



## Thomas O'Brien

November 24, 1940 - July 25, 2006

Thomas O'Brien -- Kankakee Visitation for Thomas M. O'Brien, 65, of Kankakee, will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Kankakee. Entombment will be in All Saints Mausoleum, Bourbonnais. Memorials may be made to Bishop McNamara High School. He died Tuesday (July 25, 2006) at the home of his son, Shawn. Mr. O'Brien was general manager and partner of Napleton Auto Werks in Bourbonnais and former owner of the O'Brien Auto Group. He was born Nov. 24, 1940, in Kankakee, the son of Martin and Bernice Oberlin O'Brien. He started in the auto business in 1970, with Bergeron Ltd. He was a 1959 graduate of St. Patrick High School, former president of McNamara Huddle Club and the 100 Club of Kankakee County. He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. He was also a member of the Elks and Moose lodges, Knights of Columbus, National Dealer Council for Mazda, safety director for River Valley Regatta, member of the Kankakee Valley Boat Club, past officer of Bradley-Bourbonnais Chamber of Commerce and a former president of the Kankakee Downtown Business Council. Surviving are his wife, the former Judith S. Christensen, whom he married June 23, 1962, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Kankakee; two sons and daughters-in-law, Shawn and Teresa O'Brien of Kankakee, Scott and Tina O'Brien of Manteno; one daughter and son-in-law, Sally and William Bell of Sioux Falls, S.D.; 14 grandchildren, Patrick, Kolin, Amanda and Mitchell O'Brien, Jon, Jennifer,

Christopher, David, Laura, Nathan, Thomas, Shawn, Connor and Connolly Bell; his mother, Bernice O'Brien of Kankakee; one sister, Patricia O'Brien of Redondo Beach, Calif.; and one brother and sister-in-law, John and Barb O'Brien of Fairfax, Va. His father is deceased.

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



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**Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes** - December 07, 2010 at 02:37 PM



“ I was looking thru the Journal online and read of Tom's passing. Please know I extend my deepest sympathy to the entire family.  
<br><br><br><br>Tom had the respect and admiration of so many people. I hope you can take comfort in knowing that he will be missed but not forgotten.##imported-begin##John Glazier##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Dear Judy and Family,<br><br><br><br>My sincere sympathy to you, and your family. You are in our thoughts and prayers. i¿½Tom was the best of the best. He will be dearly missed by all. i¿½##imported-begin##Sheila Donahoe##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM





“ Shawn & T and the rest of the O'Brien Family <br><br><br>  
 <br>Jackie and I are going to be out of town Friday. We wanted to  
 let you know that you are in our prayers. Your dad was not cheated  
 by life. He enjoyed every moment of it! It was always a sincere  
 pleasure to see him at which ever grandchild's athletic event he  
 chose to attend on a given day or night. He so much enjoyed those  
 games and you could see how proud he was of that particular  
 grandchild through his enthusiasm on the sidelines.<br><br><br>  
 <br>As hard as it is right now, please know that he is no longer  
 suffering and is in a better place! Take care and remember you are  
 in our prayers.<br><br><br><br>Terry & Jackie Granger &  
 Family###imported-begin###Terry Granger###imported-end##

July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ One of the few bright spots of this world is now gone and will be  
 truly missed. Deepest sympathies to all.###imported-  
 begin###Matthew A. Zalac###imported-end##

July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Judy and family,<br><br> ĩ ĩ ½ĩ ĩ ½We are sorry to hear about your  
 loss<br><br>are deapest sympathies are with you and the family.  
 Our thoughts and prayers are with you<br><br>  
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 Guimond###imported-begin###Mike and Cindy Guimond###imported-  
 end##

July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM







“ Dear Judy, Scott and Family,<br><br> i½Please accept our deepest sympathy. i½Tom was a good friend. i½He will be missed. i½May the condolences of friends help to comfort you.<br><br> i½Paul and Sheila Vakselis##imported-begin##Dr. and Mrs. Paul Vakselis##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ My deepest sympathy. It is hard to lose a loved one but he is in a better place now. I prayed for Tom everyday and it was amazing how he bounced back. His positive attitude and enthusiasm were remarkable. An example for all of us to follow. He left a beautiful family and you have each other to lean on.<br><br><br><br>God Bless You All.<br><br><br><br>Denny##imported-begin##Denny Smith##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Judy and Family,<br><br>I am very sorry to here of Tom's passing, and will miss visiting with him on my trips to Kankakee. Tom was always a motivating figure at our class reunions, and kept me informed on our classmates. My sincere condolences, and may God bless and give you strength during this time of sadness.<br><br><br><br>John (Jack) Lanoue##imported-begin##John Lanoue##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Joyce Walker Snodgrass##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Knew Tom way back when he started in business with the Bergeron Family. Helped him finance his first Home. Remember also his Dad back at the Turk Furniture Days. A Great Guy##imported-begin##Joel & Pat Brault##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ My sympathies to all of Tom's family.<br><br>I saw Tom regularly in the last few years when both our mothers were at Butterfield Court. i½Tom started off each day with an early morning visit to his Mom - and her face always lit up at the sight of him or the mention of his name. i½He was a loving and devoted son.##imported-begin##Nancy Neal##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Judy.....Brenda and I extend our sincere and deepest sympathy to you and your family on the passing of Tom.##imported-begin##Jack and Brenda Graveline##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Tom was a true friend. While suffering through his own health issues,he took the time to listen,comfort,and advise me when I was in need of a shoulder to lean on .<br><br>He never complained of his own pain and illness. <br><br>He did tell me of the pride he felt of his children and of his life with <br><br>Judy. <br><br>I feel honored to have shared a friendship with him.##imported-begin##Oran Skeldon##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Dear Judy, Scott, Shawn, and Sally.<br><br><br><br>Please accept my deepest condolences. I was shocked to hear about Tom's passing. When ever I returned home I made it a point to stop in and say hello. I will sadly miss seeing Tom at the dealership and listening to him tell the customers stories about my younger days at Uptown Sales. Tom was always there when I needed help or career advice and he would always go out of his way to help me achieve my goals. Tom was not only a friend but someone I looked up to as a father figure. I will miss his energy, advice, and friendship.<br><br><br><br>I hope you find comfort in knowing that he is in a better place.<br><br>##imported-begin##Todd Monney##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM



“ Dear Judy and family, <br><br>We were sorry to hear of Tom's passing..we so appreciate, and will always remember, all of the thoughtful things you and Tom did for Sally and I thru the years..It was a pleasure working for the O'Briens and also being a friend..  
<br><br> This is a hard time, but the thoughts and prayers of your family and friends will help you thru..  
<br><br> Our sincerest sympathy,<br><br><br><br> Tom and Sally Sippel<br><br>##imported-begin##Tom and Sally Sippel##imported-end##

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July 26, 2006 at 09:37 AM