



Thomas J. Cooper

AUG 8, 1945 - JUL 14, 2023



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Thomas J. Cooper

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Thomas J. Cooper, age 77 of Lewes, DE, passed away on Friday, July 14, 2023, at Beebe Healthcare in Lewes. He was born on August 8, 1945, in Towson, MD, son of the late William and K. Louise Cooper.

Mr. Cooper grew up in Seaford, DE, where he was active in organized sports and was an avid fisherman, golfer, and outdoorsman. In later years, he was an active champion for animal rights and pet rescue, and spent happy hours working on his Koi pond, fish, frogs, and wild bird gardening.

Mr. Cooper was active in Republican politics, including serving as a full Delegate to the Republican Convention, personally meeting and dining with four Presidents. He was well known, sometimes quietly, as a “King Maker or King Breaker”.

Mr. Cooper established his company, Cooper Realty Associates, Inc. in 1984, with offices in Seaford, Salisbury, Millsboro, Georgetown, and Laurel. Over the years, in addition to being a real estate broker, he served as Chairman of the State of Delaware Real Estate Commission, Chairman of the Board of the Beebe Medical Foundation and the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce (the only one ever from Sussex County). Mr. Cooper was also Commissioner of the Delaware River and Bay Authority (having been unanimously confirmed by the Senate) and the Chairman of the Nanticoke Chapter of Ducks unlimited. He was a full Brother and Officer of the National Fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Mr. Cooper is survived by his longtime, valued and loved companion, Gloria Merryman; his brother, Tim Cooper; his beloved pets: Karma, Lucky, and TC; and a wide circle of close and trusted friends.

A Celebration of his life will be held in the fall.



Obituary

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Memorial contributions are suggested to the Beebe Medical Foundation, 902 Savannah Road, Lewes, DE 19958

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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CW

Charmaine Wilson lit a candle in honor of Thomas.



July 28 at 7:32 PM

MM

Michael Monaco posted:

Tommy, I am truly saddened to read your obituary. You and I have known each other for over sixty years, from the days we spent painting the fence surrounding the Allen farm on Atlanta Road through the intersection of our careers as Realtor and Banker. Over that time, we had a lot of laughs, shared some sad moments and when I needed to replace the listing agent for my mother and dad's home in Beaver Dam, you were the only call I made. Sussex County and more particularly, Lewes-Rehoboth will never be the same without you. My condolences to your siblings and partner and for the heavy burden they now have to shoulder. I hope and pray they take some comfort in the fact that you are now surrounded by perfect happiness and love. RIP, Tommy.

July 21 at 10:07 AM

HP

Harry Price posted:

I moved away after high school, but I will always remember Tommy, We grew up attending West Seaford Elementary and the old Seaford HS, especially SHS football. You did well, Tommy. RIP and my prayers to all the ones you left behind...Harry

July 19 at 1:32 PM

BA

Bill Allan posted:

So sorry to hear of Tommy's passing. We had many good times together on the golf trips with the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce. I will miss seeing him at Rehoboth Beach Country Club. Rest in peace, Tommy.

July 18 at 4:14 PM

PH

Patricia Haas posted:

Our Lynch family and the Cooper family grew up together as neighbors in Seaford. We had a lot of good times together. I am so very sad to hear of Tommy's passing. Tommy will be missed. My condolences and prayers to Sandy, Steve, Timmy, Jim and family. God bless you. Patti Lynch Haas

July 18 at 12:44 PM



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Jennie McCabe-Severs lit a candle in honor of Thomas.

I'm so sorry for your loss Sandra, Tim, Steve, Jimmy and family. God's Blessings 🙏
🙏

July 18 at 7:02 AM



Sandra Cooperdixon posted:

Thomas j Cooper also survived by his sister Sandra, Paradise Tx. W.Steven and James R Cooper, Seaford Delaware

July 18 at 5:32 AM

BP **Bill Peiffer** July 19 at 2:36 AM
So sorry to hear.

LL **Lynn Lester** July 18 at 6:02 AM
Thank you. We have known the Cooper family for years, and am so happy to know that they are all well. RIP Tommy --- your legacy lives on.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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