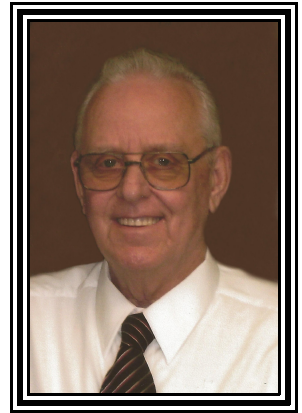


Obituary

Thomas Russell Bowers, 71



Thomas Russell Bowers, 71, of Blackfoot, Idaho passed away Saturday, December 3, 2011 at his home hand-in-hand with the love of his life and eternal companion, Pat.

Tom was born April 21, 1940 in Wilmington, Delaware to Edward Thomas Bowers and Mildred Rebecca Russell. His youth was spent in Delaware where he graduated from Brownville Technical High School in Wilmington, Delaware. He spent eight years in the Delaware National Guard. He had also lived in Virginia and Texas as well as in Richfield and Salina Utah, and Pocatello, Idaho.

Thomas married Priscilla Cora Orbin on November 28, 1958. They had four children; Wendy, Tommy, Yvonne, and Danielle. He married Diane Rose Gardner on November 10, 1972. They had five children; Linda, Angela, Josh, Joey, and David. He married Patricia Ogden on September 8, 1985 and joined their families together with children Jerry, Kris, Mike, and Julie. Their marriage was later solemnized on May 27, 1992 in the Manti LDS Temple.

He worked for 7-11 Stores most of his life as a manager and in maintenance. Upon moving to Idaho, he worked in the maintenance department at Idaho State University retiring in 2003 but went back part-time until 2008. At the time of his death, he was employed with Country Coach Shuttle Service and spoke fondly of the children he transported. He formed great friendships throughout the years wherever he lived. In his free time he enjoyed serving in church callings, watching football, building and fixing things, cooking for family and friends, and especially playing with his grandchildren.

Thomas joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1974 in Odessa, Texas. He served in many callings throughout his life; scout leader, high priest group leader, counselor in the bishopric, ward mission leader, and stake missionary. He was currently serving as Sunday School President in the Blackfoot 3rd Ward.

He loved serving in the Idaho Falls Temple for two years. He considered one of the greatest highlights in his life, serving a mission in Tulsa, Oklahoma with his wife Pat, who he often referred to as 'his princess'. He treasured the time they spent together. He loved serving the people of Tulsa and working with the missionaries and formed eternal relationships there. He loved serving others and had a very strong testimony of the gospel. He was a great example to those around him by showing great courage and faith when faced with the diagnosis of an inoperable brain tumor. With a positive attitude, he cheerfully accepted the calling of his next mission and was ready to do whatever the Lord asked of him.

Thomas is survived by his wife, Pat of Blackfoot, Idaho; children, Wendy Lou (Mark) Brown of Glassboro, New Jersey, Thomas (Diane) Bowers of Gibbstown, New Jersey, Yvonne Bowers of Penns Grove, New Jersey, Danielle (Rick Hollis) Pierson of La Cross, Kansas, Linda (McCrae) Christiansen of Manti, Utah, Angela (Joe Greer) Bowers of Sterling, Virginia, Joshua (Sharla) Bowers of West Valley, Utah, Joseph (Heather) Bowers of West Valley, Utah, David (Sonia) Bowers of West Jordan, Utah, Jerry (Jill) Johnson of Woodland Hills, Utah, Kristina (Roger) Peterson of Rexburg, Idaho, Mike (Sheila) Johnson of Draper, Utah and Julie (Tony) Christiansen of Blackfoot, Idaho; brother, Richard (Ginny) Bowers of Wilmington, Delaware; sister, Pat (John) McAteer of Wilmington, Delaware; 43 grandchildren; and 9 great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and an infant brother, Edward.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, December 9, 2011 at Blackfoot 3rd Ward LDS Chapel, 845 Grant Street in Blackfoot. Family will meet with friends and relatives from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 South Shilling Ave in Blackfoot and for one hour prior to services at the church. Family will again meet with friends and relatives in Richfield, UT on Saturday, December 10, 2011 from 2:00 pm to 2:30 pm at Richfield 8th Ward LDS Chapel, 800 North 500 East in Richfield, UT. Interment will follow in Richfield City Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com.