

Thomas "Tom" L. Coughlin

April 17, 2025

Dedham, MA - Thomas "Tom" Lamar Coughlin died peacefully, surrounded by his family on April 17, 2025 after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Tom, a native of Fall River, Massachusetts and a long-time resident of Dedham and Westport Harbor finally reached his goal of dying a happy old man. The pillars of his life were family, sports cars (especially 356 Porsches), tennis (lots more so than golf), University of Florida "Gator" football, and swimming at Elephant Rock Beach.

After graduating from Providence Country Day, he followed his family to Florida and graduated from the University of Florida. While in the Coast Guard Reserve, he served in the honor guard at JFK's funeral.

Tom's love of history and family inspired him to write two books Those Southern Lamars and Rebels in My Tree.

Tom was a life-long tennis player and of his awards, he was most fond of his first - the 1955 boy's tennis Champion at the Acoaxet Club. Quite fittingly, Tom was a Senior Doubles Champion at the same club in 2023.

Tom loved sports cars and especially his prized Porsches. Tom was a long time member of the 356 Registry and the Porsche Club of America, the

Dedham Country and Polo Club, Elephant Rock Beach Club, the Acoaxet and Spindle Rock Club. He volunteered his time with the Home for Little Wanderers organization in Boston and was a founder of the Dedham Retired Executive Group.

He leaves the family that he so dearly loved including his wife of 41 years, Joan, his three daughters; Tommelise Chaisson (David), Laura Bullard (Scott) and Katie Coughlin Mendes (Mike), as well as his six grandchildren Thomas, Elizabeth, Alexander, Matthew, Jakob, and Olivia. Tom is survived by his sister Anne Brine and his brother Daniel Coughlin. His family has been the joy of his life.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later time.

Tribute Wall

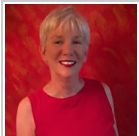
TW

“ To Joan and the entire Coughlin family,

Sending you love and prayers and wishing you comfort at this difficult time. Liz and I were so saddened to read of his passing. Tom was such a wonderful and kind man. He was one of the first people I met when I started playing paddle tennis at DCPC about 11 years ago. He always had a good story to tell while sipping a ginger beer in the hut after doing "battle" and trading jokes on the court. He will truly be missed by the many friends he made on the paddle and tennis courts at Dedham. I'm proud to have known him.

*Best,
Todd & Liz Williamson*

Todd Williamson - April 30, 2025 at 12:37 PM



“ To Joan, Katie and the Coughlin family,

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Chuck and I went through all our albums this morning to remember all our celebrations together, times in Dedham, Westport, Sherborn, at camp in Maine. So much love and fun times! Tom always made these celebrations so special. Love to all.



Joanne Yestramski - April 26, 2025 at 03:48 PM

JD

*Joan,
Having you and Tom in our neighborhood for the 25 years we've lived here has made our time in Dedham warmer and brighter. Tom will be missed and my heart goes out to you and your family.*

Jim Durham - April 30, 2025 at 09:24 AM

SC

“ *Dear Joan,*

We were very sorry to read of Tom's passing in the Globe. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.

*Best,
Steve and Sabina*

Stephen Caron - April 25, 2025 at 10:32 AM

WV

“ *Dear Joan,*

It is with great sadness that we found Tom's name in the Globe's obit column today. It's a beautiful tribute to a man who helped make our time in Dedham a pleasure. Tom was a gracious and generous host, who loved his family and friends, and made us feel at home in Dedham. We are sorry for your loss, but join you in celebrating Tom's life.

*Peace and Love,
Bill and Sonia*

William David Valentine - April 24, 2025 at 09:16 PM

LC

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Lise Chaisson - April 24, 2025 at 03:11 PM

LB

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Laura Bullard - April 24, 2025 at 02:18 PM

BT

“ I met Tom years ago in Fall River as kids hanging around Murrays Drug Store. It was then when we formed what we called the "NBRSC". (New Boston Social Club) We were a bunch of 12-14 year olds with to. much self imposed class to be called "drug store cowboys"

Many years later we re-connected and resumed getting together as the NBRSC trying to meet monthly for lunches. It was then when I realized how kind and thoughtful he really was, always helping those of us who were less physically fit than he. He was a GOOD MAN and will be missed. Bob Taylor

Bob Taylor - April 24, 2025 at 01:00 AM

TF

Joan and Family...Condolences to you and family and now it's the cherished memories and there are many, many. For us of the Fall River Highlands youth of 1954-60 era we share youth adventures many. 12-15 of us as charter members of New Boston Road Social Club (NBRSC). In our senior years re-activated sharing those memories that we can't forget. Farewell good and dear Tom. Tom Flynn

Tom Flynn - June 25, 2025 at 03:04 PM