



## Thomas Waddingham

March 26, 1936 - May 14, 2026

Tom Waddingham, 90, of Thornton, passed away on May 14, 2026, at Mercy One North in Mason City, Iowa. Thomas Dean was born on March 26, 1936, to John and Reva (Elder) Waddingham in Klemme, Iowa. He spent his early years on the family farm and was a 1954 graduate of Klemme High School. While in high school, he worked as a hired man for a local farmer and a truck driver for the grain elevator. After high school, Tom served in the United States Army. After his discharge from the Army, he was united in marriage to Janice Meinders on December 9, 1960 at the First Reformed Church in Meservey, Iowa. Shortly after the marriage, Tom was recalled into military service. He and his new wife moved to Tacoma, Washington, where he was stationed. In 1962, the couple moved back to the area to build a farming operation south of Thornton. Tom was fortunate to be able to live in his farm home until his death.

Tom was a member of the First Reformed Church of Meservey. Over the years, he served several terms on the church consistory in the offices of deacon and elder. Tom was a member of the American Legion Post 440 of Thornton. He was proud to honor many veterans as a part of the legion's Honor Guard. After retirement, Tom and Janice traveled to many locations across the country. He also enjoyed several fishing trips to Minnesota and Canada. After restoring the farm's first tractor, a John Deere 630, he participated in several group tractor rides and parades. The grandchildren

always made sure to get a tractor ride when they visited Grandma and Grandpa's farm. In later years, Tom enjoyed some of his free time visiting the shop at the neighbor's farm to observe the work and driving his 'crop check circuit'. Many of his mornings were spent at the Thornton CO-OP chatting with the local farmers over a cup of coffee. Tom was a long-time blood donor and has now become an organ donor.

Left to cherish Tom's life are his children: Paige (Brad) Warren, Kendra (Scott) Pottebaum, and Sarah (Travis) Statlander; grandchildren Kolby, Kade, Zachary, Katie, Reghan, and Gavin; great granddaughter Eleanor; brothers Bill (Rosalie) and Ray; and sisters-in-law Cheryl and Marie. Tom was preceded in death by his wife, Janice; parents, John and Reva; sister Ellen Sobek; brothers David and Bruce; and grandson Tyson Warren.

A public visitation will be held from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, at Woodley Funeral Home in Thornton. Funeral services will be held at 10:30, Friday, May 22, 2026, at the First Reformed Church in Meservey. He will be laid to rest at the Meservey Cemetery following the service. Lunch will be served at the church following the interment. Memorials may be given to the Tom Waddingham Memorial, with fund designations to be determined at a later time. Woodley Funeral Home of Thornton is caring for Tom and his family.

# Cemetery Details

## Meservey Cemetery

Meservey, IA 50457

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 21.** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Thornton - Woodley Funeral Home  
107 N 2Nd St  
Thornton, IA 50479  
(641) 998-2311

## Funeral service

**MAY 22.** 10:30 AM (CT)

First Reformed Church  
620 2nd St  
Meservey, IA 50457  
(641) 358-6151

# Tribute Wall

BH

“ *Deepest heartfelt sympathy to Tom's family. We know him from the Klemme High School. He was the most pleasant person to meet always a smile. Ron and Beverly Christiance Hummel*

**Beverly Hummel** - May 23 at 02:13 PM

BH

“ *Deepest heartfelt sympathy to Tom's family. Always enjoyed seeing him at Klemme High's Golden Reunion. Ron Beverly Hummel*

**Beverly Ron Hummrl** - May 21 at 09:22 PM

DO

“ *I'm very sorry to hear about Tom. I will always carry fond memories of him and treasure his friendship. He was truly a good man and will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*Olson Family*

**Dan Olson** - May 21 at 04:47 PM

JG

“ *Jacqueline G. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Thomas Waddingham.*



**Jacqueline G.** - May 21 at 08:25 AM

JG

“ Jacqueline G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Waddingham.

Jacqueline G. - May 21 at 08:25 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Thomas Waddingham.



May 20 at 01:05 PM

PF

“ Porepp Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Waddingham.

Porepp Family - May 20 at 12:18 PM

PF

“ Porepp Family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Thomas Waddingham.



Porepp Family - May 20 at 12:18 PM

PF

“ *Pottebaum family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thomas Waddingham.*



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**Pottebaum family** - May 18 at 01:00 PM

CF

“ *CycruZR Family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Thomas Waddingham.*



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**CycruZR Family** - May 18 at 11:17 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas Waddingham.*



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May 17 at 11:38 AM

BH

“ *Our sympathy in your loss, enjoyed him so much at the Co-op coffee table!!!*

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**Barbara Hopkey** - May 16 at 10:22 PM