celebrate Tom's life.
Clayton Professional Firefighters Local #4379

Michael Seagraves - Yesterday at 02:58 PM



“ Fireside Basket - Red & White was purchased for the family of Thomas Clarence Sutphen.



Yesterday at 01:24 PM



“ Dear Drew, Julie, and all of our many friends at Sutphen -

Over the years the Syracuse Fire Department developed a close working relationship with Sutphen . . . not just the company, but the people - starting with Tom himself. It was always a joy to work with him, his passion and vision for the fire service fit in

nicely with what our plans were for our department. It has been our pleasure to specify, order and utilize dozens of Sutphen apparatus over the years - and in fact the latest tower for the SFD is currently under construction in your shops. It is a testament to Tom, and to ALL of you at Sutphen, how much confidence and faith we have in your products. I miss my trips to Ohio, including always trying to get out with Tom at least once while we were there - but after a 40+ year career with the Syracuse Fire Department I retired in September of 2013. I still think fondly of the relationships we developed over the years, and I wanted to express my condolences to the Sutphen family at this time of loss. The entire fire apparatus community is the better for Tom's involvement and innovation. He was greatly loved and respected, and will be greatly missed. Even so, the company is in good hands for the future, based on the solid foundation Tom established. Individuals like Ken Creese and our local dealer, Phil Vander Molen, continue to lead the way. I wish you all many years of continued success, and rest assured there will be many a glass raised in Syracuse, New York to the memory of our friend, Tom Sutphen.

Sincerely,

David B. Reeves, Deputy Chief (retired)
Syracuse Fire Department
Syracuse, New York

Dave Reeves - Yesterday at 12:18 PM



“ God Bless/RIP, to ALL who served in WWII. The USA would NOT be as it is today. Thank YOU for your service, Tom..... And Semper Fi.



Herb Guyer-Sharfenaker USMC - Yesterday at 12:05 PM



“ On behalf of the Central Ohio Region Cadillac Club we offer our sympathies to Tamea and all the family. Tom was a great supporter of all of the local antique car clubs and very generous of his time and expertise. He will be greatly missed. Walter Buchsieb, President, Central Ohio Cadillac club.

Walter Buchsieb - Yesterday at 11:40 AM



“ We where so sorry to hear about Tom. He always came in the office and said hi when he was at Sutphen Towers. Tom loved Peanut Brittle and I made sure he got some every Christmas. You will be missed. Love to all Sandy & Bill.

Sandy Smith - Yesterday at 10:58 AM