



Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.

May 10, 1936 - August 24, 2020

Lowell Lorenza "Chink" Thomas, Sr., 84, of Altavista, died Monday, August 24, 2020 at his home. He was the husband of Arlene Edmonds Thomas.

He was born May 10, 1936 in Altavista, a son of the late Edgar B. Thomas and Nell Jones Thomas. He was a member of St. Victoria's Catholic Church and a retired car salesman.

Chink began his career in car sales at an early age of 17, he worked at Highview Motors and Fellers Chevrolet. He was also part owner of Arlene's Florist, Inc. He was known for his loyal, dedicated service to the auto industry and his customers. He was also a member of General Motors Legend of Leaders. Whether you knew him for a moment or a lifetime, it was inescapable, that Chink's life was filled with respect, faith, laughter, a unique personality and love. Chink had a smile that was contagious to everyone he met. He was kindhearted, generous and maintained friendships with people of all ages, races and walks of life. He was past president of Jaycees, Altavista Chamber of Commerce and Exchange Club and the Grand Marshall of the Altavista Christmas Parade. Chink loved to sing and was blessed with a beautiful bass voice that often was requested at weddings and funerals.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Chris Thomas and his wife, Missy of Woden, TX and Michael Thomas and his wife, Courtney of Houston,

TX; one daughter, Cynthia T. Pickering and her husband, Art of Florida; one brother, E.B. Thomas of South Carolina; seven grandchildren, Kevin, Eric, Colby, Justin, Ryan, Shandi and Blake; and four great grandchildren, Brian, Benjamin, William and Noah.

He was preceded in death by a son, Lowell Lorenza "Chip" Thomas, Jr.; one brother, Clement Irwin Thomas; two sisters, Rachel T. Keatts and Montaree T. Blair; and a special cousin, Deborah J. Mason.

A funeral mass will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, August 27, 2020 at St. Victoria's Catholic Church by Father Jim Gallagher with interment to follow in Green Hill Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m., Wednesday at Finch and Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Altavista.

The family suggests that those wishing to make memorials consider St. Victoria's Catholic Church, P.O. Box 640, Hurt, VA 24563 or Friends of Campbell County Animal Control, 1400 Edley Place, Lynchburg, VA 24502.

Cemetery Details

Green Hill Cemetery

300 Westwood Drive
Altavista, VA 24517

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 26. 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

Finch and Finch, Altavista
809 Main St.
Altavista, VA 24517

Funeral Mass

AUG 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Victoria Catholic Church
305 Victoria Drive
Hurt, VA 24563

Tribute Wall

RO

“ Roger Owen lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



roger owen - September 10, 2020 at 09:04 AM

MD

“ I am sure that my dad and Chink are up there dickering over the price of an Impala at this moment! What a lovely man he was and will be really missed.
Melissa & Bill Daniels

Melissa & Bill Daniels - September 03, 2020 at 12:32 PM

PI

“ Paul VanKerckhove II lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Paul VanKerckhove II - September 02, 2020 at 12:25 PM

SM

“ Sandy Myers lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Sandy Myers - August 30, 2020 at 05:15 AM

MW

“ Mary Woodie lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



mary woodie - August 28, 2020 at 07:18 PM

KA

“ Arlene, I didn't know your husband well, but you were such a good friend to my mom, Nona Tucker. I now live in Charleston, but I read the Lynchburg paper online every day. I'm very sorry about your husband's passing. May you have many memories to help you in the days ahead.

Kay Tucker Addis

Kay Tucker Addis - August 28, 2020 at 09:13 AM

BI

“ Sorry for your loss. I first met Chink in RCIA at Saint Victoria. Enjoyed being around him, he was a very good friend.



Boyd T Arnold III - August 27, 2020 at 09:24 AM

AH

“ Anne Harrison lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Anne Harrison - August 27, 2020 at 08:21 AM

KF

“ Arlene, so very sorry to learn of Chinks passing. I moved to Altavista about 45 years ago and one of the first people I met was Chink. He gave me an old set of golf clubs to start me into the sport of golf. We became good friends which lasted until his death. We lost touch after I moved away from Altavista but I never forgot Chinks kindness and humor. He certainly was special and one of a kind. I was very blessed to have met Chink and able to call him friend. RIP.

kenneth farrar - August 26, 2020 at 09:37 PM

MS

“ Arlene,
We were so saddened to hear of Chink's passing. I have so many good memories of Chink working with him at Fellers Chevrolet. I shared so many laughs during that time and you could always count on him. Rest in Peace my dear friend. May God comfort you and the family during this difficult time.
Mary Ann & Danny Singleton

Mary F. Singleton - August 26, 2020 at 06:49 PM

RM

“ Ray & Judy Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Ray & Judy Mitchell - August 26, 2020 at 06:09 PM

ME

“ I am sad to say that I lost contact with Chink over the years but he made one of the biggest impacts on my life. I learned many of life's lessons from him and use many of them today. He took me in as a young salesman at Fellers and showed me so many things. It was much more than about selling cars...He showed me how to respect and treat people. He was a great man and it was an honor to know him.

-Mike Elliott

Mike Elliott - August 26, 2020 at 12:25 PM

PM

“ Arlene and family, we are so sorry to learn of Chink's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Blessings, Don and Patti

Patti Morton - August 26, 2020 at 09:36 AM

AM

“ Chink was a really great guy and salesman. Always a smile and good friend to many.I bought cars from him and it was a pleasure. Prayers for family during this time. Ann Mayberry

Ann Mayberry - August 26, 2020 at 07:42 AM

SN

“ Steve Nichols lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



steve nichols - August 25, 2020 at 08:49 PM

JW

“ Arlene,
We are so saddened to learn of Chink’s
passing. He was always a true gentleman, fun-
loving, and never steered you wrong when
purchasing cars. May God bring you comfort
during this difficult time.
Ken and Joan Woodson



Joan Woodson - August 25, 2020 at 08:10 PM

SD

“ Bet he and Rachel are already singing hymns to everyone in
heaven. Prayers to the family. He will truly be missed

Steve and Jean Dalton - August 25, 2020 at 06:19 PM

AP

“ Anita Phillips lit a candle in memory of Lowell
Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Anita Phillips - August 25, 2020 at 05:43 PM

BG

“ Betty & Bill Gillespie lit a candle in memory of
Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Betty & Bill Gillespie - August 25, 2020 at 04:07 PM

TE

“ I have really enjoyed being a friend, and all of the fun moments we have shared.

You will be missed by all, R.I.P., buddy.....till we meet again

Troy Emerson - August 25, 2020 at 02:19 PM

PW

“ Paula Walden lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Paula Walden - August 25, 2020 at 01:39 PM

SO

“ Bought my first automobile from him. He later told me I traded in a clunker. He was grinning with a gleam in his eye when he told me that. He was good to me and was always well thought of. Sorry to hear of his passing. Shirley Orrell

Shirley Orrell - August 25, 2020 at 01:04 PM

CW

“ Chester And Christy Witt lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Chester and Christy Witt - August 25, 2020 at 01:03 PM

BD

“ *Billy & Diane Davis lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.*



Billy & Diane Davis - August 25, 2020 at 12:56 PM

SK

“ *So sad to hear this. Prayers for the family. I grew up at Clement Memorial with Chink and his family. He was a very likeable person, always friendly and smiling. Loved to hear him sing in the choir. Will miss him.*

Shelby Clay Keatts

Shelby Clay Keatts - August 25, 2020 at 12:51 PM

KW

“ *Kathy And Ray Walker lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.*



Kathy and Ray Walker - August 25, 2020 at 11:29 AM

FF

“ *From the Staerr, Papaserge, and Foote Families purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr..*



From the Staerr, Papaserge, and Foote Families - August 25, 2020 at 09:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr..*



August 25, 2020 at 09:48 AM



“ *Arlene and family, we are sorry for the passing of your loved one. May you be comforted by many good memories during this difficult time. His smile brought laughter to many over the years. Sincerely, Billy and Darlene Robertson*

darlene robertson - August 25, 2020 at 09:45 AM



“ *Prayers for his loved ones. Chink was an amazing gentleman. May he Rest In Peace with Jesus and those gone on before him. 🕊*



Sharon Shields Kubat - August 25, 2020 at 08:51 AM



“ *Sacred Garden Spray was purchased for the family of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr..*



August 25, 2020 at 08:34 AM

DD

“ Arlene, so sorry to hear about the passing of Chink. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
Sincerely,
Dennis DeLappe

Dennis DeLappe - August 25, 2020 at 05:55 AM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr..



August 24, 2020 at 11:50 PM

CS

“ Arlene I am so saddened to lessen of Chinks passing. I have so many memories of working with him at Highview Motors. We shared so many laughs. We bought so many cars through his direction. Never steered us wrong. Rest In Peace my dear friend.

Celeste Shirlen - August 24, 2020 at 09:59 PM

PP

“ Pat Puckette lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Pat Puckette - August 24, 2020 at 09:58 PM

LM

“ *Lucinda Mattox lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.*



Lucinda Mattox - August 24, 2020 at 08:49 PM

JM

“ *Jimmy Marr lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.*



Jimmy Marr - August 24, 2020 at 08:02 PM

JB

“ *Jerry Barnard lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.*



Jerry Barnard - August 24, 2020 at 07:55 PM

CD

“ *Have known Chink a very long time. Worked with him at Fellers. He was always joking and laughing. Sure he will be missed*

Carlton-Linda Dalton - August 24, 2020 at 07:55 PM

LB

“ *Linda Blessard lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.*



Linda Blessard - August 24, 2020 at 07:23 PM

ER

“ *Arlene And Mike I am so sorry to hear of Chinks passing keeping you all in my prayers and thoughts love Erma Jean*

Erma Reynolds - August 24, 2020 at 07:11 PM

BH

“ *Arlene and family. Was so saddened to read this. My thoughts and prayers are with you*



Betty Hunley - August 24, 2020 at 06:35 PM

JB

“ *He was the first friend I made when I came to Altavista. He got me involved in the Jaycees and got me interested in golf. It is said you can count good friends on one hand...Chink is one I can count. . I will miss him.*

Jim Blevins - August 24, 2020 at 06:01 PM

NR

“ Nancy Roark sent a virtual gift in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Nancy Roark - August 24, 2020 at 05:55 PM

NR

So sorry to hear of Chink's passing. He was one of a kind! He loved to sing and had a great Bass voice! Prayers to all the Family!

Nancy Roark - August 24, 2020 at 05:57 PM

CH

“ Connie Payne Hall lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Connie Payne Hall - August 24, 2020 at 05:24 PM

SA

“ Suellyn Allen lit a candle in memory of Lowell Lorenza Thomas Sr.



Suellyn Allen - August 24, 2020 at 05:10 PM