



## Thomas 'Tom' Andrew Larmondra

January 18, 1947 - January 6, 2018

This is the story of Thomas Andrew Larmondra Sr. (a.k.a. Tom, Tommy, Toto, Uncle Cabin, Sensei, and Bubba), who passed away on Saturday, January 6, 2018 in Charlotte, NC. If you knew anything about Tom, you know of his unending passion for, and commitment to, his family. Tom is survived by the love of his life and best friend, Susan "Susie" Anne Deegan Larmondra, whom he married nearly 50 years ago. The memories they created together are plentiful, and there is no question who Tom's REAL pride & joy was. Tom was the prototypical patriarch as the unquestioned leader of his tribe. Tom is survived by his children, Lisa Marie Ensalaco and husband Mike, Thomas Andrew Jr. and wife Laura, John Daniel and wife Arielle, and Lucy Deegan Schwartz and husband Dave. Tom's love will continue to impact generations to come, as he is also survived by grandchildren Mary Grace Ensalaco, Olivia Deegan Ensalaco, Molly Anne Ensalaco, Michael John Ensalaco, Katherine Eileen "Katie" Ensalaco, Ethan Angelo Larmondra, Colette Christine Larmondra, Andrew Samuel Larmondra, and yet another expected in May '18. Tom is now reunited in heaven with two little ones who preceded him in death much too soon; his daughter Olivia Deegan Larmondra and grandson Gabriel Thomas Larmondra. Tom's love for his family was only eclipsed by his love for Jesus Christ. It was evident from a young age that Tom's calling was to live a life following Christ and to lead others to Him. Hundreds if not thousands owe their eternity either directly or indirectly to Tom's ministries and Tom's heart for Jesus. This began as a long time member and youth ministry leader at

Centenary United Methodist Church in Bath, NY, and continued as founder of the "C.L.O.D. Squad" (Christ's Love Opens Doors) which was a clown ministry that served children all across the country. Tom was also a youth director at Casowasco, a Christian retreat camp in the Finger Lakes region of New York. As Tom grew older, he did not slow down his drive to satisfy his eternal calling. In 2006, he brought his spiritual gift to North Carolina as a member and Sunday School teacher at Williamson Chapel United Methodist Church. Despite the people Tom has led to the Lord, Tom often claimed his proudest accomplishment was ensuring all his children knew and loved the Lord, which they undoubtedly do, already impacting multiple generations. To complement Tom's heart for love, peace, and grace come his passion for patriotism, structure, discipline, and the martial arts. After serving in the US Navy including deployment on the USS Little Rock during Vietnam, Tom turned his passions to traditional Japanese karate. Tom studied under several top international masters and grew to the rank of 7th degree black belt founding and leading several dojos in New York and North Carolina. Tom is fanatical about the second amendment and a member of the Fraternal Order of Police of Iredell County and the National Rifle Association. Tom was dedicated to a career that provided for his family. It started with a newspaper route and moving lawns when he was young, and progressed into working in an autobody shop, delivering milk door to door, bartending, selling insurance, bank teller, alarm system technician, and purchasing manager at Polly-O Dairy. In 1985, Tom found his long-term niche with a career in industrial sales and engineering, culminating as one of the region's top Hydraulic & Pneumatic Specialists. Tom's love will be his legacy and will be felt for generations. Well Done, Good & Faithful Servant. The family will receive friends on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 from 1:00-2:00 PM with a service with full military honors following at 2:00 PM at Williamson's Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. Mark Pitts and Rev. Jan Brittain officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Williamson's Chapel UMC Youth Fund, 575 Brawley School Rd, Mooresville, NC 28117. Cavin-Cook Funeral Home &

Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Larmondra family. Condolences may be made to the family at [www.cavin-cook.com](http://www.cavin-cook.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ Thomas 'Tom' Andrew Larmondra

February 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM



“ Thomas 'Tom' Andrew Larmondra

February 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ Thomas 'Tom' Andrew Larmondra

February 14, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ WAS A CLOWNSELLOR AT CASOWASCO FOR MANY YEARS AND WAS TRYING TO FIND UNCLE CABIN AND WAS SO SADDENED TO LEARN HE HAD PASSED. WILL NEVER FORGET THE STOPPING THE CAR AND ALL OUR LITTLE CLOWNS RUNNING AROUND THE VAN AND THEN JUMPING BACK INTO THE VAN. HE WILL BE MISSED BY ALL THOSE CLOWNS HE TAUGHT AT CASOWASCO! MANY PARENTS WILL NOT FORGET HE TAUGHT THEIR TUTUMIDDLE SCHOOLERS TO SAY (POOPY FARTS)!! LOVE TO YOUR FAMILY FROM HUGGLES!!!!

Susan Winters - March 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ Happy belated first birthday in heaven! Remember to honk and wave to the person walking along the street even if you don't know them because it just might make their day!

Rev Sandy McGrady - January 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ ~

*Tanya Larmondra,*

*Watertown, New York*

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**Tanya Larmondra** - January 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ *Feeling very sad to learn of Tom's passing, was really looking forward to seeing him again after forty some years, served with Tom in the same compartment (2nd div.) on board the USS Litterock CLG 4. In 1965, my condolences to family and friends*

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**Fernando Salazar** - January 15, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ *When i was younger I remember going to clown alley for a week at casowasco for a week and Tommy was my counselor and he taught me so many different ways to put clown make up on we always had fun being clowns and when I needed someone to talk to he would always listen he was always my favorite uncle.R.I.P Uncle Tommy we will always love and miss u forever*

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**Tanya Larmondra** - January 13, 2018 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ So many years had passed before reconnecting with Tom from days in Bath. He will be greatly missed. Much love to all of you and healing prayers.

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**Pamela (Honey) (Cram) Morgan** - January 13, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Our deepest sympathy to you, Susie and your dear family. Such a good man will be missed by many. Bath, NY certainly became a better place for having the Larondra family here for a time. We will be keeping you all in our prayers. Phil and Lee Dickson and family

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**Lee/Phil Dickson** - January 12, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ You were an great man, and a stand out role model. We will miss you Tom, Uncle Cabin. Heaven has started its own C.L.O.D. Squad now.

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**Amanda (Freckles) Brien** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ With tears of joy and sadnessWe remember your dimpled smileAnd twinkling sparkling eyes!How you led by example to theold and the youngExpressing your faith in God's own Son and showing to all How very cool It is to beGod's own Fool!Truly God's grace has been a shinin'Having such a brother in ChristKnown as....Uncle Cabin!Peace to you all as you beginA new life knowing that Tom Will always be with each of you as you smile, laugh and share how the Clown with the yellow hair took time to love and share! Blessings!

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**Rev. Sandy McGrady** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ As I sit here watching all the family and friends pouring into your memorial, I am in awe of the legacy you've left. Never have I seen since a sincere and overwhelming outpouring of love and admiration. I pray I may be half the man you were, and love nearly as well as you did.

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**Paul Scusa** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ An amazing husband, father and role model! A true pleasure to cross paths with Tom and his family on this journey through life. Thoughts and prayers from the Beckman Family! Godspeed!

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**Jon Beckman** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of Toms passing. We first met 30 some years ago and became good friends. We worked together so on many projects over the years and taught me so much. He was a really great man. My Thoughts and prayers go out to Susie and the family

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**Bryan snyder** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ I was heart broken to hear the news of Tom's passing. He was truly one of the greats. From the first moment I met him as a young teen until now he has been a wonderful support and friend. All those time he came to Elmira college to have lunch with me and guide me to my path after college will always be cherished memories for me. Please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers during this very tough time. Love you all the Larmondra family!

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**Carolyn Rumsey** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Susie and family, please know that you are in my constant thoughts and prayers. Tom was such a special man and I really enjoyed talking with him about the unnamed photos for our Legacy box. We lost touch over the years, as cousins sometimes do, but I will always think of you and Tom as my own real life Barbie and Ken! Such wonderful memories! I will be with you in spirit with lots of hugs and love.

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**Joanie Reed** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ While traveling on church business a few years ago, Tom insisted on making hotel accommodations since he had "Diamond" status with Holiday Inn/IHG. Upon arriving at the hotel, "Diamond Status" seemingly meant we received an extra bottle of water in our rooms. I never let Tom hear the end of it, and forever and affectionately called him DT (Diamond Tom). Truth is Tom was a rare gem of a man. There will never be another DT. We spoke on the phone right before Christmas and I congratulated him on his retirement. We both expressed our desire to finally be able to spend more time together. Tom's passing created a huge hole in all of our lives that can never be filled. I will miss him and think of him every day.

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**Chuck Porter** - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Although we are sad about his early passing, I can only imagine how fast he was running to embrace Jesus.. and hearing Jesus lovingly whisper to him welcome my dear and faithful servant. I can almost feel the embrace.. love to all of you, sorry we cannot make it down at this time but know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers

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**Kathy Brennan Rose** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ Tom was truly a great man and taught me so much along with my family. I joined his Sunday school class 5 years ago and then joined him in his dojo learning my first white then yellow belt. He was and will always be an inspiration to me and my entire family. He taught me so much about myself and I learned so much in karate from him. His pranks were always entertaining and worth a laugh. He made me really believe we have a God and I will truly miss him. He will remain in my heart and my family heart forever. Much love to Tom family please let us know if there is anything we can do.

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**Amanda Griffith** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ One of a few men that could only teach me the meaning of life and love. You will always be in my heart! I salute you!

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**Levi Wheeler** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Tom was one of a kind. Always with a smile and laugh. He loved a good joke and was a wonderful teacher to all. He will be greatly missed. Susie he love you and it showed everytime he spoke of you. With much love to you and your family.

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**Rozelle/Glenn Weber** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ I have known Tom since high school. It was always a pleasure to be in his presence. His quick wit, charming smile and his giving and caring attitude and actions were always there to be seen. Though we did not see each other on a regular bases, we kept in touch. My sincere and heartfelt condolences to Susie, their family and friends. Tom will be missed by many.

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**Bill Barker** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ Lots of love and thoughts to Susie and the family. We are truly blessed to have you as our neighbors these past 11 plus year. Andy and I were always greeted with a smile, wave and hello neighbor or a honk every time we saw him. Every time we talked, I always felt like I was learning something from Tom! I loved your Donald Trump signs in the yard and your strong republican views! Your love for cats! . And boy oh boy, you were so proud of Susie, your children and grandchildren! You were so happy and excited to updates us and show pictures on what everyone was up too! You were the true definition of love thy neighbor and we always looked up to you and Susie as our adoptive NC parents. You both are ALWAYS looking out for us! You left a huge impact on our lives and you will truly be missed! Prayers for the family as your mourn such an amazing man! We love you Susie!!! Note from Avery...I love you Susie and I can't wait to hug you. I miss Tom. He's in heaven now and you have me as a neighbor to hug anytime you need a hug.

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**Lauren and Andy Turner** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ We (CUMC) are all so sorry about the passing of a very dear and loving friend...we pray for God's love to bring you all through this very difficult time. Tom was an amazing Christian man and we were privileged to know him and love him. We send our love and hugs to all the Larmondra family....Susie, Tommy, Lisa, Danny, Lucy and mates and grandchildren!!

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**Kathy Putman** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Remembering the good old days of Tom coaching the opposing team in Bath Midget Football in my youth, as well as all the youth activities that we all took part in at the Methodist Church in which Tom was always there to help out with. He was just one of those parents that all the kids enjoyed being around. I had the pleasure of playing quite a few soccer games with Tommy and Dan over the years. From those experiences alone you could definitely tell that Tom was a great father and mentor to his family. Couldn't have asked for 2 better teammates. God Bless

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**Chad Hojnoski** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Special love to Susie, may you be surrounded by the love and comfort of your family and friends. My condolences to all your family. With much love, Penny Schmitt

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**Penny Schmitt** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Wishing you great joy as you remember all the wonderful times you spent with Tom. What a great comfort to know that you'll be with him again and that he'll be looking out for you until you join him.

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**Sara Keeney** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ I met Tom almost 21 years ago when my daughter was just a few weeks old and Susie was going to watch her for me (and later my son too). The kids loved them both like grandparents. There were always many Tom stories as they got old enough to tell them. (It took me a bit of time to figure out who "Bob" was!) Tom's huge personality touched so many. We will miss him and send all our thoughts and prayers to his family, who will miss him more than we can imagine, I'm sure.

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**Connie Longacre** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

NG

“ Tom is an inspiration to me. Not just me, my entire family. He treated us as if we were family. He helped me in so many ways that I never got to really truly thank him for. We will miss Tom, including all that pranks he pulled, very dearly. Great love and support to Susie and all the family and to the many people he made family.

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**Nic Griffith** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I have many memories of Uncle Tom, one that does stand out is whenever we would visit the family, he would say Hi Stephfartnie, and sometimes even make a fart noise. lol I will miss him greatly. He was a good guy and loved his family. Love you Uncle Tom!

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**Stephanie Wade** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Wishing family and friends peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. God bless.

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**Scott Klene** - January 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM