



Bernard J. Thomas

March 25, 1936 - January 15, 2024

In loving memory of Bernard Jerome Thomas

Bernie Thomas, born on March 25, 1936, in Baltimore, Maryland, to Bernard and Gladys (Stindt) passed away on January 15, 2024. Bernie served proudly in the US Army and married Eileen Gurry in October 1957. Their union blessed them with three children: Bernard Jr (Patricia), James (Peggy), and Brian (Christine).

Throughout his life, Bernie exemplified hard work, pursuing education alongside a full-time job to achieve his Bachelor's of Science Degree from the University of Baltimore, specializing in Transportation. Widowed in 2005 after Eileen's passing, Bernie found renewed love with Brenda Fisher, remarrying in 2009. He devotedly cared for Brenda until her passing in 2018.

Bernie leaves behind a legacy of love as the cherished Grandfather to Corrine, Bernard Jerome Thomas III (Crystal), Colton, Caiden, Anastacia, and Montana Skye. He is also the Great Grandfather to Kailan Curtsinger, Sylus, and Jeric.

Affectionately known as "BoxCar Bernie" he found joy in his career in Logistics. Bernie's extensive career included roles at Packaging Corporation of America, Stone Containers and International Harvester as well as several other trucking companies. Notable achievements include serving as President of Midwest Association of Rails Shippers in 2006, being part of the Chicago

Traffic Club, and holding the position of Village Trustee in Pingree Grove, Illinois. Bernie's interests extended to Chicago sports and was involved in softball, bowling, golf and woodworking hobbies. Additionally, he proudly served as President and founder of the Streamwood Boys Football Team.

All are welcome to honor Bernie at Fredrick Funeral Home, 284 Park Street, Hampshire, Illinois this Thursday from 4pm to 8pm. Bernie will be put to rest next to his children's mother in Baltimore, Maryland in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Bernie's memory lives on through his contributions, dedication, and the love he shared with his family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimer's Foundation in his honor would be appreciated.

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill Cemetery

Baltimore, MD

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JAN 18. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Fredrick Funeral Home

284 Park St.

Hampshire, IL 60140

(847) 683-2711

<https://www.fredrickfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

PB

“ *Bernie will be missed but not forgotten. He led a full life and his memory lives on in our hearts. May he now rest in peace. Condolences to everyone in the family. Love, Milt and Pat Brown*

Pat/Milt Bown - January 19, 2024 at 12:11 AM

PK

“ *Bernie was one of the first guys we met when we moved in. Enjoyed his smile, and great spirit. He will be missed. Hope he and Brenda are together again! Paulette & Vic Keegan*

Paulette Keegan - January 17, 2024 at 06:16 PM

LE

“ *Lyons Electric planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernard J. Thomas.*

Lyons Electric - January 17, 2024 at 03:29 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Bernard J. Thomas.*



January 17, 2024 at 03:29 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Bernard J. Thomas.*



January 17, 2024 at 10:03 AM



“ *The twinkle in your eyes will be missed!*



Katie Brown - January 16, 2024 at 06:49 PM



“ *I had the pleasure of working with Bernie for several years at Packaging Corporation of America. Bernie was knowledgeable and well connected in the transportation industry. He will be missed. Get the transportation moving in Heaven Bernie. You can do it. RIP*

Susan martorano - January 16, 2024 at 06:45 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bernard J. Thomas.*



January 16, 2024 at 04:04 PM

WG

“ With love from all your Grandchildren planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernard J. Thomas.

With love from all your Grandchildren - January 16, 2024 at 04:04 PM

LC

“ Love, Brian and Christine planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernard J. Thomas.

Love, Brian and Christine - January 16, 2024 at 03:56 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Bernard J. Thomas.



January 16, 2024 at 03:56 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bernard J. Thomas.



January 16, 2024 at 02:46 PM