



Thomas Hitch

March 28, 1939 - October 31, 2025

Thomas “Tip” Hitch was the devoted father of Anne Collins and Rachel Hitch (Gary Lynch). Tip passed away peacefully on October 31, 2025.

Tip was born in Maryville, Tennessee, the second of five children. As a child, he loved music and sang in the church choir. He described himself as an active and mischievous boy who thrived in school, joining the band and choir and proudly earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

He graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1961 with a degree in Metallurgical Engineering and earned his Ph.D. in Materials Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1973. Tip and his wife, Harriet, built lifelong friendships during their years in Troy, New York, before settling in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. He enjoyed a successful career at David Sarnoff Research Labs in Princeton, where he held several patents and traveled to Japan for research.

Tip found joy in many pursuits -- hunting, scuba diving, photography, and travel. He was known for his warmth, love of jokes and appreciation for music, especially Irish songs. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather who believed deeply in education. He took pride in helping his children and grandchildren pursue their studies and passions.

In addition to his daughters, Tip is also survived by his grandchildren Jesse Collins, Sarah Collins, and Vivienne Lynch; his siblings Susann Thadani, Sam Hitch (Gail Kaiser), and Gail Giffin; and his nieces and nephews Nancy Grinder, Robert and Raj Thadani, James II and Thomas Hitch, Kristi Martin, Terese Schoonbee, and Bjorn Hitch.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Harriet Greene Hitch; his parents Mary Ann Nuchols Hitch and James William Hitch; his brothers James "Jimmy" Giffin (Gail) and Robert K. Hitch (Yvonne Hitch); his close friend Dorothy Hoffner; and his faithful dog Alice.

Tip lived with bipolar illness and faced it with honesty and openness. His psychiatric stability in recent years was a blessing to all who loved him.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Shirley Ryan AbilityLab's Acquired Brain Injury Support Group, which Rachel helped to found: <https://www.sralab.org/give-now>.

- Designate: Other
- Write in: ABI Group

Celebration of Life for Thomas Hitch: Sunday, November 16, 2025, 11:30 am - 2 pm, Third Floor Show Room at The Breakers 5333 N. Sheridan Rd. Chicago, IL 60640.

11:30 am - 12:00 pm Music

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Quaker Meeting for Worship in loving memory

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Reception

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-318-1305 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV **16**. 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

The Breakers at Edgewater Beach - Showroom

5333 N. Sheridan Rd.

Third Floor

Chicago, IL 60640

<https://www.seniorlifestyle.com/property/illinois/the-breakers-at-edgewater-beach/>

*11:30- 12noon Guest Arrival and Music--- 12noon - 1pm Quaker Meeting for Worship in loving memory ---
1pm- 2pm Reception*

Tribute Wall

JD

“ I remember the time years ago when my neighbor and I drove up to NJ to deliver a car for Anne. While there we wanted to visit Philadelphia, and cousin Tip saw to it we got to see the Liberty Bell. He had worked hard all day and was tired, but he made the sacrifice to make sure we got to see the symbol of America's freedom. Very special. Thanks, Cousin Tip.
Love, from Cousin Jan

Jan Driver - November 18, 2025 at 04:47 PM

AC

That is a nice memory. Thank you for driving the brown chevy to the levy (I mean Philadelphia) I enjoyed driving that car. Love you! Anne

Anne Collins - November 26, 2025 at 09:54 PM

AC

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Anne Collins - November 10, 2025 at 05:54 PM

AC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Anne Collins - November 10, 2025 at 05:53 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Team Inclusive Funeral Care - November 10, 2025 at 11:23 AM

AR

“ *Tip, of blessed memory, saved my life twice back in Troy N.Y. (my father took his master's degree in R.P.I, and our families created a "Kibbutz" of sorts with several other families). Once he saved me when he found me already half sleeping in the snow on the way to school, when my parents were not aware school was off. The second time when I had my accident, and he took over all the logistics of promptly evacuating me. I am blessed to have known him as well as his late wife and both his daughters, may they live long and prosper.*

Arnon Rubin - November 08, 2025 at 11:02 AM

AC

Thank you for that story Arnon! I had not heard those stories. We were lucky to have that community living experience! I loved those times and still love some of those Wick friends!

Anne Collins - November 08, 2025 at 11:02 PM

JS

“ Anne and Rachel, your dad was a picture in my memories of our teen years,..for some reason I remember him in the driveway or opening the door guess it is a sign of the welcome he always made me feel. Funny connection that was never made before is my mom went to Russell Safe college in Troy New York and her first husband to RPI (they were married for a whole 6 months) . Sending my love to you both as you grieve and remember your Dad

Julie-Ann Silberman-Bunn - November 07, 2025 at 07:47 PM

AC

Julie-Ann thank you for that memory. I remember living in Troy with all the other families in graduate housing. It was a lot of fun. We had such sweet friends. I got to visit our friends from Sweden when I was 16. After the service, I would love to connect with you to catch up. Hope all is well. 🤔🙏🌈

Anne Collins - November 08, 2025 at 12:13 AM

EG

“ My sincere condolences to you Rachel, Anne and you family. I'm remember Tip well and I'm sad to hear of his passing! Hugs and prayers to you all.
Sincerely, Ed Greatti

Edward Greatti - November 06, 2025 at 09:40 PM

BH

“ I have many memories of Tip and the wonderful Thanksgiving meals at Tip and Harriet's place in NJ. Also many fun activities at the farm in TN.

A great cousin to have.

Ben Hitch

Ben Hitch - November 04, 2025 at 10:07 AM

AC

Thank you Ben for those memories shared. Mom made a great Thanksgiving meal. I loved her homemade bread. I am glad dad had you and Jan as cousins. I hope you are enjoying retirement. Take care.

Anne Collins - November 08, 2025 at 12:15 AM