



## Frederick J. Thomann

August 30, 1942 - December 27, 2013

Thomann, Fred, December 27, 2013 age 71 of the Plymouth Community. Beloved brother of Gloria (Gary) Shelton and the late Dave. Dear uncle of Tanya (Joan Zdan) Thomann. Loving son of the late Elmer & Beatrice Thomann. Memorial Gathering Saturday January 11, 2014, 9:00 AM until the 10:30 AM Memorial Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Road (Between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Fred taught over 30 years in the Taylor, Willow Run and Plymouth-Canton School Systems. In 1988, he was named teacher of the year by the Wayne County Intermediate School District. He coached over 40 years in the Plymouth-Salem High School Basketball Program. He received numerous coaching awards over his career, including the "Coach of the Year" in 1987. His teams won over 700 games, including 20 district and 21 league championships and he took four teams to the state final four. Memorial contributions may be made to the Canton Community Foundation to benefit the "Fred Thomann Memorial Scholarship Fund". To share a memory with the family, please click on the view and send condolence link on this page.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Frederick J. Thomann*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *I love you Fred! I only knew you for a short period of time through your teams participating in my AAU tournaments. You were such a kind and genuine person.*

**Monter Glasper** - June 09, 2023 at 04:30 PM



“ *Helluva coach greater human being hope to see you in heaven*

**Jeff Roberts** - April 22, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ *People don't know that Fred was our track coach in 1975. When he first told me I was going to run the quarter mile I thought he was nuts....I hated that race. But I gave it my all and he taught me to go out really fast, get way ahead of everyone and then hold it. It worked and within one year I finished second at state and was beat by one tenth of a second. Senior year I took third. I held the record for the quarter mile at Plymouth Salem for 19 years. The year I took a picture of it on the wall it was broken the next year. Fred did so much for my twin sister and I. We were in the Detroit news (Croc Twins) and got lot's of attention. I had my 15 minutes of fame due to Fred! You will be missed and was a true mentor in my life.*

**Jackie Croci** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

CB

“ I thought so much of this man,he was respected by everyone at Willow Run. Heaven has a giant coach.

Cliff Blaylock - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

DM

“ Great coach and great man. He encouraged me to play basketball which was a great time in my life. I never forgot him and was blessed to have known him. Heaven is increased.

Dave Moore - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

CK

“ I am saddened that icy roads have prevented my husband & I to attend Freds memorial service. I know I would be uplifted & proud to hear & meet all the people who were so very influenced by Freds presence on this earth. Being 10 years younger, he was always so kind & appeared a gentle giant to me. At family gatherings he & my brother & other cousins always headed for that hoop in the driveway. Even then I was in awe Thank you cousin Fred, I'm proud of you & will miss those great big hugs! Love to all.

Cousin Lea (Trebesh) Kuklinski - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

TE

“ Last year was my first year meeting Coach Fred. As a coach on the Salem Girls Track Team I didn't know he would end up having such a big effect on me. He left me feeling motivated to try new challenges doing nothing but letting me know I did great but I could do even better. The biggest challenge he pushed me for was the 300 Hurdles... He said when he was done training me that's what he wanted to see me in and although he is no longer here his words will be remembered and that is my goal to win that race for him. I wish the best to all his family and I'm sorry for your loss.

Talia Edgar - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

JA

“ I HAD THE HONOR OF HAVING FRED ON OUR STAFF OF THE MICHIGAN ALL STATE GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP, HE CAME TO TRAVERSE CITY FOR MANY YEARS AND GAVE SO MUCH TO KIDS . HE WAS A VERY INTENSE COACH WHO DEMANDED THE BEST. WE WILL ALL MISS FRED AND HIS LOVE FOR THE GAME OF BASKETBALL AND LIFE.

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**JIM ANDERSON** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

DE

“ My how you will be missed. What great memories of you coaching our kids, using the trailer for summer camp, conversations at the office, and the influence on our young people.

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**Dr. Robert & Sally Evans** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

MB

“ Played for Fred from 1981-1983. Can only say that he was a tremendous coach and teacher. He is one person that I would say had a profound, lasting and positive impact on my life. A good man and great educator

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**Matt Broderick** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

TF

“ Coach Fred was a great coach and mentor to our daughter Bree. She enjoyed playing varsity basketball for him all her highschool years. He will be missed dearly. Heaven has gained a new angel.

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**The Beaver Family** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

BM

“ Fred was a tough, fair and inspiring coach to our children. But most of all he was a friend to us. We spent many years watching basketball games together. He will surely be missed.

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**Bill and Barb Moore** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

JH

“ Fred you were the best...from watching you win a state title at Willow Run with a 6'1 center, coaching my wife in track, being your partner with camp to coaching your players at WMU who were always the most prepared...RIP big fella you deserve it

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**Jim Hess** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

MB

“ Fred was an awesome man and coach. He taught me a lot over the years coaching me since 7th grade. He enhanced my work ethic and helped me grow as a student athlete. He was still watching over me when I married by being at my wedding and then speaking with my new husband, likely making sure I made a good choice. Unfortunately, I cannot be there on the 11th as my son begins basketball that day and I'm now his coach - passing the knowledge I learned from Fred on to another generation.

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**Martha Bol-Johnson** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

TL

“ Fred was a great coach and man. I ran track for him at Plymouth Salem and he taught me to believe in myself and helped me gain a self confidence I still have and treasure today. He always knew how to get the best out of his athletes and students. He will be greatly missed!!!

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**Traci "Putz" (Thomas) Lanier** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

TS

“ I hold tremendous respect for Fred as a coach and person. It was a learning experience and pleasure for my son and younger daughter to play for him at Salem.

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**Tom Sovine** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

GF

“ Fred was a great teacher and coach and a great man! I started out coaching basketball at Thurston High School in 1979. Fred was one of the most respected coaches in the area. I met Fred the next year and immediately took a liking to him. He had great advice for a young coach and was willing to share his tremendous basketball knowledge with an inexperienced coach. Admired and respected by all coaches who knew him, i was lucky to have known him. Rest in peace master.

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**Gary Fralick** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

TP

“ I have not seen Fred much in our later years. We do go back a very long way from kindergarder through high school. I did see him when we attended high school reunions. He never changed much...big, tall and easy going. I will miss seeing you at our next reunion. Tom Penman

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**Tom Penman** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

PT

“ Great friend, blessings to all the family. My sister Nancy Gazo was a neighbor to the Thomann's on Mayfair Steet in Taylor as well as Fred being my classmate at Taylor Center High School.

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**Patricia Irvine Thorpe** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

DG

“ Our sympathy to Fred's family and friends. We remember him fondly as a student at Taylor Center High School in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Fred was always a sweet kid and grew into a kind and generous adult that we are proud to say we knew well. He left us much too soon and will be sorely missed.

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**Dale and Nancy Griesinger** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

RS

“ Gloria, I want to offer out sincere sympathy. Many great memories from Grace Reformed Church Days.

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**Rich and Gloria (Johnson) Schacht** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

KC

“ You will be missed dearly. I had the pleasure of having Dave as a teacher and Fred as a coach and mentor. I cannot say enough good and kind words. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Best memory...Fred rushing me back home after the state track and field meet in Flint so I didn't miss PROM!!

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**Karen Coleman** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

MU

“ I lost a very good friend...a friend for over 34 years. I owe you so much. I'll miss you good buddy...

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**munro** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM

JC

“ So sad to hear about Fred. We go back so many years to elementary school and our years at Grace Reformed Church. Wonderful memories. I will miss him. Love to you and your family Gloria.

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**Janet Sclater Cheatham** - December 12, 2014 at 10:11 AM