



## Tommy J Dodd

June 21, 2022

Tommy (Tom) J. Dodd, formerly from Moorestown, NJ, lived in Philadelphia, PA and Macungie, PA passed away on June 21, 2022, in Hartford, CT surrounded by love. He was born in Springfield, MO.

Survived by his companion of 15 years, Patricia Rogers, his daughter, Penny Dodd Bruneau (Olivier), his sister, Barbara Connor (Virgil), his three stepdaughters, Linda Ferguson (Randall), Janet Rohrbach (Richard) and Suzanne Thompson (Todd). Tom is also survived by his daughter-in-law, Lauren Biszewski and his grandchildren, Mikel (Buck) Dodd, Sophia Dodd, Isabella Dodd, Madeline Bruneau, Nick Rohrbach (Ashley), Michael Rohrbach, Ashley Rohrbach, Taylor Ferguson, Katie Ferguson, Tripp Ferguson, Samantha Thompson, Matthew Thompson, Jake Thompson as well as his many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his loving son Mikel Dodd, his loving parents, Harold Franklin Dodd and Doris Thornsberry Dodd, his brother Jimmy and his wife, Nancy. Tom graduated from college in 1961 with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Rolla, now named Missouri School of Science and Technology. In January 1961, he started his first job as an R & D Engineer for Rocketdyne Division of North American Aviation which was located at the rocket test area of Edwards Air Force Base. There his group developed the F-1 engine which was the biggest engine ever made. Its mission was to lift the Saturn V Rocket with the Apollo Space Craft to take men to the moon. As R & D phase ended and production engines were being qualified for NASA delivery, Tom moved back to Missouri to begin a one-year job at McDonnell Aircraft in advanced R & D on the F-4 aircraft along with other special governmental studies. Following McDonnell, he began a new manufacturing plant for Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M). At 3M, he produced a two-part epoxy type film, and a bonding film for the application bonding aluminum skin to honeycomb for aircraft surfaces and to laminate helicopter blades. He was employed by 3M for 13 years.

Following 3M, he worked as a Production Manager for International Harvester Diesel Engine Factory for a few years where he was then recruited to join a company that made industrial tapes like 3M in Port Huron, MI as a part owner. During this time, he fulfilled a lifetime ambition and obtained a private pilot license which led to many enjoyable years of

flying a Piper Turbo Complex Aircraft until a heart attack grounded him.

After five years in MI, Tom decided to purchase a tape company in the Philadelphia area. With the assistance of his son Mikel, who was a professor at the Business School of Georgetown University. Under Tom's direction, RJM Manufacturing, dba TaraTape, prospered. After 25 years, Tom decided to retire and put in place an ESOP Trust so in the event of a sale, all the employees would be taken care of. The company was then sold a few years later. He was an active member of TEC 343, a CEO coaching and peer advisory organization for small and midsize business leaders.

In 2018, Tom's name was placed on the Wall of Honor at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum for all his contributions to the Air and Space Industry.

Tom spent his retired years in Philadelphia Center City where he enjoyed the arts, the Phillies, Eagles and his favorite place to be, the Union League of Philadelphia. He was a lifetime member of the Union League and had recently become a member of the NJSP (New Jersey Society of Philadelphia). He enjoyed his Tesla's and the numerous cross county adventures.

He enriched so many lives with his dignity and intelligence. He was a truly diverse and inspirational man. Always looking to the future.

Funeral service will be held 11am Wednesday, July 6, 2022, at the First Presbyterian Church, 101 Bridgeboro Road, Moorestown, NJ. Visitation will be prior from 10am to 10:45am at the church.

Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memory of Tom to the following charities.

Cure HHT, <https://www.hht-awareness-2022>

Or Multiple Myeloma, <https://secure.myeloma.org>

Condolences may be left at <https://www.lewisfuneralhomemoorestown.com>

# Cemetery Details

## Birmingham-Lafayette Cemetery

West Chester, PA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUL 6.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church  
101 Bridgeboro Road  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
<http://www.fpcmoorestown.org>

## Service

**JUL 6.** 11:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church  
101 Bridgeboro Road  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
<http://www.fpcmoorestown.org>

# Tribute Wall

AD

“ I served on Trinity’s vestry and finance committee with Tom for several years and he was bright and very kind. He knew I admired Jeffrey Rosen, the political commentator and a law professor, and sent me two of his books as a gift. Although I suspect we were on opposite sides of the political spectrum, we were able to share our thoughts and ideas in a respectful way and I greatly benefited from knowing him. Rest well, Tom, and thank you!

*Anne Dalesandro*

---

**Anne Dalesandro** - July 03 at 11:22 AM

BC

“ Has teenagers we would take mom’s car and go to a shopping mall when it had snow on it and do what he called cutting donuts.

---

**Barbara Conner** - July 02 at 02:21 PM

KK

“ I had so much Respect for this man.....he was a real Gentleman.....

---

**Ken Kubecka** - July 01 at 01:50 PM