

William Ferrel Thomas, Jr.

May 21, 1944 ~ December 25, 2024

William Ferrel Thomas, Jr. - designer, builder, father, brother and friend - sadly passed away while enjoying a recurring hike up Mount Olympus, a place he had grown to love, on December 25, 2024. Known by either “Tom” or “Ferrel” to those close to him, he was born May 21, 1944, to parents William Ferrel Thomas and Mary Louis Andrews Thomas, the second of six children. Inquisitive at even an early age, he mostly enjoyed the outdoors, often finding himself building structures out of discarded materials or taking time to figure out why things worked the way they did. This curiosity manifested itself in later years after he spent two years serving an ecclesiastical mission in the southwestern mountain states. He had the ability to envision making things greater than they presently were. Chief among these is the Eureka Holiday House which he, together with his family, built and transformed into something truly magical, all from a skeletal and deteriorated LDS meeting house. This took place mostly on weekends over a period of nearly a decade, reflecting his perseverance and dedication. His family remarks that these were some of their happiest times together. Professionally, Ferrel’s talents - stemming from his innate curiosity - included most impressively architecture and patent drawing. But his desire to build never left him, even in retirement. From large structures in Colorado to haunted houses in Utah, he was ever-willing to lend a hand, which was one of his greatest virtues. Always up for a “treasure hunt” there was no location he would not search to satisfy his itch to explore, no matter his age in life.

Ferrel is survived by his three children: Clark (Michelle), Tara (Dustin), and Tanya (Scott); 11 grandchildren, Hayden, Dylan, Lily, Atticus (Ashley), Sophia, Olympia, Maximus, Dorian, Finn, Luke, Jack; 2 great-children, Perseus, Cassius. He is also survived by loved siblings Sharon Stoner (Ed), Tamra Lyman (Mark), Kyle Thomas, and Kayleen Thomas. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Doug Thomas and brother-in-law Mark Stoner. All of them will miss his admittedly wild ideas, unique takes on fashion and, most endearingly, his offers to help.

One final note: Earlier we noted that Ferrel passed away on a hike. We offer our special thanks to the kind soul who found - and stayed with him - until emergency services arrived. We owe you a debt of gratitude.

A celebration of Ferrel’s life will be held at Larkin Sunset Gardens 1950 East 10600 South, Sandy, Utah 11 a.m. Friday, January 3, 2025.

In lieu of flowers, Ferrel would welcome a donation made to your local food bank.

To watch the service, please click on the tab above that says "Watch Service" or follow this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85382573924