



Thomas R. Laner

March 8, 1976 - April 24, 2020

Wantage - Thomas R. Laner, age 44, passed away on Friday, April 24, 2020 at Newton Medical Center after his two year struggle with pancreatic cancer. Born in Newton, Tommy had lived in Sussex County all of his life. He had formally worked at the Napa Auto Parts store in Sussex and in Matamoras, Pennsylvania before he became the Manager of the Napa Auto Parts Store in Milford, Pennsylvania. Tommy loved stock car racing. In 1999, he was the most popular driver and the Sportsman Champion at Moc A Tek Speedway. In 2017, due to his declining health, he participated in his last race in Middletown with his vintage car, #229. Tom loved the Grateful Dead, playing pinball, fishing, getting new tattoos, was an avid Jets fan and loved Star Wars. He had an infectious laugh and a wonderful smile. He will be missed immensely by his family and friends. He is survived by his parents, Thomas L. and Carol (Hornyak) Laner of Wantage; his Sissy, Diana Whitehead, her husband Chris and their children, Nick and Alicia of Wantage; his loving grandfather, "Poppy," John Hornyak of Ogdensburg, several loving and precious aunts, uncles, cousins and friends; his canine buddies, Kai and Groot; and his racing family. A special thank you to his aunts, Diane Redner and Gail Pollard and his friends, Anthony Recchio and Mikey VanTassel for all of their help when Tommy became sick. They were all a true blessing to him. Due to the government health restrictions, private cremation services have been entrusted to the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex. A celebration of Tommy's life will be held on Sunday, October 3, 2021 from 1

p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Beemerville Fire Department, 227 County Route 519, Sussex with a service held at 1:30 p.m.. All who come are encouraged to be comfortable and wear attire that would depict Tommy's favorite things; tie dyes, Grateful Dead t-shirts, or something that has the JETS on it. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to the family to help defray the funeral costs. Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Private Cremation Services

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Visitation

OCT 3. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Beemerville Fire Department
227 County Road 519
Wantage, NJ 07461

Celebration of Life Service

OCT 3. 1:30 PM (ET)

Beemerville Fire Department
227 County Road 519
Wantage, NJ 07461

Tribute Wall

SO

“ *May you Rest In Peace-our regards to the family!*

Scott Olsen - May 02, 2020 at 01:35 PM

DR

“ *I will Love You forever Tommy and will wait patiently until I see you again in Heaven* 🙏🏠🙏🏠 *Love Aunt Di*

Diane Redner - May 01, 2020 at 07:10 AM

RP

“ *Rich & Diana Pirl lit a candle in memory of Thomas R. Laner*



Rich & Diana Pirl - April 29, 2020 at 05:27 PM

RI

Tommy, you were dear to our hearts. You will be forever missed.

Rich - April 29, 2020 at 05:30 PM

JH

“ *So sorry to hear of Tommy's passing. Our deepest sympathy. Carole & Jerry Hough.*

Jerry Hough - April 29, 2020 at 03:36 PM

DD

“ *Debbie D'Angelo lit a candle in memory of Thomas R. Laner*



Debbie D'Angelo - April 29, 2020 at 06:22 AM

DD

TOM, you will me missed. thank you for always taking care of me and John when we came to Napa. You were so sweet and helpful. RIP.

Debbie D'Angelo - April 29, 2020 at 06:23 AM

CF

“ *Your kindness will live in our hearts forever we will miss you very much until we see you again fly high Tommy your loving friends forever the Conrad family 229#*



Conrad family - April 27, 2020 at 11:47 PM

TS

“ *Tracy Shepard lit a candle in memory of Thomas R. Laner*



Tracy Shepard - April 27, 2020 at 07:33 PM

EH

“ *Love you Tommy. Gone way too soon. You battled so hard. RIP now. Thank you for the memories.* ❤️🙏

Earl Hornyak - April 27, 2020 at 03:19 PM

LS

“ Lynn Ann Slimak lit a candle in memory of Thomas R. Laner



Lynn Ann Slimak - April 27, 2020 at 12:09 PM

AT

“ Dear Laner Family,

Tommy was a great guy. As a student in my fifth grade classroom at Wantage School, he was filled with kindness, happiness and a fair amount of mischief. He and Cory Jennings certainly had fun helping me prepare the classroom over the summer for fall. I carry so many wonderful memories of them both. I wish comfort and peace for you the family, and I wish for Tommy eternal rest and peace. I'm sure someone in Heaven has had to tell them both at least once by now to tone it down! May God bless you all.

Allen W. Terwilliger

Allen Terwilliger - April 27, 2020 at 09:21 AM

JW

“ No words can describe the sadness that all in the racing families are feeling on the loss of Tommy Always had a smile, and a very quick sense of humor. Jim and I enjoyed Tommy through these years, and now it just seems unbelievable that Jim and Tommy are both gone. Such a Vaillant fight he gave. We love you, Tommy and family

jeanne williams - April 26, 2020 at 10:04 PM

WJ

To The Laner Family

Tommy was so loved by our family. We will miss calling him on the phone and him saying "What's Happening" He will never be forgotten. I bet Cory and Tommy are having a ball in heaven MN sy he rest in peace.

The Jennings Family

Wendy Jennings - April 28, 2020 at 08:52 PM

GA

Rest easy Tom. You are a brave warrior. I hope your path crosses with Ashley in Heaven. Gary and I will never forget you. ❤️🐝🥺

Gary and Debbie Allen - May 05, 2020 at 04:22 AM