



## Thomas Wayne Maddux

September 7, 1937 - April 16, 2021

Rev. T. W. Maddux, age 83, joined the Heavenly host on April 16, 2021, as he passed from his earthly life to his eternal one. He was born September 7, 1937 to Johnnie E. and Beulah Maddux.

Tom was raised in Denison, Texas where, as a youngster, he and his buddies would sometimes hop a train and ride to a jumping off point when the train slowed before crossing the Red River. As he got older, he enjoyed riding his motorcycle and playing on the school football team as a running back. He and the family recently enjoyed reading the newspaper clippings describing his many touchdown runs.

Tom joined the Air Force in 1955. After completing basic training, he married Dru, his high school sweetheart, on June 10, 1955. Tom was assigned to the Strategic Air Command Headquarters at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska upon completion of schooling in Cheyenne, Wyoming and Indianapolis, Indiana. Tom was proud to serve his country as evidenced by his receipt of two consecutive Airman of the Year awards. Their son, Rick, was born in the Offutt Air Force Base hospital. Tom was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1963 after four years of active service and four years as a reservist.

Tom was employed by Temco Aircraft for three years in Greenville, Texas where daughter Sandi was born.

Answering the call to serve in a different capacity, Rev. Maddux was an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God for a total of 56 years. Forty-one of those years were in full-time pastoral ministry and care. Thirty-two years were in Tyler at the former Grace Chapel Assembly of God. Tom also served for many years in the role of Presbyter covering a multi-county area. Upon his retirement from the Presbytery role, the North Texas District honored him with the tribute of a lifetime Honorary Presbytership, an award bestowed on a select few as voted by his fellow ministers. Rev. Maddux also served on various sectional and district level committees, the board of Teen Challenge, the board of the Tyler Chapter of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship and others.

Tom loved working with his hands and was a skilled craftsman. He utilized these skills for building / refurbishing churches, commercial buildings and homes.

Tom loved hunting especially in the mountains of Colorado. Closer to home, he was a long-time member of the Pecan Ridge Hunting Club and hunted numerous locations

throughout Texas. No matter the location, the special comradery with his hunting buddies was as good as the hunt.

Tom loved Louis L'Armour novels, sweets and a good truck. His greatest love was for God and his family.

Life will not be the same without his quick-witted humor, pranks, competitive WaHoo playing, hilarious storytelling, and tender prayers.

He is survived by his wife, Dru; son, Rick Maddux and wife, Cheryl; daughter, Sandi Knowles and husband, Mark; grandsons, Chad Maddux, Josh Knowles and wife, Katherine, and Clay Knowles. The added blessing of age are his great grandchildren Hank, Boone, and Maeve Knowles. He is also survived by his brother, David Maddux and sister, Kathleen Lindsey and a host of other family members. Tom had a multitude of cherished friends. Special recognition is given to Johnny Patterson his very close friend of 60 years. Also, to Roy Robinson and wife, Cindy along with their children who have shown much love to Tom and Dru.

Honorary pall bearers will be Tom's grandsons, Chad, Josh and Clay; his brother David, Johnny Patterson and Roy Robinson.

The family appreciates the hundreds of condolences, sweet messages and acts of kindness received.

Due to Covid related issues a private, family only graveside service will be held.

If desired, in lieu of flowers, a memorial contribution can be made to Pleasant Hills Children's Home - PO Box 1177 - Fairfield, TX 75840.

# Cemetery

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## **Rose Lawn Cemetery**

2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.

Tyler, TX, 75703

# Comments

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“ Uncle Tom was very dear to me. Some of my most cherished memories were with Uncle Tom, Aunt Dru, Rick and Sandi. I was very blessed to have such a loving family in my life. Uncle Tom with his kind words, accepting nature, gentle but firm teaching, his loving presence, never failed to inspire me to always want to live my life to be the best person I could be. The safest places in the world was with my Dad or with my Uncle Tom. I knew all was right with the world. I thank the Lord for the blessing of being part of this precious family. With loving memories swirling around my mind, I bid you a "I love you Uncle Tom and look forward to seeing you in Heaven one day", for this is not goodbye but simple see you later. And to rest of the family: Aunt Dru, Sandi & Mark, Rick & Cheryl, Uncle David, and Mom and all the cousins, I love you and you are in my prayers. Thank you for being a wonderful family. -Paula-Beth-

**Paula Byrd** - May 05 at 08:39 PM

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“ Tom was a partner in hunting, ministry, and fellowship. Was honored to preach for him many times and serve as neighboring pastors and in district ministry. He was one of God's finest gentlemen...my friend.

**Calvin Durham** - April 27 at 11:49 PM

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“ A true servant of God and a wonderful man, you will be missed by so many. We know you are celebrating with God today. You are all in our prayers. May God wrap you up in his arms today and in the days to come.

**Jeff & Reon Fields** - April 27 at 09:37 AM

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“ I remember preaching for Tom & Dru numerous times. He was a genuine godly man whom I held the deepest respect, love, and admiration. My deepest condolences to the family.

**Roy Beaird** - April 26 at 06:43 PM

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“ It's hard to express the love and respect I have for this man. He has been a pastor, family friend, and hunting companion my whole life. In 1972 at 13 years old I accepted Jesus Christ as my savior responding to an altar call from Tom my lifelong pastor while at a youth church camp in North East Texas. Along with my family, Tom and Dru are a part of my life's foundation. I could tell many happy stories. Tom's friendship will be missed.

**Marty Patterson** - April 26 at 12:26 PM

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“ Rick I am very sorry for ur loss. U are in my prayers. Doug Dotson

**doug dotson** - April 25 at 03:57 PM



“ Larry and I are very sorry for your loss. prayers for the family. THOMAS was my cousin and a wonderful person. Love Nancy

**Nancy jackson** - April 26 at 08:09 AM