



John Henry Thomas

August 3, 1934 - July 12, 2011

Walhalla, SC—John H. Thomas, 76, husband of the late Doris Woodruff Thomas, of 205 Hunter Avenue, Walhalla, SC, died Tuesday, July, 12, 2011 at Cottingham Hospice House.

A native of Atlanta, Mr. Thomas was the son of the late Henry Eugene and Margaret West Thomas. He was retired from Ford Motor Company, was owner and operator of Mountain Gallery and The Village Framar, and was locally known as the Walhalla Santa Claus. He attended College Street Baptist Church. He was a member of Walhalla Chamber of Commerce, Partners for Progress, Heritage Foundation, and Golden Fellowship of College Street Baptist Church.

Mr. Thomas is survived by a daughter, Nancy A. Pruitt, of East Point, GA; step-daughter, Shirley Ross Llewellyn of Cumming, GA; step-son, Richard Charles Ross, Jr., Pass Christian, MS; brother, Bill Thomas of Walhalla, SC; sisters, Margene Gravely of Walhalla, SC and Rose Owens of Taylors, SC; fourteen grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his wife and parents, Mr. Thomas was predeceased by a step-daughter, Alexis Ross Jackson.

Funeral Services will be conducted at 2:00 PM, Saturday, July 30, 2011, at the

Chapel of Davenport Funeral Home, Walhalla, SC.

The family will receive friends following the service.

The family is at their respective homes.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Oconee Medical Center,
Hospice of the Foothills, ATTN: Foundation Office, 298 Memorial Drive,
Seneca, SC 29672.

Tribute Wall



“ John Henry Thomas

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ "Santa has gone back to the North Pole to live forever with Mrs. Clause" said my 6yr old, who still 'believes' when told of Mr. Thomas' passing. He has always believed that the Santa he had his photo taken with since his 1st Christmas just showed up in secret at the shop on Main St the rest of the year to keep an eye on the children, and was really the REAL Santa. I still believe too. Thank you for sharing your loved one with the rest of us. We loved him too.##imported-begin##Dawn Whitfield##imported-end##

July 31, 2011 at 07:39 PM



“ Dad, As I am reading over your guest book, I am realizing just how many lives you have touched. You are my hero. In my heart, no one will ever be able to fill your shoes. I pray every day for God to take care of you. I love you always Dad. Nancy##imported-begin##Nancy T. Pruitt##imported-end##

July 24, 2011 at 05:26 PM



“ Our most sincere thoughts and prayers for your family. Mr. Thomas framed our older son and daughter in law's formal wedding picture back in 1998. His suggestions about the framing made it even more attractive, and to this day folks still comment about the beautiful framing. I shall always cherish the picture and the frame. Thanks for being a great asset to the city of Walhalla.##imported-begin##Martha and Larry LeCroy##imported-end##

July 22, 2011 at 11:50 AM



“ I am so sorry to learn of the loss of your loved one, John Thomas. John and Doris were two of the most endearing people I have ever had the pleasure to meet and know. I pray for all of you during this time of loss and sorrow.

Martha Gerald##imported-begin##Martha Gerald##imported-end##

July 21, 2011 at 09:16 PM



“ Mr. Thomas was a wonderful person. I had the pleasure of knowing him and Mrs. Thomas. For several years I have taken a friends granddaughter to have her picture made with Sants. What joy I had this past Christmas to have my grandson picture made with Santa. I have great memories of your father and now will always treasure this picture of him and my grandson. He will be truly missed. Thanks for sharing him with all that knew him. Carolyn Sullivan##imported-begin##Carolyn Sullivan##imported-end##

July 19, 2011 at 01:32 PM



“ John- you were so courageous in your fight but you are at peace now. You have always been a great husband to my Mom, great father to me and great Papa to my children and grandchildren. We love you and will miss you very much! Love, Shirley###imported-begin##Shirley Llewellyn###imported-end##

July 18, 2011 at 09:57 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to you all during your time of grief. May the Lord give you peace during this difficult time. Jan###imported-begin##Jan###imported-end##

July 18, 2011 at 09:51 AM



“ We were deeply saddened to know of the death of John. He was a dear friend as was Doris. Pete and I ran his shop for him and Doris when they were away on his santa trips. Walhalla has losted a great asset; he was a man of outstanding integirty.Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.###imported-begin##Pete and Virginia Price###imported-end##

July 15, 2011 at 09:58 PM



“ Just a short note to say how much I enjoyed working with Mr. Thomas on the regional board of South Carolina National Heritage Corridor. I always appreciated his viewpoint when decisions were being made and his insight into matters concerning the Upstate. I have not served on the board for a while but I remember how much he contributed to the organization. I shall miss him. Alison Hinman/ Curator at the Anderson County Museum###imported-begin##Alison Hinman###imported-end##

July 15, 2011 at 12:54 PM



“ John brought a lot of excitement to children as a Santa representative. He also added greatly to Walhalla!##imported-begin##John Kelley##imported-end##

July 14, 2011 at 08:34 PM



“ You are in our thoughts and prayers during this sad time...
Love, Your Steak House Cafeteria Family##imported-begin##tonja
alnajar##imported-end##

July 14, 2011 at 07:25 PM



“ Mr. John was a precious man. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts & prayers are with you all God Bless.##imported-begin##Pat Jenkins##imported-end##

July 14, 2011 at 02:28 PM



“ Our Santa will be missed. Papa was a loving and kind man who gave the best bear hugs. He lived life big working as Santa, in Japan for the Olympics and for Ford Motor Company. I drive two Fords in his honor. I love you Papa! Hope you are dancing with Nana in heaven!
Love,
Jenny, Ronnie, Ryan and Kiley##imported-begin##Jennifer
Holliman##imported-end##

July 14, 2011 at 12:12 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family of John Thomas. He was a huge asset to the city of Walhalla. As President of the Walhalla Merchants Assoc., I personally got to know John as he served as Treasurer. He will be greatly missed. I know he is smiling now being with Doris. Miss you Santa! THANK YOU!!!##imported-begin##Nancy L. Schwery##imported-end##

July 13, 2011 at 12:10 PM



“ My prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Reg Tatum##imported-end##

July 13, 2011 at 11:06 AM



“ John we miss you already. It will be so hard to drive by the Village Framer and not want to stop in and see you there. You framed so many beautiful pictures for my home. I will truly miss curling Santa's hair, at Christmas time. You are "The Real Santa". May you rest in peace my friend, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Michelle and Joe Patten##imported-end##

July 13, 2011 at 10:26 AM



“ We send our deepest sympathy. We have picture frames, antiques and photos with Santa...memories we will cherish forever from knowing John.
Allen, Sherry & Zeke##imported-begin##Sweet Water~The Allen Moore Family##imported-end##

July 13, 2011 at 08:13 AM



“ to let you know my thoughts and prayers are with all of you. I so enjoyed caring for Mr John sitting on the front porch listening to stories of his life. Jo thanks for sharing him he thought you were the BEST. Patti Medi-Home-Hospice###imported-begin###patti nelson###imported-end##

July 12, 2011 at 09:32 PM



“ UGH, I'M JUST BLANK AT THIS POINT, JOHN AND DORIS WERE SOME OF MY FAVORITE CUSTOMERS WHEN I WAS AT THE CLEANERS, MY HEART WAS BROKEN WHEN MRS.DORIS PASSED NOW IT WEIGHS EVEN HEAVIER WITH THE PASSING OF MR. JOHN... I WILL FOR EVER CHERISH KNOWING THEM...HEAVEN HAS THE MOST WONDERFUL MR&MRS.SANTA NOW... R.I.P. MR.THOMAS.. MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TO THE FAMILY..###imported-begin###Connie Patterson###imported-end##

July 12, 2011 at 08:41 PM



“ Rembering the family in our prayers. Santa Thomas will be missed.###imported-begin###Joan###imported-end##

July 12, 2011 at 08:32 PM



“ It was such an honor to take care of such a sweet man, but what else can you expect from Santa. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this sad time.
Patty Holcombe###imported-begin###Patty Holcombe###imported-end##

July 12, 2011 at 07:43 PM



“ John was a wonderful person.##imported-begin##whitney
ellis##imported-end##

July 12, 2011 at 07:00 PM