



Thomas L. Rial

August 1, 1957 - September 9, 2020

Weslaco-Thomas Rial, 63, passed away on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, at Knapp Medical Center in Weslaco. Tom was born on August 1, 1957, to Richard Charles Rial and Virginia Ann Ward in Chatanooga, Tennessee.

The Rial family moved to Weslaco, where Tom grew up with his younger sister, Shannon. He attended Valley Grande Academy, where he graduated from high school. Tom attended Texas A&M and Pan American University, earning a Bachelor's degree. He married Lisa La Fond, and they raised three wonderful children together.

Tom worked as a licensed irrigation engineer for thirty-two years. He worked for Hi-Tech Irrigation for twenty-eight years and soon became an expert in his field. Hi-Tech was later bought out by Irrigation Mart, where Tom continued his flourishing career. Tom was sought after by many local farmers, contractors, and business owners for his remarkable wisdom and knowledge. He always answered his phone, after hours, weekends and holidays.

Tom thoroughly enjoyed spending time at the beach. He loved to take long car rides and admire the farmland, fields, and crops for inspiration. Tom was able to travel extensively throughout the country. Tom was also an avid reader and made it a point to "learn something new every day." He seemed to know a little bit about everything, which helped him make a diverse group of lifelong friends. He was fluent in Spanish which was actually self-taught as he needed it when he traveled to Mexico and Chile for work.

Tom was a family man and enjoyed the holidays and weekends with his family. He loved making breakfast for them on Sundays and gladly volunteered to go on those painful Cotsco runs.

The most important thing to Tom was his faith in the Lord. He was a lifetime Christian and upstanding member of the Mercedes Seventh Day Adventist Church. Tom instilled his Christian beliefs and values in his precious children and family and led by example, as a Godly son, brother, husband, father, and friend. He was kind, soft-spoken, and never knew

a stranger. He often went out of his way to help others in need. Those that knew him knew that he could always be counted on.

Tom is preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Virginia Ann Rial.

He is survived by his wife of thirty-two years, Lisa, children, Kathleen Nicole, Thomas Joseph, and Hannah Elizabeth Rial, all of Weslaco, and sister, Shannon Goulmassian (Albert) of Loma Linda, California.

Visitation will be Monday, September 14th, 3-9 pm, with a Celebration of Life at 7 pm.

Events

SEP **Visitation** 03:00PM - 09:00PM

14

McCaleb Funeral Home

900 West 4th Street, Weslaco, TX, US, 78596

SEP **Celebration of Life** 07:00PM

14

McCaleb Funeral Home

900 West 4th Street, Weslaco, TX, US, 78596

Comments



“ Deborah Macey purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Pink and White for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



Deborah Macey - September 14, 2020 at 11:39 PM



“ Dear Lisa and Family,
I am saddened and so sorry for your loss. Please know you are in my heart and prayers.
Loving thoughts of compassion and strength to you all during this most difficult time. His spirit lives on, and also perhaps in many of the people he touched with his kind and beautiful outlook he so generously shared.

With Sympathy,
Deborah Macey

Deborah Macey - September 14, 2020 at 11:11 PM



“ Dear Rial Family,
Our deepest sympathy to your entire family. Tom was an amazing man. He was a long time customer of our company SWISH, but more so he was a true friend. He shared his love for his family every time we spoke. He always took time to see us or visit not only about business, but about life, family and friendship beyond the work field. He was always willing to help and share his knowledge and expertise in the irrigation world. We will miss him dearly. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers today and the days ahead. Peace be with each of you.

Matt Laursen

Matt Laursen - September 14, 2020 at 08:34 PM



“ I'm Jay's and Robin's dad. A main reason we acquired Hi Tech Irrigation a few years back was because of Tom. We knew of his high quality professional work and that he was a quality/good person. We knew we could always depend on him without question.

We all will miss him. May God bless his family.

Jackie Robbins

jackie robbins - September 14, 2020 at 08:30 PM



“ I work in the Ruston, LA office of Irrigation-Mart as the receptionist. I met Tom in person when he came to Ruston, with Eddie & Manuel a couple of years ago. i have had the pleasure of getting to know Tom thru our work related duties, but also i got to know Tom as a friend too. He has a heart for GOD as big as the universe and he always made me laugh at some point during our conversations. He also would never hang up the phone until he would encourage me in someway about something in life. He is truly a treasure and it is my honor to know him. Can't wait to see him again in heaven. Tom will truly be missed.

Kathy Cash - September 14, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss! I remember the highlights of our summers were where Tom and Shannon would come in the camper from Texas with Uncle Dick and Virginia and stay with us to see Grandma Rial. Unfortunately it had been far too long ago that we saw him. May God comfort you all.

Lori Weidner - September 14, 2020 at 12:59 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Most of my memories of cousin Tom was their family visits to Iowa. I did see him at Shannon's wedding which was very special. Many fond memories of playing in Barnum at Uncle Tom's. Rest In Peace Tom. With love, Cousin Kathleen.

Kathleen Rial Gorski - September 14, 2020 at 11:47 AM



“ It's been a long time since I visited cousin Tom but reading his obituary I know he lived the life he wanted, loved and nurtured his family with everything he had, and contributed to this world with everything he had. Rest in peace Tom Rial. Love to your family from Cousin Erin.

Erin Rial - September 14, 2020 at 11:31 AM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



September 14, 2020 at 11:24 AM



“ Tom was my oldest cousin on my Dad's side. I have found memories of visiting my uncles family in Texas as a young child. We went down there 6 years in a row from Iowa. There was a long gap in seeing Tom, then a very quick visit in 2002 as my family traveled across the country. My Dad and I drove down to visit Tom's Dad and spent a couple hours with Tom's young family. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Eric Rial

Eric Rial - September 14, 2020 at 10:17 AM



“ Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



September 14, 2020 at 10:02 AM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



September 14, 2020 at 09:55 AM



“ We are so so sorry for your loss. May your loving memories of Tom help you through this difficult time. We will be praying for you all. With deep sympathy, Isaias, Carlo, Molly Felch

Molly Felch - September 13, 2020 at 08:44 PM



“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



September 13, 2020 at 08:02 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



September 13, 2020 at 07:51 PM



“ Jay & mary Bilderback purchased the Fields of Europe for Spring for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



Jay & mary Bilderback - September 12, 2020 at 03:13 PM



“ White Sympathy Standing Baskets was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Rial.



September 11, 2020 at 12:52 PM