



Mr. Thomas H. Bosworth

November 23, 1928 - November 15, 2023

Thomas "Tom" Bosworth passed away peacefully on November 15th after a brief illness.

Tom was a strong and humble man who began defying fate as an infant. He was born on November 23, 1928, to LeRoy and Gladys (Hall) Bosworth in housing provided by a paper mill just across the river from Lenox Dale. He was born prematurely at 2 lbs. 3 oz. and was swaddled in a blanket inside a shoe box that was nestled near the stove for warmth. Things were so precarious for the infant Tom, that a Catholic priest was summoned to perform last rites on him.

That little baby grew up among family in Lee and, most importantly, Lenox Dale - where he went to school and discovered his athletic talents on the sand lots and baseball fields. Tom played basketball and baseball at Lenox High School. He also played baseball with several amateur and semi-pro teams in Lee, Lenox, and Pittsfield.

Upon graduating from high school, Tom joined the Navy in 1946 and served as a bosun's mate aboard the destroyer, USS Bristol. His ship was deployed on peace keeping missions throughout the Mediterranean Sea for most of his 2-year hitch. He also played softball in countries around the Mediterranean on the All-Navy team.

After the Navy, Tom used the benefits of the GI Bill to attend Springfield College. He graduated in 1953 with a degree in Physical Education and certification as an athletic trainer. Tom also earned his master's degree in

education from the former North Adams State College. During his time at Springfield, Tom met and wooed the love of his life, Lorita (Rete) Martinelli from Pittsfield. In one fell swoop, the guy from Lenox Dale was immersed in Italian culture, language, traditions, and food! Rete's Italian parents grew to love Tom as a son who built stone walls, dug clams on Cape Cod, and learned which mushrooms were safe to eat. In fact, Tom became conversant in Italian to strengthen his bond with Rete's family!

Tom was a teacher, coach, driver education instructor, and athletic trainer in the Lenox School system for many years. He was also the first Resident Director of the Lenox Community Center and was responsible for developing the building and programs that have provided at least 3 generations of Lenox youth with positive experiences and safe spaces. It was here, at the Community Center, and during his roles in the Lenox Schools, that Tom touched so many lives. He never forgot that he came from a very precarious beginning and, through the support of the community in Lenox Dale and the intercession of a few key individuals in his life, was able to overcome the challenges of poverty and family dysfunction to become a productive role model. Tom kept his eye on the kids that had similar challenges and did all he could to help them succeed. He was a father figure for many kids that needed one - and they rewarded Tom with their love and respect.

Tom and Rete celebrated 69 years of marriage this past August. They raised their children, Tim, Shain, and Elissa at the Community Center and, later, in their home just outside the center of Lenox. They have been blessed with 8 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Tom was the outstanding father, grandfather, and great-grandfather he never had.

Tom and Rete were a couple madly in love for as long as anyone can remember. During their time together, they enjoyed skiing, tennis, summers at Cape Cod, country music, dancing, and being surrounded by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Tom's was a life well-lived and his legacy survives in the lives of those he raised, taught, coached, taped up, counseled, and loved.

A Liturgy of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Lenox Dale at 11am. Burial will follow in St. Ann's Cemetery. Calling hours will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023 from 4-7pm at St. Ann Church. In lieu of flowers, donations in Tom's memory may be made to either St. Vincent de Paul Church or Lenox Library Association, both in care of the Roche Funeral Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, MA 01240.

Cemetery Details

St. Ann's Cemetery

1 Ore Bed Road
Lenox, MA 01240

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **20**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

St. Ann's Church
134 Main Street
Lenox, MA 01240

Service

NOV **21**. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

St. Vincent de Paul
Crystal Street
Lenox Dale, MA 01242

Burial

NOV **21**. 11:45 AM - 12:15 PM (ET)

St. Ann's Cemetery
1 Ore Bed Road
Lenox, MA 01240

Tribute Wall

NC

“ Shain, I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of your Dad. He was the best at LMHS. I'm pretty sure I gave him a gray hair or two in my drivers ed class. He was a really nice person, all around.
Nelanne Corbett

Nelanne Corbett - January 19, 2024 at 02:26 PM

LC

“ We are saddened by the loss of our dear friend and sending heartfelt condolences to the Bosworth family. His legacy lives on through the work he started and the positive impact he left on the Lenox Community Center. His kind spirit will always be felt when you walk through our doors. Your friends at the Lenox Community Center.

Lenox Community Center - November 29, 2023 at 12:02 PM

MC

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Tom through my friendship with Tim, which goes back to college days. While I didn't know him well, I think one can appreciate the true measure of a man by the choices that he makes and the family that he raises. Tom made his best choice in marriage. He and Rete kept such a warm and loving home. the kind of place you felt comfortable in even as a newcomer. A home that fostered love, laughs, and family. Their children are wonderful people. True examples of great Christians; loving, considerate, fun, and giving. They would do anything for you.
Tim and family may God bless you all during this difficult time.
Matt Cardillo

Matthew Cardillo - November 21, 2023 at 09:57 AM

ST

“ Sorry to hear about this. I had Mr. Bosworth for Drivers Ed at Lenox. Still remember the 4 speed Chevy Monza we used, him telling us if you learn to drive a manual transmission you can buy about any car. God Speed “BOZ” Stan

Stan - November 20, 2023 at 07:25 PM

LA

“ Love, Michelle, Alex and Ryan Adams purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Thomas H. Bosworth.



Love, Michelle, Alex and Ryan Adams - November 20, 2023 at 02:32 PM

LA

“ Love, Michelle, Alex and Ryan Adams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Thomas H. Bosworth.

Love, Michelle, Alex and Ryan Adams - November 20, 2023 at 02:32 PM

SS

“ To Rita and family. I was sorry to hear about Mr Bosworth's passing. Growing up in the Dale, and going to Lenox High School, our family always loved and respected Mr. Bosworth. When I came back for our HS reunions, Mr and Mrs Bosworth were there and always greeted me as an old friend. RIP Tom, thank you for your service to the community and our Nation. Shelly (Haven) Schneeweis

Shelly (Haven) Schneeweis - November 20, 2023 at 01:01 AM

DE

“ Rete and family, I have nothing but respect and admiration for this gentle and kind man. I feel so blessed to have had the chance to get to know Tom and Rete through my years at St. Ann Church. God Bless all of you and be comforted to know Tom is smiling down on all of you. Until you all meet again..... Deb K.

deb - November 19, 2023 at 07:57 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas H. Bosworth.



November 19, 2023 at 06:04 PM

BL

“ To the Bosworth family,

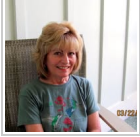
Mr Bosworth was the best! The Lahart family loved him and sends our thoughts and prayers to Lorita and the entire family.

I have so my great memories of Boz from the Community Center, teaching JP Becker and me to drive (we had so many laughs and a close call or two), and fun and memorable times with our sports teams.

Boz had a great personality and was a great role model. He is a Lenox legend and will be greatly missed. God bless Mr Bosworth and his entire family!

Billy Lahart

Billy Lahart - November 19, 2023 at 05:37 PM



“ I had Mr Bosworth for drivers Ed, all ember he said you have to drive for yourself and everyone else on the road.

Peggy Marshall VanZandt

Peggy VanZandt - November 19, 2023 at 05:30 PM

LM

“ I remember stories of my Uncle Tom and father taking Italian lessons at Eastover in Lenox. Sophia Rodhouse was their first teacher. Uncle Tom was a bit of brown nose, according to my father. He often carried the teacher's books and erased the blackboard for her. Their next Italian teacher was Ido Merlini. Uncle Tom became the teacher's pet again when he would write an entire paragraph in Italian when the assignment was to write 1 sentence!! My father enjoyed those Italian classes with his brother- in- law for many years - lots of good laughs.

Laurie Martinelli - November 19, 2023 at 01:14 PM

MP

“ My mother and father and brothers and I have all loved Tom and Rete. Heck, so has the entire Pignatelli family. Lenox has lost part of its soul but will long remember this fine man. I know I will, too.

Michael Pignatelli

Michael Pignatelli - November 18, 2023 at 05:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas H. Bosworth.*



November 18, 2023 at 03:24 PM



“ *Cara Rete:
Mi dispiace tanto per la tua perdita, per la perdita della tua famiglia e della comunità Lenox. Tu e 'Bos' siete stati l'esempio più puro di comunità e famiglia. Bob Romeo*

Bob Romeo - November 18, 2023 at 01:08 PM



“ *Garden Accent - A heart of gold stopped beatin g... was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas H. Bosworth.*



November 18, 2023 at 11:04 AM



“ *Tom was my morris school gym teacher and taught me to drive when I was in HS. So many great memories. Wishing you peace. Lynn Mahoney Pandell*

Lynn Pandell - November 18, 2023 at 10:41 AM

JG

Bos was Lenox at its very best. I can't think of anyone who better personified the virtues of the town — not the Gilded Age cottagers colony, but the village of hard-working, down-to-earth, big-hearted folk. My parents, Remo and Clara, Hubbard St. neighbors, loved and admired Tom and Rita beyond measure. Generations of Lenox kids looked up to Bos as a model of humility and decency and purveyor of an inimitable brand of dry humor. His high character and rock-solid values carry on in a wonderful family. My condolences to all. John Gennari

John Gennari - November 18, 2023 at 02:46 PM



Thank you for your beautiful words, John.

Tim Bosworth - November 18, 2023 at 04:12 PM

LB

Thank you, John - your parents were in the same category.

Lorita Bosworth - December 21, 2023 at 03:54 PM

BS

“ *What a great man! I will always cherish the time Boz spent helping me build a stone wall for a customer of mine. Loved to hear his stories from the old days.*

Brian Shepardson - November 18, 2023 at 08:45 AM

T1

“ *Taconic High School, class of 1974 sends condolences to Tim and family on the loss of the family patriarch. May he rest in peace.*

THS class of 1974 - November 17, 2023 at 09:27 PM

MJ

“ My deepest condolences to the Bosworth family. Like many young men and women growing up in Lenox, Tom was a key figure in our youth and in our later years. He taught my favorite subject in elementary school; Physical Education. Then he formally taught us how to drive according to the rules of Massachusetts. When we twisted an ankle playing sports, he was there to ice it and wrap it so we could continue to play. Then in my High School years he was managing the Community Center making sure our dances and other functions went without problems. He attended one of the last 1965 High School class reunions which I attended and his smiling face and caring personality extended and exemplified the personal warmth that was his hallmark. What a wonderful person!! I am proud to have been his student, associate, admirer, and a friend from afar.
Michael Paysan, Jr.

Michael Paysan, Jr - November 17, 2023 at 01:28 PM

MM

“ Oh my hearts hurts for all of you! He was the best of the best! I remember my first drivers lesson with Mr. Bosworth. He loved to laugh! He set me up going down West Street where he had a state trooper stop me. I was so scared. The trooper came to the window and asked me for my license and registration and of course I didn't have one. I looked at Mr. Bosworth like can you help me out here? He bursted into laughter as did the Trooper. Finally, he told me he set me up! I'll never forget it! Rest in peace sweet Mr. Bosworth.
See you on other side! ❤️🙏

Marlene Hutchinson MacFarlane - November 17, 2023 at 12:47 PM



Priceless, Marlene. Absolutely priceless! And totally in character for my father. Thanks for your thoughts and the story!

Tim Bosworth - November 18, 2023 at 11:58 AM

LB

I remember that story, Marlene!

Lorita Bosworth - December 21, 2023 at 03:58 PM

MR

“ I’m so sad to hear of Mr. Bosworth’s passing. He was a recess teacher to me in kindergarten, a PE instructor in earlier grades, and in high school was my driver education instructor. He always had a smile on his face and a kind word on his lips. And in a funny story when he heard I was going to school in Hawaii he told me to get in contact with his former college roommate Don Ho. I thought he was telling a tall tale, but as instructed I showed up to Don Ho’s show and after went for Mr. Ho’s autograph and mentioned Tom Bosworth’s name - sure enough he was Mr. B’s roommate! Don had me stay to share a drink with him and update him on his old friend! Rest in peace, Mr. Bosworth.

Mike Regnier - November 17, 2023 at 12:42 PM

PC

“ So sorry for your loss Lorita and family. What a wonderful legend and family he left to remember him by. May time and good memories bring you peace and acceptance.

Patty Carlino - November 17, 2023 at 11:33 AM

DK

“ This is such a loss, not only to his family, but to the community at large. Sending our prayers to you all.
David & Joanne Keator

David Keator - November 17, 2023 at 10:06 AM

LG

“ *Shain, Mrs. Bosworth and Family -*

I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Bosworth's passing. So many memories of him being around the school and sports and community events when we were growing up. My dad has many memories of the both of them growing up in The Dale. Hopefully fond memories, funny stories and a trove of photographs will help to always keep him in your hearts and minds.

Laurie Gaherty

Laurie Gaherty - November 17, 2023 at 09:18 AM

AL

“ *Dear Family of Tom Bosworth:*

This is indeed a sad day for all of us who have memories of your very special person. He was the heart of Lenox, helping and influencing good wherever he went.

Anne Lamone

Anne Lamone - November 17, 2023 at 07:31 AM

KV

“ *I loved to listen to him play the harmonica and seeing his joy when my kids would try their hand at playing. When we'd visit, Gramps was always sure to wear his lighthouses sweater that I'd made for him in 5th grade. He still boasted about the sweater this year and how it still wears well some 25 years since I gifted it to him. He always looked at me with pride in his eyes. I love you, Grampy. You will be missed terribly.*

Kallie Vorobets - November 17, 2023 at 06:53 AM

KG

“ To the Bosworth Family, I am so sorry to read about Mr. Bosworth's passing. He was an amazingly kind and generous man. He touched my life in so many ways and I will forever be grateful for his guidance. Sending my condolences to your entire family.
Katie Gilson Gallagher

Katie Gallagher - November 17, 2023 at 06:30 AM

ME

“ Rete I'm so so sorry
You and Tom shared a true love story
Thinking about you and your entire wonderful family
Myrna Estes

myrna estes - November 17, 2023 at 06:29 AM

SG

“ I'm so sad to hear of Tom Bosworth's passing. What an incredibly wonderful man, who touched a countless number of lives, including mine. I'm so grateful to have known him and will never forget him. My heart breaks for Rete and all his family. Sending my condolences and love to his entire family. - Sally Flanders
Gustavson

Sally Gustavson - November 16, 2023 at 06:09 PM