



## Thomas "Tom" Triphan

August 25, 1938 - December 16, 2025

Thomas Triphan

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Thomas Triphan, age 87, of Richland Center, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully surrounded by family. Born on August 25, 1938, in Sheboygan, WI, Tom spent the last 55 years of his life in Richland Center, a community he loved and faithfully served.

A devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, teacher, and follower of Christ, Tom leaves behind a legacy of devotion, integrity, and service. He is survived by his beloved wife, Doris; his sons, David (Ann) and Michael (Jill), numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters, Esther Triphan and Jane DeBlay, and brother, John Triphan.

Tom dedicated over three decades of his life to education, teaching mechanics, small engines, woods, electronics, and driver's education at Richland Center High School from 1970 until his retirement. Known for his hands-on approach in the classroom, Tom's personal motivation was to influence his students in such a way that when they left his classroom and pursued their own career that they would be successful. He was proud of all those who either started their own business or followed a career in the

automotive industry.

Outside the classroom, Tom found joy in the simple things—fishing, leather-crafting, bowling with friends, umpiring local baseball and softball games, but most of all, spending time with his family. A devout Christian who put his trust in Jesus Christ, Tom strived to live his life in service to his Lord, modeling faith, grace, and kindness in all he did.

Tom's steady presence, and humor will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him, but they also have a peace in their heart knowing that he is in heaven rejoicing.

A Celebration of Life visitation time with the family will be held at Clary Memorial Funeral Home on Sunday, January 4th, 2026, from 1pm – 3pm. There will not be a service following, but the reception hall will be open for you to mingle and enjoy snacks/sandwiches.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to be made to Oostburg Christian School Scholarship Fund, Oostburg, WI.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life - Visitation

JAN 4. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Clary Memorial Funeral & Cremation Service, LLC

26777 Jelland Drive

Richland Center, WI 53581

(608) 647-6390

[josh@clarymemorial.com](mailto:josh@clarymemorial.com)

<https://clarymemorialfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

FS

“ *Our sincere sympathy to the family. Tom was a good guy and friend.*

*We bowled a few times the same nights and we officiated*

*a few high school baseball games together*

*Miss you in the neighborhood Tom*

*RIP TOM*

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**Fritzi and Stan** - February 05 at 11:15 PM



SG

“ *Mr. Triphan was my Driver's Ed teacher and was an excellent instructor. I really loved his cautionary stories and his great common sense rules of the road and I never forgot them. My sincere condolences go out to his family and friends.*

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**Sandra Gray** - January 20 at 02:19 PM





“ 61 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Clary Memorial Funeral Home** - January 02 at 11:02 AM

HF

“ *Hilleman, Marshall & Huberty families purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Thomas "Tom" Triphan.*



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**Hilleman, Marshall & Huberty families** - December 30, 2025 at 11:45 AM

DL

“ *My son had Mr. Triphan for class in HS and he really liked him. He actually CARED about my son and earned his respect. Diane Lee*

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**Diane Lee** - December 30, 2025 at 11:27 AM

TW

“ I never had any classes with Mr. Triphan, but he was the umpire for many baseball games in which I played (and mostly pitched). Always fair and with a great sense of humor. As I look back I think he viewed his umpire role as a coach on the field for us and I am sure even now I am better for it. The world today, and especially our youth, could use more Tom Triphans. No doubt he will be calling balls and strikes in Heaven.

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**Terry Wallace** - December 27, 2025 at 02:09 PM

BT

“ My condolences to Doris, Dave and Mike and the entire Triphan family on the loss of Tom. For much of my childhood, my family and the Triphans were residents of a double block on East Kinder St. in RC. When the Triphans moved, they were only a few blocks and bike ride away. Tom's son Dave "Trip" and I were close friends and teammates throughout high school. I do recall a few (just a few times) when Dave and I may have been up to mischief and Tom may have had to "redirect" us. I know that Tom was a big influence on countless students and athletes and his legacy will live on through them.

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**Brian Tennant** - December 22, 2025 at 03:49 PM

DR

“ Tom was a friend of mine for many years. He taught me to drive, how to play horseshoes and was a father figure to me during my high school years. We taught together; he umpired many of my baseball games when I was JV and later Varsity coach. He was always supportive of me and always had a smile and word of encouragement. Tom was a mentor to many, but most importantly was role model and just a decent human being that "shot straight" with those he interacted with. It was an honor and privilege to call him a colleague but most importantly my friend.

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**david rudersdorf** - December 18, 2025 at 11:49 PM

DS

“ My sympathies to Doris and family. I enjoyed so many stories and visits from Tom when I worked at the Richland Center high school. He will surely be missed.

Deb Schwarz - December 18, 2025 at 11:06 PM

TL

“ Tom was my instructor in High school for Auto and power mechanics in High school. He also called me out a few times behind the plate. I enjoyed our visits when we ran into each other over the years. I will miss him but i'll never forget him.

Terry L Laufenberg - December 18, 2025 at 09:44 PM

KM

“ Kevin & Connie Monroe purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thomas "Tom" Triphan.



Kevin & Connie Monroe - December 18, 2025 at 07:22 PM

BW

“ You were a great teacher and took the time with every student if they had problems. Rest in Peace Tommy Torque Wrench as you were known as. My deepest sympathy to your family.

Bobby Whetzal - December 18, 2025 at 04:37 PM