

Mr. Thomas Joseph Turner

January 15, 1957 - October 26, 2014

On October 26, 2014 Thomas Joseph Turner of Ruxton, MD, beloved son of the late John Turner, Jr. and Ruth Hayslip Turner; devoted brother of Michael H. Turner and wife, Laura of Timonium, MD & Patricia A. Turner of Ruxton, MD; dear half-brother of John Selman Turner and wife, Jane of Mt. Airey, MD and Mary Lou Otremba and husband, Edward of Bel Air, MD. Also survived by nine beloved nieces and nephews and eight great nieces and nephews.

Thomas J. Turner

Thomas Turner was born on January 15, 1957 to the late John Turner and late Ruth Hayslip Turner in Baltimore, Maryland. Tom grew up in Baltimore and graduated from Boys Latin. After graduation Tom joined the US Army. After being stationed in Alaska, Tom was assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky. While serving with the 101st Airborne Tom suffered an accident that left him paralyzed.

Like all challenges in his life Tom faced his disability with his legendary good humor and tenacity that few could match. At a time when there were limited provisions for wheelchair users, Tom helped lead the fight for disabled Americans and was even arrested for being a fire hazard while attending a game at Memorial Stadium. Inspired and outraged Tom campaigned heavily for accessibility and safety measures for the disabled in Baltimore becoming a champion of disabled rights. Tom worked with Disabled in Action and served

on the advisory groups for disabled seating at both Camden Yards and Ravens stadium. Disabled access at the stadiums is a testament to the years he and others advocated for the disabled.

There were many causes close to Tom's heart but perhaps closest of all was the plight of fellow veterans. One of his greatest joys was the annual 4th of July picnic he hosted for disabled veterans for the last 30 years. He was also a supporter of the Wounded Warrior project.

Tom never lost his adventuresome spirit and there was little he didn't do in his 57 years. He invented a motorcycle which a paraplegic could drive from an attached sidecar. He travelled the United States from coast to coast. Tom was also a member of the US Paralympics Equestrian Team traveling to England to compete. He was an avid outdoorsman, amateur historian, and the life of countless parties.

Tom will be sorely missed by his brother, Michael (Laura), his sister, Patricia. He was predeceased by his brother, Mark. He also is survived by his cousins, 9 beloved nieces and nephews, and 8 great nieces and nephews.

Interment private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Tom's name to Paralyzed Veterans of America, 801 Eighteenth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006-3517.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **31**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Funeral Mass

NOV **1**. 9:30 AM (ET)

Immaculate Conception
200 Ware Avenue
Towson, MD 21204

Tribute Wall

JM

“ JMO lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Joseph Turner



JMO - October 05, 2021 at 08:54 PM

RH

“ Always was glad to see Tommy, when he came to Adams county, Ohio, he was my cousin . I am Ray Hayslip. he was a real trooper. Sorry, for your loss , all of his family.



RAY HAYSLIP - October 31, 2014 at 05:17 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas Joseph Turner.



October 31, 2014 at 07:36 AM

Sharon Otremba

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sharon Otremba - October 29, 2014 at 09:31 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sharon Otremba - October 29, 2014 at 09:30 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sharon Otremba - October 29, 2014 at 09:29 PM



“ Gift of Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas Joseph Turner.




October 29, 2014 at 12:26 PM

CM

“ *My heart felt condolences to Mike, Laura, Trish and Tom's many nieces and nephews. Tom was a great friend and had so many great qualities. The first things that come to mind are courage and compassion. He was deeply spiritual, I know he is in Paradise with our Lord. Our prayers are with you all.*

Chris and Julie Mamunes

Chris Mamunes - October 28, 2014 at 03:12 PM

 Sharon
Otremba

“ *1 file added to the album Tommy loved a good party*



Sharon Otremba - October 28, 2014 at 02:58 PM

ST

“ *1 file added to the album TJT*



Samuel Turner - October 28, 2014 at 01:35 PM



“ *Sharon Otremba lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Joseph Turner* ”



Sharon Otremba - October 28, 2014 at 09:27 AM