



# Tom Bombadil

December 5, 1949 - June 21, 2020

Tom Bombadil, 70, of Corvallis, passed away on Sunday, June 21, 2020 at home.

You may leave thoughts and memories for the family at [www.mchenryfuneralhome.com](http://www.mchenryfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

WE

“*Sad to learn that we lost Tom. I didn't know him well but he was our favorite plumber, and I always enjoyed his visits and stories. And his professional work too of course! We talked music and rowing and countless other things. I hope it's a blessing to his family to know that there are so many people who encountered Tom's kind self over the years, and he planted gentle memories that will be around a very long while.*

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**Wendi** - April 27, 2021 at 05:43 PM

LW

“*Tom was a wonderful man and I owe him so much. He gave me my first guitar, and taught me to play a few cords and that guitar was recently returned to me after 40 plus years! He was my big brothers buddy and I always felt so special when they included me in one of their activities or took me for a ride in thier cars. He would bring his guitar to our home and after helping to mend a fence or chop wood, he would break it out and sing with and for us. He and I wrote letters back and forth while he was in the Coast Guard giving me brotherly advice and encouraging me on through those tough teen age years. I will forever hold him close to my heart and hear his voice singing at my wedding. I am so sorry for your loss as a family.*

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**Lisa Rodgers Whitbeck** - April 02, 2021 at 11:18 AM

KH

“ So sad and surprised to hear about Tom's passing! Met him in 1st grade, friends through high school and college. A party at his house in college would include his on-the-spot, throw it all together, homemade bread! We did at least a couple of plays together in high school, often ate together in the dining hall in college, and cheered at Crew races. I remember long discussions of Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit when we were supposed to be studying. He rescued me more than once when I needed a top-notch plumber for a construction/remodel project. I am so sorry for your family's loss. Memories of Tom always bring a smile.

*From the old neighborhood, KC McHarness Holmes*

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**KC McHarness Holmes** - March 21, 2021 at 07:55 PM

RH

“ We are so sorry to learn of the death of our favorite Singing, Cussing, Acting Plumber who was also a loving father to two special children, Cooper and Meegan.

*Thank you for all the good times, Tom. You were a special personality and friend. We will never forget you!*

*Roy and Anne Hart*

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**Roy Hart** - July 06, 2020 at 11:57 PM

SH

“ I am so sorry that Tom is gone. He was such a unique individual. So talented and magical in such a special way. I met Tom in the late 70's. I watched him in plays and loved it when he would burst out in song. I watched his children grow up. Two years ago at the Benton County Fair we sat with Tom and Kathy and learned about their passion for rowing. I talked to Tom 2 months ago about a plumbing problem....I will miss his wonderful quirky nature and the sparkle in his eyes

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**Sally Ball Haffner** - June 29, 2020 at 02:14 PM

KR

“ We first knew Tom as the brilliant plumber who was willing to spend a few days in our crawlspace replacing all of our water pipes, the entire time his whistling and singing (and the occasional grunt) rising up through our floorboards. What a voice he had! What a smile! What a beautiful spirit! We admired his curiosity for life and his kind and passionate engagement with the world. Music, rowing, books, wine. He was a natural performer so wonderfully entertaining, performances that were always genuine, never a put-on. They rose out of his eagerness to share, to engage, to make rich and meaningful human connection. We're saddened that Tom is gone. We'll miss him. He'll continue to inspire us and serve as a model for a life well lived.

—Keith Scribner & Jennifer Richter

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**Keith Scribner & Jennifer Richter** - June 26, 2020 at 03:16 PM

PF

*Job site conversations with Tom were anything but ordinary construction worker banter. He was a bit of a philosopher and his quips were free. I will always remember an afternoon barbecue at his home for the Finn Construction crew in the early 80's when he turned off The rock music on the radio and played "Phantom of the opera" for us Turned up to 11 and singing along word for word.*

*I became a fan and attended the Gilbert and Sullivan plays he acted and sang in. He was truly an original . I trust he has found peace with the Lord.*

*Peter Finn*

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**peter finn** - June 28, 2020 at 10:47 PM

SC

“ *Scott Cramer lit a candle in memory of Tom Bombadil*



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**Scott Cramer** - June 25, 2020 at 01:03 PM

BC

“ *Brad Cramer lit a candle in memory of Tom Bombadil*



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**Brad Cramer** - June 25, 2020 at 01:02 PM

KC

“ *Karen Cramer lit a candle in memory of Tom Bombadil*



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**Karen Cramer** - June 25, 2020 at 09:36 AM

AS

“ Ange Sobiegraj lit a candle in memory of Tom Bombadil



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**Ange Sobiegraj** - June 24, 2020 at 08:17 PM

SM

“ Richard and I were very sorry to learn about the death of Tom. We became acquainted with Tom when our son, Jon, and his son, Cooper, became friends in elementary school. It was always a pleasure to chat with Tom over the years. He always had a smile on his face whether our encounters were social or he was doing a plumbing job for us. We haven't seen him for some time, but those occasional conversations will be missed. Richard and Susan Matson

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**Susan Matson** - June 24, 2020 at 06:49 PM

NS

“ The first I knew of Tom was when my husband (back in the early 80's) Don, who was in construction, called him the BEST plumber EVER - that's saying something in itself but imagine how much more impressed I was to see him onstage in OSU Summer operetta productions! He was fantastic. I know there are many people who knew him much better than I who only knew him by reputation and by seeing him perform but I don't think anyone could have enjoyed his performances any better.  
Blessings to his memory and loved ones

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**Nancy Swain** - June 24, 2020 at 06:42 PM



“ I was saddened to learn of Tom's death. I met him first as an older-than-average History student in my classes at OSU and later my wife and I came to rely on him as our go-to guy for plumbing emergencies and home renovations. I always enjoyed our conversations and hearing about his rowing career, his chukar shooting expeditions, and his forays into Gilbert and Sullivan. It was very sweet how he'd drop off produce at our doorstep in the summer. Tom was one-of-a kind. As a sedentary academic, I always found his vim and vigor inspiring. His passing is a great loss and he'll be missed by many, I'm sure.

Jon Katz

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**Jonathan Katz** - June 24, 2020 at 02:36 PM

JR

We knew Tom mostly from OSU Theatre, where he was a major and wonderful star, both singing and dancing and serious acting. We are so sorry to learn of his passing, especially since he never got a chance (as far as we know) to sing "Old Man River" on stage. Oh -- he was also a terrific plumber. Thanks for the memories. Judy and John Ringle

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**Judy Ringle** - June 26, 2020 at 02:19 PM