



Thomas Howard Kimmell

November 25, 1938 - February 9, 2025

Thomas Howard "Tom" Kimmell, 86, who counted countries like others count coins and never met a dog he didn't want to take for a drive, passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 9, 2025. Born in Greensburg, Pennsylvania on November 25, 1938, to Howard and Martha Kimmell, Tom split his early years between the steel city suburbs of Mt. Lebanon and the outdoor playground of Crystal City, Missouri.

After graduating from Dayton University, Tom served as a medic in the U.S. Army Reserves before stumbling into what would become a lifelong career: irrigation. His natural charm and ability to make anyone laugh (and keep laughing) served him well as he rose through the ranks, culminating in a role as the Executive Director of the Irrigation Association. Not content to retire to a rocking chair, Tom spent his "golden years" teaching farming techniques in Malawi, Burkina Faso, Moldova, and Ukraine through USAID, adding to his impressive tally of 79 countries visited – a number he loved to compare with fellow globe-trotting friends.

Tom is survived by his wife of 45 years, Joanne, who shared his adventures and endured his endless supply of corny jokes. He leaves behind daughters Kristen Moore and Sherri Kimmell, step-children David Singletary and Kathryn Boyle, nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren, who all appreciated his easy-going nature and infectious laugh.

Known for his unflappable demeanor, Tom found joy in life's simple pleasures: cruising down open roads with a dog's head hanging out the window, cranking up rousing instrumentals, and cheering on his favorite football teams. His commitment to community service was as steady as his smile, and he shared both his time and his characteristic good humor through various civic and religious organizations throughout his life.

No memorial service will be held. The family requests that, instead of sending flowers, donations be made to the Parkinson's Foundation.

Tribute Wall

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“ I first met Tom when he had moved from Florida to San Diego with what eventually became Hardie Irrigation. Yes we both had a number of business cards with different Co. names, although it was the same company as the Industry grew and evolved! Great memories of Tom 😊 from those early days in the late '70s to his days of consulting! He will be missed, he was one of the GOOD ONES!

Dan Schueler - February 13, 2025 at 10:38 AM



So sorry to hear Tom is no longer with us. He was a fine gentleman and will be missed. ~ericka & mark fagerlin~

Ericka Fagerlin - February 14, 2025 at 11:11 AM