



Thomas Germuska

March 4, 1940 - February 12, 2025

Thomas Allen Germuska, Sr., 84, retired communications consultant, formerly of Palatine, passed away unexpectedly on February 12, 2025 at home in Rolling Meadows, IL.

Born in Cleveland, Tom graduated from John Marshall High School and Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. He was a Chicago Sun-Times reporter for six years before taking on a public relations position at United Airlines. He was at United for two decades before starting his own independent consulting company.

Tom was devoted to his church, and for many years ran the PADS Overnight Shelter Program at All Saints Lutheran Church. He enjoyed building homes with Habitat for Humanity.

Tom gave deeply of himself, had a strong sense of duty, and celebrated over 47 years of sobriety. A skilled ceramicist, he enjoyed his time at Throw Elements Pottery in Arlington Heights. He especially loved exhibiting and selling his work at art shows, including the Edgewater Arts Festival, where he had numerous repeat customers.

Loving father of Thomas (Megan) Germuska of Avon Lake, OH and Joseph (Jenni Grover) Germuska of Skokie, IL. Proud step-grandfather ("Mr. G") of

Regan and Emma Campbell.

Dearest older brother of Richard "Dick" Germuska and Marilyn Best; brother-in-law of Joanne Germuska; and uncle of Jennifer (Tina Cameron) Rhone, Jill (Michael) Rotkis, and Jamie Germuska.

Preceded in death by former spouse Constance Ann Germuska (nee Gorlo) and parents Ladislav and Stella Elizabeth (nee Vernick) Germuska.

The family has chosen a private green cremation.

Memorial Service Saturday, March 22, 10am visitation (service begins 11am) at All Saints Lutheran Church, 630 S. Quentin Rd., Palatine, IL 60067. Lunch reception to follow, after the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to All Saints Lutheran Church, earmarked for the PADS Program.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-370-2959 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

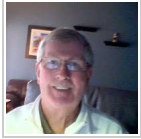
All Saints Lutheran Church
630 S Quentin Rd
Palatine, IL 60067
<https://allsaintspalatine.org/>

Memorial Service

MAR **22**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

All Saints Lutheran Church
630 S Quentin Rd
Palatine, IL 60067
<https://allsaintspalatine.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ Tom and I both worked in the PR department at United Airlines for many years. But later in retirement we exchanged emails periodically to keep each other up to date. I know he was very proud of his creative work creating great sculptures. I am just today catching up with the fact that he is no longer with us, and I would like to extend condolences to Tom and Joe and other members of the Germuska family.

Joseph Hopkins - May 05, 2025 at 03:54 PM

RD

“ Rest in peace, Tom. We met at a professional group in the '90s, later served on the board together and shared many laughs over the years, including when we sorted donated bread for the PADS program. He created many good works in the world and will be remembered for that. My condolences to his family.

R. Dawson - April 25, 2025 at 09:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Germuska.

March 17, 2025 at 11:14 AM

MS

“ My friend Irene Wojcik and I volunteered at All Saints PADS site. Our orientation was conducted by Tom. He was so kind, generous and joyful. Tom would check out our dinner menu and thank us for serving the homeless community. Tom will be greatly missed. May his memory be eternal!
Margo Snoad

Margo Snoad - February 20, 2025 at 12:23 PM

LL

“ I had the privilege to volunteer with Tom at the All Saints PADS shelter for many years. Tom was always great to work with. I will keep Tom's family and friends in my prayers. May Tom's memory be a blessing to his family and friends.

Laura Lampe

Laura Lampe - February 18, 2025 at 05:21 PM

NK

“ Thank you for the update and telling us about Tom. So sorry for this loss. He is the reason our Church got involved in supporting PADS. We are thankful for his wonderful ministry and support for all those in need. Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, Palatine, and all our volunteers that worked at PADS, remember him well. He was kind and loving and kept everything running smoothly. We will send a gift to PADS in his memory. Prayers for his family.

Fr. Alexander and Natalie Kuchta.

Natalie Kuchta - February 18, 2025 at 09:55 AM

JH

“ I was a volunteer at PADS for over 20 years and worked with Tom for many of them. He was always cheerful and helpful and it was evident how much he cared about the PADS system and all the people. He was a very caring person.

Jane Heaton

Jane H - February 18, 2025 at 09:49 AM

BM

“ *Bridget and Alan Murdoch purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Thomas Germuska.*



Bridget and Alan Murdoch - February 15, 2025 at 05:33 PM

BM

“ *I had the good fortune of meeting Tom at Thrown Elements Pottery about 15 years ago. We shared so many laughs and stories. He was a dear friend and a kind and generous soul. I will miss him.*
Bridget Murdoch

Bridget Murdoch - February 15, 2025 at 05:27 PM

MO

I met him at pottery also. And Bridget. Sending hugs to his family

Mary Anne OToole - February 17, 2025 at 07:19 PM

RW

“ *Tom and I were good friends- seeing a play together at the Goodman theater recently- and being able to teach him ceramics and work with him one-on-one many moons ago meant the world to me. He was an incredible inspiration and a kind friend. He always believed in me and showed up to one of my first sales to support. I love him dearly and remember him fondly. One day I know we will meet again!*

rachel “ranch” ward - February 15, 2025 at 04:17 PM

GB

“ I remember Tom asking me to use my truck and help move a homeless man into his first real home in years. The man sat on his cooler and cried a prayer. Later I joined PADS.

George Buerger - February 15, 2025 at 07:48 AM

MD

“ Matt D. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Germuska.

Matt D. - February 13, 2025 at 08:29 PM