



John Thomas Moss

June 12, 1945 - March 24, 2025

Services for John Thomas Moss, (79), of Tyler will be held on March 30, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Jim Gillen officiating. Entombment will follow at Rose Hill Cemetery under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

John passed away on March 24, 2025. He was born June 12, 1945, in Cairo, IL, to Lillard T. Moss and Betty Dickerson Moss.

He graduated with a business degree from Abilene Christian University. John was a professional seedsman, providing agricultural seed products to farmers and ranchers throughout Texas and the rest of the country, for a total of 58 years, during which time he owned and managed East Texas Seed Company, in Tyler, Texas, for the final 41 years.

John started his career in the seed business in 1967, where he worked alongside his father, L.T. "Tee" Moss at Moss Seed Company in Little Rock, Arkansas. It is with Tee that John first developed and incorporated his strong moral compass and high set of business ethics into his professional career. John always said that Tee taught him to do what is right, even if it wasn't the most profitable personally. Both men believed strongly in taking the talents and resources granted to you by God and reinvesting in productive activities to your peers within the industry, the community around you and, most

importantly, your employees and customers.

After a period of growth, Tee and John sold Moss Seed Company to Occidental Petroleum's Seed Division, Ring Around Products, Inc. in 1972, which ultimately led to John's relocation to Montgomery, Alabama. John remained with Ring Around until 1983.

John purchased East Texas Seed Company in 1984 and, alongside with his wife Margaret, has owned and managed East Texas Seed Company for the last 41 years. John relished working alongside his wife, Margaret, as well as his son, Richie Moss, who joined the company in 1997 and Seth Moss, Richie's son, who joined the company in 2022. after his time at The University of Arkansas. In 2010, John handed the reins of day-to-day operations of the business to Richie and assumed a chairman role within the company, providing key strategic guidance to Richie, Margaret, Seth, and the remainder of the East Texas Seed Company team for the past 15 years. His time and energy turned to assisting in any way he could with the Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County, serving as a long-time board member. John and Margaret were one of the first donors to the capital campaign. The Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County is an organization that not only brings hope, healing and justice to child abuse victims, but also equips the community to recognize, report and prevent abuse. In addition, John contributed his time as a Board member and as President at both Hollytree Country Club and Willow Brook Country Club.

Within the seed industry, John's impact was profound, as John believed deeply that no leadership position was ever achieved without paying your dues and, instead of complaining, it was always more productive to put in the effort yourself to effect the change you wanted to see. By the end of his career, John had been President of the Southern Field Seed Council, achieved a lifetime Honorary Membership for past positions held with the

Texas Seed Trade Association, including as Chairman of the Executive Search Committee and a member of their Board of Directors, President of the Southern Seed Association and a Regional V.P. of the American Seed Trade Association. One of John's most scathing letters, for him at least, that was written in 2010, was to reprimand the lack of cooperation and productive conversations at a recent seed industry event. It was John's impression that folks were becoming afraid they would give away the "family secret" if they shared what they knew, and John reminded them that there were no secrets in the seed industry as he could make two phone calls and find out any answer he wanted. John believed greatly in the human connection, and that it was always better to work together. John's impact within the industry was often to act as a "mediator" between battling factions or fiefdoms within the organizations and getting them to see the benefit of working collaboratively.

John was preceded in death by his parents, L.T. and Betty Moss, and sister Linda Moss. He is survived by his loving family: his wife of 39 years, Margaret, two daughters, Sandie Rauschenberger (Todd), Jennifer Hollon (Jimmy), two sons, Richie Moss and Jarod Moss (Kimmy). Grandchildren, Cory Rauschenberger, Nicole Findley, Megan Sellers, J. B. Moss, Morgan Moss, Seth Moss, Avery Moss, Wesley Moss, Emmy Moss, Sunday Moss, and six great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Rick Grisham, Mike Craig, Chris Hudson, Don Robert Johnson, Harry Leatherwood, Don Neill, George Rowe and Steve Simmons. Honorary pallbearers will be his grandsons, Cory Rauschenberger, J. B. Moss, Seth Moss, and great grandson, Timmer Herman.

Visitation is scheduled from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 29, 2025 at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway in Tyler.

In lieu of flowers a gift in memory of John may be made to The Pinwheel Endowment Fund, Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County, P.O. Box 132889, Tyler, TX 75713.

Cemetery Details

Rose Hill Cemetery

Tyler, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 29. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Service

MAR 30. 2:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



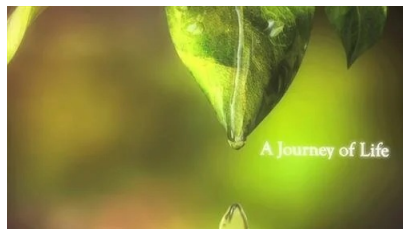
“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of John Thomas Moss



Stewart Family Funeral Home - March 30, 2025 at 10:48 AM



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Thomas Moss



Stewart Family Funeral Home - March 29, 2025 at 12:28 PM



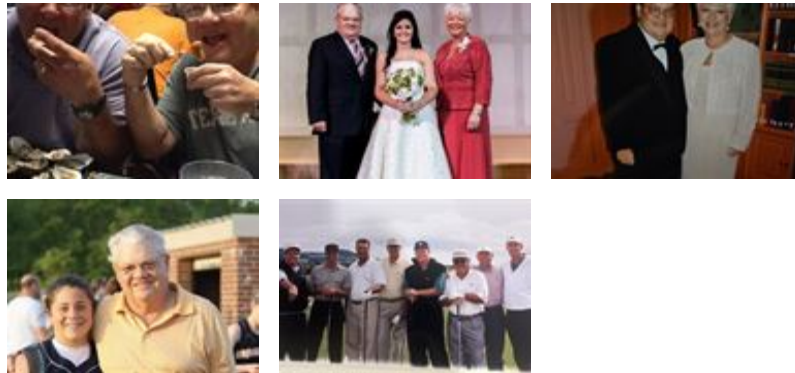
“ Kelley Uzzell lit a candle in memory of John Thomas Moss



Kelley Uzzell - April 02, 2025 at 10:07 AM



“ 79 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - March 29, 2025 at 12:24 PM

KC

“ Karen C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Thomas Moss.

Karen C. - March 28, 2025 at 11:39 AM

DB

“ Deenie and Paul Becton purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of John Thomas Moss.



Deenie and Paul Becton - March 27, 2025 at 09:32 PM

MR

“ Molly Rauschenberger purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of John Thomas Moss.



Molly Rauschenberger - March 27, 2025 at 08:28 PM

SK

“ Sabine K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Thomas Moss.

Sabine K. - March 27, 2025 at 07:44 PM

LB

“ We have wonderful memories of Pop and Margaret around Aggie baseball!! He was a great friend to all who knew him. You all are in our thoughts and prayers in the coming days❤️❤️

Larry and Arline Bell - March 27, 2025 at 06:47 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Thomas Moss.



March 27, 2025 at 05:44 PM

YO

“ *Your Friends in Oregon purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of John Thomas Moss.*



Your Friends in Oregon - March 27, 2025 at 02:17 PM

DW

“ *Dean Wolfe purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of John Thomas Moss.*



Dean Wolfe - March 27, 2025 at 12:56 PM

DW

“ *Dean Wolfe planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Thomas Moss.*

Dean Wolfe - March 27, 2025 at 12:56 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Thomas Moss.*



March 27, 2025 at 11:59 AM

WO

“ Weatherford Ob/Gyn purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of John Thomas Moss.



Weatherford Ob/Gyn - March 27, 2025 at 10:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Thomas Moss.

March 27, 2025 at 09:04 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Thomas Moss.



March 27, 2025 at 09:04 AM

MS

“ When I was a very young woman, John helped me at an important time. This will not make sense to many others, but when I was blue, remorseful, he took me to see *Three Dog Night* (!). When he heard "Jeremiah was a bullfrog," he turned and said "What was that line?" I affirmed he'd heard it correctly and we both burst out laughing. All will agree that he loved to laugh.

*Rest in Peace, John.
Martha Nell Smith*

Martha Nell Smith - March 27, 2025 at 08:59 AM

AC

“ Athens Seed Company planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Thomas Moss.

Athens Seed Company - March 26, 2025 at 02:41 PM

AC

“ Athens Seed Company purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John Thomas Moss.



Athens Seed Company - March 26, 2025 at 02:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Thomas Moss.



March 26, 2025 at 12:01 PM

JC

“ Joe and LuAnn Carpenter purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of John Thomas Moss.



Joe and LuAnn Carpenter - March 25, 2025 at 08:52 PM

JC

“ Jarrod C. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of John Thomas Moss.



Jarrod C. - March 25, 2025 at 06:14 PM

WS

“ West Gaines Seed purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of John Thomas Moss.



West Gaines Seed - March 25, 2025 at 04:32 PM

KW

“ Keith Walters purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of John Thomas Moss.



Keith Walters - March 25, 2025 at 03:46 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of John Thomas Moss.



March 25, 2025 at 03:44 PM