



## Dr. Thomas F. Eckert

February 19, 1944 - September 4, 2022

Services for Dr. Thomas Felton Eckert, 78, of Tyler, Texas will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2022, at one o'clock at Marvin United Methodist Church with Dr. Doug Baker and Reverend Gerry Giles officiating.

Dr. Eckert passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 4, 2022, at Hospice of East Texas with his family by his bedside. He was born in Lubbock, Texas on February 19, 1944, to Floren Dayton and Eloise Lancaster Eckert.

Dr. Eckert practiced podiatry in Tyler for 47 years. He was a member of Marvin United Methodist Church; a graduate of Thornton Township High School in Harvey, Illinois; a graduate of Southern Methodist University where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) Fraternity; a graduate of Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine; a Fellow in the American College of Foot Orthopedics and Medicine; Diplomate in the American Board of Podiatric Medicine; Fellow in the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine; 50 year member Texas and American Podiatric Medical Associations; Past President of South Tyler Rotary Club; The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow; Bethesda Health Clinic, Chief of Podiatry; Christus Trinity Mother Frances, Chief of Podiatry; served as a high school and collegiate football referee for 37 years through his affiliation with the Tyler Chapter Texas Association of Sports & Officials.

Tom loved well, with his family and close friends being the lucky recipients of this love. But he also shared a passion for the Chicago Cubs, SMU Mustangs and his second home in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, where he sometimes felt most at peace. So much about Tom will be missed, especially his sweet smile and that special twinkle in his eye he saved for his dearest Mary Ann and family.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, Dayton and Eloise Eckert. He is survived by his loving family: wife, Mary Ann; sons, Jeff Eckert (Kimberly) of Dallas and Scott Eckert (Elicia) of Tyler; brother, Pete Eckert (Judy) of Garland; grandchildren, Kiley, Lexie, Dayton, Harley, Sam, Sara, and Ella Eckert; nephew, Randy Eckert; nieces, Holly Eckert, Helen Eckert Roberson, Lindsay Eckert Lewis, and Lauren Eckert.

Honorary pallbearers will be Billy Black, George Newberry, Dr. Larry Faulkner, Mike McNally, Kevin De Ornellas, Jack Thurmon, Dr. Billy Westbrook, Dr. Tom McCloskey, Dr. David Andreone, Dr. Robert Freeman, and Dr. Carl Solomon.

If desired, memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County, 3531 S. Broadway, Tyler, TX 75701 (<https://alzalliance.org>); Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX 75701 ([www.hospiceofeasttexas.org](http://www.hospiceofeasttexas.org)); or Marvin UMC, 300 West Erwin, Tyler, TX 75702.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP 10. 1:00 PM (CT)

Marvin Methodist Church Sanctuary  
300 W Erwin St  
Tyler, TX 75702  
(903) 592-7396

## Reception following service

SEP 10.

Marvin Methodist Church - Pirtle Hall  
Tyler, TX

# Tribute Wall

PT

“ Dr. Eckert was my first podiatrist and taught me the importance of taking good care of my feet. He told me one time that feet are a window to the whole body. I enjoyed getting to know him better and benefitting from his skills each time I had an appointment. He gave me excellent care and enjoyed sharing how much he liked going with Mrs. Eckert to their place in Colorado. The last time I saw him was just before he retired. He and Mrs. Eckert were planning a trip to their place in Colorado and I was glad for them. I hope they had many more happy times there. My prayers are with Dr. Eckert's Family at his passing. Sincerely, Paul Taft



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**Paul Taft** - September 15, 2022 at 10:30 PM

JC

“ My doctor for several years; so very kind and caring. God, bless this family.

*Joanne Caldwell*



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**Joanne Caldwell** - September 13, 2022 at 12:17 PM

SR

“ Mary Ann, I am so sorry for your loss of your dear husband. I know your life will be forever changed but know that our God will give you peace. I know with his illness it has been hard. Consider this as a release and not a relief, for him to be healed now. God Bless You All and I'll see you soon. Love, Sylvia Reid

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**Sylvia Reid** - September 11, 2022 at 08:24 PM

MM

“ Beautiful Memorial Service. Scott and Jeff spoke so well of their very loved father!! Hold Tom's smile in your heart and memory forever.

MaryEllen McCloskey - September 11, 2022 at 11:14 AM

WD

“ Oh, Mary Ann, so sorry for your grief and so thankful for your faith.

Wanda Diamond - September 10, 2022 at 09:32 PM

AW

“ Dr. Eckert has been one of the most influential people in my life!!! My boss for 24 yrs- Great man!!! He was a realist- simple and very intellectual man. I learned a lot from listening and watching him through the years. Great teacher- He once told me- the greatest gift is that someone remembers you when you die! I feel blessed to have known him! He will be greatly missed! Greatest sympathy to Maryann, Jeff, Scott and family. ❤️ 😭 💧

Angie Weston - September 10, 2022 at 01:22 PM

AG

“ MaryAnn, Jeff, and Scott, thinking of you at this time.

Amy Sanders Garrison - September 09, 2022 at 08:33 PM

TG

“ Tye and Susan Grubb purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.



Tye and Susan Grubb - September 09, 2022 at 03:53 PM



“ Tom and I were physicians in Tyler for decades. We occasionally worked together and I had the highest respect for Tom. The interaction I remember took place a few years ago. We had both retired. Tom was sharing his expertise with the patients at the Bethesda Clinic. I had taken a hiatus from all things medical. We met at a funeral, and In talking to Tom about the sense of purpose and personal satisfaction he experienced from his time volunteering at Bethesda I knew immediately that's where I needed to be as well. I've been back at Bethesda for the last few years and couldn't feel more satisfied. If Tom were alive today he would probably not even remember our brief but impactful conversation. I certainly do so thank you friend.

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**Gary Gross** - September 09, 2022 at 02:08 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.



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September 09, 2022 at 12:20 PM



“ God Bless all of you. You are in my prayers  
Much love to each of you ❤️



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**Freddy Lou Barneburg** - September 09, 2022 at 11:32 AM

JA

“ Tom was a kind man, very meticulous, and I'm grateful to have known him for the last 25 years. I'll always remember the hole-in-the-wall Mexican food places he would introduce me to for our lunches together!

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**Joel Adams** - September 09, 2022 at 11:30 AM

JU

“ Dear Mary Ann, The hole in your heart might at times seem to big to fill but God is with you through this difficult time. I feel so blessed to have you as a friend so know if you need anything, I'm there for you. Tom was a sweet man and I have a some precious memories of him. I'm especially fond of remembering his "nick name." You and your family are in my prayers.

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**jana upshaw** - September 09, 2022 at 11:21 AM

SL

“ Mary Ann, I know you feel a tremendous loss at the passing of your husband, Tom. My prayers are with you and your family during this time of grief.

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**Sharon Lee** - September 09, 2022 at 09:26 AM

JF

“ Mary Ann, Joe and I are so sorry to hear of the loss of your beloved husband. Thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family as you all go through this transition.



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**Joe and Pat Fette** - September 08, 2022 at 11:08 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.*



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September 08, 2022 at 04:42 PM



“ *Dear Mary Ann I am so sorry for your loss. Will keep you and your family in my PRAYERS Diana*

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**diana tubbs** - September 08, 2022 at 04:07 PM



“ *Tom and I, as well as our families have been social and professional friends for more than fifty years. We have many fond memories of these times, not to mention our "after hours phone collaborations" that we enjoyed. We lift up Mary Ann and family for being a "tower of strength" more recently. He will be missed, but we will remember the good times. Dr. Bill & Rhonda Westbrook, Longview*

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**Dr. Bill & Rhonda Westbrook** - September 08, 2022 at 02:13 PM



“ *Church lady #1 and church lady #2 was the topic of emails many times with Dr. Tom. We will miss those exchanges and his wit and sense of humor. Our thoughts and prayers are with MaryAnn and family. Ron and Sandy Dodson*

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**Sandra Dodson** - September 08, 2022 at 02:11 PM

TO

“ To the best of my knowledge, I never had the privilege of meeting your husband but based on the tributes I have read and the profession he dedicated his life to, his was a full life devoted to healing others.

Tom Owens - September 08, 2022 at 01:26 PM

EC

“ Mary Ann, it is with great sadness we heard about Tom. We always enjoyed his visits when you were in Pagosa Springs and he rode his bike to our house and visited for a while. Tom was such a kind person and he will be missed. Our deepest condolences to you and your family. Erika and Bart Cox

Erika M Cox - September 08, 2022 at 01:06 PM

BC

“ Bart and Erika Cox purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.



Bart and Erika Cox - September 08, 2022 at 01:01 PM

BH

“ I and my wife only had the pleasure of knowing Tom for a short time while living across the street from him in Pagosa Springs Colorado. But he was a very memorable guy. I will never forget how he loved to tinker with his snow mobile 🥹🥹🥹🥹🥹 sorry but the family will get this.

Brad Hunt - September 08, 2022 at 12:32 PM

DA

“ *Mary Ann, I am so sorry for this great loss to you and your family. May our God give you peace and fond memories to ease your sadness. - Don Ashberry*

Don Ashberry - September 08, 2022 at 12:23 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.*



September 08, 2022 at 12:22 PM

TS

“ *Tim Sheppard purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.*



Tim Sheppard - September 08, 2022 at 12:15 PM

RS

“ Our deepest heartfelt condolences to the Eckert family at this time. We will forever feel the loss of our esteemed neighbor across the culdesac in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Summers will never be the same without seeing Tom "putzing" around the lovely home he and Mary Ann created in the beautiful San Juan Mountains that Tom loved. I will so miss watching Tom out my kitchen window while he dutifully exercised on his nordic trac in the garage no matter the weather outside. So many memories of a kind and loving gentleman. Sending love to Mary Ann, Jeff, Scott and grandchildren at this time of sorrow. Ed and Roberta Strickland

Roberta Strickland - September 08, 2022 at 10:29 AM

MF

Mary Ann, you already know my condolences to you & your fam. I didn't know Tom personally but I want to mention the difference Tom made to the Marvin UMC Military Care Committee. He made it possible to send gel foot inserts at cost for our military personnel serving overseas & what a major contribution it was. The Committee honored him for this contribution several years ago & I was privileged to be a part of that celebration. I do know Tom was a man of high standards rearing two awesome sons with you, Mary Ann, by his side. Tom's leaving good memories, I'm certain, for his family to carry forward. God Bless the Eckert Family!

Marty Fazand - September 08, 2022 at 02:18 PM

MF

Luv U, Mary Ann, my Dear Friend!

Marty Fazand - September 08, 2022 at 02:19 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.



September 07, 2022 at 03:37 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.*



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September 07, 2022 at 10:00 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas F. Eckert.*



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September 07, 2022 at 05:15 AM



“ *The Eckert family will always hold a special place in my heart. May God bless you with comfort during this time of loss. I'm praying for your family.*

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**Kendall Banks** - September 06, 2022 at 09:52 PM



“ *Tom will always hold a special place in our hearts. He and Mary Ann shared a bond based on respect and appreciation for each other. In that way, it goes beyond love. He gave totally of himself to Jeff and Scott and to his grandchildren through advice, projects and at times redirection when needed. He will be remembered in the community for his professionalism with all his commitments.*  
*Janie Holsapple*

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**Janie Holsapple** - September 06, 2022 at 04:17 PM