



## Wayne Harold Thom

August 12, 1938 - July 27, 2019

Wayne Harold Thom, 80, of Beulah, died unexpectedly on July 27, 2019, in Bradenton, Florida surrounded by family.

Wayne was born in Alpena, MI on August 12, 1938, the son of Harold and Esther (Miller) Thom. He attended Alpena High School where he was a stand-out football player receiving a scholarship to play football at Northern Michigan University. Due to a serious knee injury, he was unable to accept Vince Lombardi's invitation to play for the Green Bay Packers. He received his teaching degree from NMU in 1961 and accepted an Industrial Arts teaching position, as well as assistant varsity football coaching job, at Benzie Central Schools. On June 6, 1964 he married Mary Christine Grund of Beulah, MI. They raised two children, Michael and Jennifer. He was an active member of Our Savior Lutheran Church, helping design and construct the church in Benzonia. Wayne and Chris spent winters in Florida upon retirement after 35 years of teaching. There, they were faithful attendees of Hope Lutheran Church. Wayne enjoyed fishing, playing chess as well as other games and sports, and spending time with family and friends.

Wayne was preceded in death by his father, Harold, mother, Esther, and brother, Marvin. He is survived by his wife, Chris, his two children, Michael (Tami) Thom and Jennifer (Kevin) Kennedy, his brother Ken (Renata) Thom, and his grandchildren Maggie, Ryan, Noah, and Jake.

A funeral service will be held at Hope Lutheran Church in Bradenton, FL on Wed. July 31, 2019, at 11:00 am. A graveside service will be held at Benzonia Twp. Cemetery, MI, at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his name to Hope Lutheran Church, 4635 26th St. W, Bradenton, FL 34207. Jowett Family Funeral Home, Benzonia is handling the arrangements.

# Cemetery

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## **Benzonia Township Cemetery**

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# Comments

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“ I was just thinking of Mr. Thom a few weeks back. We are rebuilding a major portion of our basement and I was drawing all sort of architectural drawings, even perspective drawings, and the whole time I was thinking about the 6 years I spent in his classes and how much I enjoyed it (and how much I learned). He was easy going and yet tough at the same time. He probably did more than any teacher to push me down the path of engineering. I am grateful for the time that I had with him. My condolences to the family.

**Michael Bair** - August 04, 2019 at 04:34 PM

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“ One of my favorite teachers, always joking he knew where my dad worked (the lumberyard) I am thinking about you all & sending comforting vibes



**Holly Ely- Nabity** - July 31, 2019 at 12:14 PM