

*The most painful tears are not the ones that fall from your eyes and cover your face. They're the ones that fall from your heart and cover your soul.*

*"In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

*~ John 14:2-6*

*R* REA FUNERAL  
CHAPEL &  
CREMATION SERVICES

*In Loving Memory of*



*Thomas Ray  
Martin*

*March 12, 1957 ~ March 15, 2024*

*"In My Life, I've Loved You All"*

# Thomas Ray Martin

Thomas Ray Martin, 67, of Sedalia, lost his battle with cancer on Friday, March 15, 2024, at his home in Sedalia. He was born on March 12, 1957, in Cape Girardeau, MO, the son of loving parents Millard, Jr., and Ruth Rudolphi Martin, who preceded him in death.

Survivors include his long-time companion of the home, Penny Ford of Sedalia; daughter, Amanda, and grandson, Asher Martin of Sedalia; brother, David Martin of St. Peters, MO; sister, Becki Richardson of Sedalia; extended family, Cachet Ash of Sedalia, Kristin Larson (Nate) of Greenwood, MO, Samantha Ash (Jason Stanley) of Viera, FL; three nephews, J.B. Martin (Hayley) and family of Oakdale, CA, Adam Martin (Athena) of Foristell, MO, Michael Richardson (Caitlin) and family of Columbia, MO; and niece, Missy Martin Reiter (Bill) of St. Louis, MO. Along with Asher, he was proud Papa Tom to Kailey, Sydnie, Zoe, and Jessica Schreiner, Aubrey and Norah Larson, and Lily Stanley.

Tom was preceded in death by a sister-in-law, Bev Martin and brother-in-law, Jerry Richardson.

When Tom was a toddler, his family moved to Kansas, then Nebraska, and later to Sedalia in 1971. Tom participated in basketball, track, and cross country while attending Smith-Cotton High School, graduating in 1975. After high school, Tom attended State Fair Community College and earned a degree in Electronics in 1977.

He worked as the Manager at Show Me Electronics, Cybertel Cellular, and then began working as an Advertising Executive for the Sedalia Democrat in 1997, where he worked for almost 30 years.

Tom enjoyed astronomy, fishing, hunting, and guitars. He taught himself to play the guitar and became quite an accomplished guitar player. Tom has played with many bands over the years. Tom has also run sound and lights for several area bands over the years.

Guitars weren't Tom's only passion; so was politics. Tom believed everyone deserved the right to adequate and affordable health care, a living wage, affordable housing, an exceptional education and clean environment. If Tom were here, he would tell you that your power is in the voting booth. Get registered and VOTE.

Guitars, politics, and, yes, Tom loved sports. The Kansas City Chiefs, St. Louis Cardinals, Sporting KC, and the Kansas Jay Hawks were his teams. Rock Chalk!

Tom also enjoyed his home life. He loved sitting in his yard watching the hummingbirds and the yard bunnies. He also loved playing with his dogs.

Tom considered himself a lucky man who was blessed with a loving family and wonderful friends. To all those who made memories with him along his life journey, Tom would like you to cherish those memories and keep sharing them with others. Most of all Tom wants you to know, that in his life, he's loved you all.

## Memorial Service

2:00 p.m.

Friday, March 22, 2024

Rea Funeral Chapel  
Sedalia, MO

### Officiant

Rev. Roger Sherman

### Special Music

“Let It Be” - Video Tribute

“In My Life” - Video Tribute

### Inurnment

Crown Hill Cemetery  
Sedalia, MO

### Honorary Bearers

Kevin Dodd, Dennis Weaver,  
Jamie Royeton, Gaylin Dedrick, Jeff Cline

### Memorial Contributions

To The Family

“It is said to know grief you must first know love.”