



## Thomas John Tattan

February 25, 1949 - January 30, 2011

Tattan, Thomas J. age 61 of Northville, January 30, 2011. Beloved husband of Cynthia. Loving father of Jason (Megan). Dear son of Dorothy and the late John. Dear brother of Michael (Debbie), Tim and Leanne (Mark) Clark. Also leaves several nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday 2-8 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth (Between Sheldon & Beck). In State Sat. 10AM until the Funeral Mass at 10:30 AM at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to Section of Thoracic Surgery, U of M Health Systems, 2120 Taubman Health Care Center SPC #5344, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48109. To leave a message of condolence or share a memory with the family, please visit [vermeulenfuneralhome.com](http://vermeulenfuneralhome.com). To share memories please use the condolences link on this page.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas John Tattan*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Im truly sorry to hear about your lost. Thomas will definitely be missed by so many. One thing that helps me deal or cope with loosing a loved one is the scripture John 5:28,29. It stats " Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life....." Soon we will be able to see Thomas again because God (Jehovah) promises a resurrection hope. Also if you notice that it uses the term "memorial tomb" and not [Grave] which means Gods memory. Thomas seemed like a really nice guy, a person that God will definitely remember. I hope this gives some comfort. Dion R (Truth.1914@yahoo.com)*

Dion - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM



“ *To the family of Tom Tattan: we are so very sorry over your loss. We just learned of Tom's death. Please give our condolences to his mom Dorothy. She was such a dear friend of my mother, Madelyn Curran. We are praying for you at this sad time. God Bless you. Love, Tom and Betty Curran*

Tom and Betty Curran - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

LW

“ I was so disappointed just now to go to Verlemulen to find out that Tom's viewing was last Friday and the funeral last Saturday. It was in the Observer paper last Sunday and indicated that the viewing would be Friday and the funeral on Saturday - I never thought it was the few days before it appeared in the paper. I was the Vocal Music Director when Tom was principal at Canton HS, and during those 5 years Tom totally mentored me and gave me opportunities I would benefit from to move into secondary administration. I co-chaired the Faculty Senate, and he was the finest and most supportive administrator I have ever worked for. I remember him saying that one of the first things he did when moving here was to join the Plymouth Arts Council, and he always came through with whatever money and supplies that I needed to increase the strength of the Vocal Music program at CEP. The day after any concert or competition I could always count on a handwritten note in my mailbox the next morning congratulating me and saying how wonderful the students performed - every single time we performed (which believe me, was quite often). He was my model of the type of administrator I wanted to be. I left CEP and Canton to take an AP position at Northville HS, then after 5 more years I moved to Livonia to return back to my middle school roots and become assistant principal, hoping to become a principal in Livonia. That did not ever happen and I retired last summer after being AP in two different Livonia middle schools - a job I loved, by the way. My first year in Livonia, however, I was asked by the Supt to take an unknown stint as Acting Director of Personnel and Tom took my out to lunch to celebrate my new position. He was always my mentor, and set the standard very high and I always tried to live up to it. He was so very kind, supportive, and very, very good at what he did. I had no idea he was ill, and feel very badly about that and not being able to tell him how important he was in my career and as a person. I hope to make a donation to UM in his honor. That is the very least I can do at this time. I did want you, his family, to know that impact he had on me, one individual of many that I know he touched. I am so sorry I missed speaking to you in person. Most sincerely, Laura Wallace

**Laura (Wiener) Wallace** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

SG

“ *To the Tattan Family, I was saddened to hear of Dr. Tattan's passing. He was the first superintendent to encourage me to begin thinking of becoming an administrator. He hired me as a principal in Waterford and over the years I always trusted that he had the kids' best interest at heart. He was willing to take on the tough issues and make the difficult decisions. I learned so much just from observing his steadfast ways of moving a team forward. I also enjoyed golfing on Fridays with him several times and getting to see his relaxed side, especially when one of us missed an easy putt. He will always be remembered....Steve Garrison*

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**Steve Garrison** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

KP

“ *Cindy - How wonderful to read the praise of Tom's former associates, fellow classmates and students. In time these messages will bring peace to you, Jason and Megan. Take care and your strength will return and we will toast the joy of having two great guys in our lives! Kathy*

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**Kathy Downing Pownall** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

JC

“ Cindy, Jason, Megan and Tattan Family- We were very sorry to hear about Tom's untimely passing. We hope you can find comfort and peace during this difficult time. Tom was a natural leader, had a "good heart" and was always destined for success. While our class parted ways a lifetime ago, we were always proud of Tom's accomplishments...he represented the some of the very best that Our Lady of Lourdes had to offer. He will be fondly remembered by those who had the good fortune to know him. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless You All!  
Jerry and Liz Cannon

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**Jerry and Liz Cannon** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

EP

“ To the Tattan family. So sorry to hear of Tom's passing. I was one year ahead of him in High School at OLL. I have fond memories of him as always being a courteous, kind person. My heartfelt condolences to your family.

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**Ellen Schultz Peterson** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

JM

“ My Prayers to the Tattan Family He was our Quateback and Leader at OLL class of 67 Joe & Linda Millazzo Littleton, CO

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**Joe Millazzo** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

JT

“ I am truly sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Tattan. I had the great pleasure of working for him at Waterford Schools and producing his television show. He was always such a great supporter of the Video Department and we had a lot of fun putting together several seasons of his show. Dr. Tattan was a true professional, but also liked to joke around and enjoyed poking fun at our production crew. Along with the jokes, he was always very generous with complimenting our work. His confidence in me and my department helped me grow as a leader. While most of our conversations were based around work, he often spoke of his son and beamed with pride at his accomplishments. I will remember the good old days when he was here. I am praying that your family will find peace in knowing the many lives that he touched and that you will hold the good memories of Tom in your heart.

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**Jane Tekiele** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

RP

“ To Tom's family, I was very sorry to hear of Tom's passing. I worked with Tom in Waterford while he was here and consider him a friend. He was a genuine , considerate leader while here and gave me some great advice. He will be sorely missed . I am over him beating me on the golf course. Please accept my condolences.

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**Randall Portwood** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

MV

“ Dear Cindy, Jason and Megan, I wish to express my deepest sympathy to your family at this difficult time. Tom was such a wonderful person. Working with him when he was the principal at Canton High School, Tom's enthusiasm for his work, (as well as the work of others), made the day better ones. I was always so grateful for his generous support of my work and I was especially grateful for his smiles, kind words and humor. Tom's encouragement and leadership made the years I worked with him one of the most pleasant and rewarding experiences of my career in education. One of the most special and memorable qualities about Tom was the delight he wore when speaking about his family. The beam on his face when talking about his son Jason remains clearly in my mind's eye today. As Jason's counselor I had the privilege of "parent, "counselor" conversations and I was always inspired by his pride and love for his family. Once during a conversation he referred to his wife Cindy as , "the person nearest and dearest to my heart", after much awe and validation for his poetic expression, in subsequent conversations when talking about his family he would say, "you know the people near and dear to my heart". I sure knew who they were. I treasure all the great memories of working and knowing Tom. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

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**Mary Vertrees** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

MS

“ I was deeply saddened to hear about Tom. Knowing him through his Mom, he was a loving, caring son. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Mary Stachak** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

BR

“ Dear Cindy and family, I was stunned to hear about Tom's passing. He was such a strong man and always pointed out to me that he was younger than me, so I was sure that he could overcome cancer. I regret that we will not be able to attend his visitation and services as we are away until the end of this month. As you know, he had a strong positive influence on my professional life and is in my thoughts all the time now. My sympathies to you and your family,  
Barb Rodenberg

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**Barb Church Rodenberg** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

CS

“ I remember vividly meeting Tom and Cindy around Dorothy's table in July, 2008; at that time and every day since, I have witnessed gifts of love, respect, compassion given by Tom and Cindy to Dorothy, Leanne and other family members. I have been in awe of Tom's continued endurance, optimism and faith; and, I pray that during this time of great loss, Cindy, you will find peace in knowing the positive impact you both have on others. I will add volume to "Hail to the Victors" in memory of Tom Tattan

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**Carole Smith** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

CL

“ I am so sorry that I cannot be there. My prayers and thoughts are with the entire Tattan family. Please give Dorothy my love and affection. Mike, LeeAnn and Tim, I hope you gather strength by being with each other. I love all of you guys, Connie

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**Connie Laginess** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

LV

“ Dear Cindy and Family, Thinking about you during this very difficult time. Dr. Tattan contributed so much to teaching and learning. You must be so proud of his work. Keep his memories alive in your heart.

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**Liz Vartanian-Gibbs** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

KB

“ My sincere condolences to the Tattan family. I knew Tom from our high school days at OLL. He was a great guy. How special it must have been to have him in your lives. May your memories comfort you. Please pass my sympathy on to his mother. She and Tom's dad were friends with my dad, Ray Tanguay. She might remember me because I would come by after school and drop off Tom's homework when he was ill. My prayers are with you all. Kathie Tanguay Busen

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**Kathleen Tanguay Busen** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

JW

“ To Dr. Tattan's Family, I am very sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Tattan. He was a good man and was the first superintendent to hire me as an administrator. I remain very grateful and humbled by his confidence in me and learned a great deal under his mentorship during his time in Waterford Schools. We played several rounds of golf together and of course exchanged many good humored barbs as a part of group of peers. He was very quick-witted, smart, intelligent, principled, tough, but fair. I am very sorry for your loss and hope that you can find some sense of peace during this very sad time.

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**Josh Wenning** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

PS

“ Cindy, Jason and Megan, I was so sorry to hear about Tom's illness and passing. Tom hired me as the Cville middle school principal 13 years ago. He was an honest, no-nonsense type of superintendent and I thought very highly of him. My thoughts and prayers go out to you. Sincerely, Pam

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**Pamela Swert** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

JR

“ Cindy, Jason, Megan and family: Please accept our deep sorrow at hearing about Tom's recent trials and passing. Times like these require so much strength and caring from family and friends. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Judie & Dennis Ruhl

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**Judie & Dennis Ruhl** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM