



Thomas Valentine Preston

March 3, 1948 - February 13, 2023

After a life well lived but not long enough, Thomas Valentine Preston, passed away on February 13, 2023, in Orlando, Florida, after a long and heroic battle with cancer. Born in Peoria, Illinois in 1948, Tom was a man of many talents, hobbies, and interests. He loved to create and was an incredible craftsman. He was a dedicated public servant who served all levels of government in myriad roles. He worked as a police officer, city manager, and in management and finance at the county, state, and federal levels.

Tom embraced education and knowledge held a master's degree in public administration from UCF. He was an educator at Valencia College for over fifteen years, teaching Economics. After retirement, he spent time teaching at Full Sail University.

Tom is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Kathy Preston (née Grant), two children, six grandchildren, two great grandchildren, seven siblings, and many wonderful friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother.

If we continue to share the thoughts, memories, and spirit of a person, they are not truly gone.

Please bring a happy memory or funny story and join us for a celebration of Tom's life on March 4, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 1825 W. Oak Ridge Road, Orlando, FL 32809 (UAW Local 788).

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 4. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

UAW Local 788
1825 W. Oak Ridge Road
Orlando, FL 32809

Tribute Wall

BW

“ Thinking of your family as you celebrate the life of Tom. May your memory's of him give you peace and comfort during this challenging time. He was such an incredible person. I was lucky enough to work with Tom and got a chance to see what a great person he was. I felt part of a team. And was able to see Tom sense of fairness. He would keep me calm. I can hear him say "it's going to be OK". Job well done Tom. Rest In peace



Betty Walker - March 03, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Valentine Preston.



February 23, 2023 at 06:05 PM

BM

“ My brother was an amazing person! I remember him being a police officer and how much he loved it. I will always treasure our special moment at our mom's 80th birthday party... a picture of Tom and I! The oldest brother and the youngest sister! What a treasure I will have forever!



Brenda Moynahan - February 21, 2023 at 10:09 PM

DS

I was a police officer in Washington, Illinois and had the pleasure of serving with Tom until he left to serve as an officer in Peoria. A dear friend who I looked forward to working with on the day shift. The two of us delighted in infuriating the chief and even went racing past the Washington A&W while he was having coffee. There was an accident near Bearce Ford and we were drag racing on the way there. Miffed him off to no end.

Don Stewart - March 02, 2023 at 11:34 PM