

Thomas M Hagan

Thomas Michael Hagan, born October 29, 1952, passed peacefully in his sleep at his home early Sunday morning, October 21, 2018, concluding his battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Betty Faye Whiteleather, daughter Hagan Faye Whiteleather, sisters Marikay Irene Hagan Martin Colbert (Michael Colbert-deceased) and Marjorie Jean Battershell, brother John Hagan (Tina Hagan), David Battershell, and Sandy Hillman. He is preceded in death by his father Charles Russell Hagan, mother Mary Helen (Freshley) Hagan, brother Charles (Chuck) Elroy Hagan, and Father-in-law Lawrence Ludwig Whiteleather. He is survived by mother-in-law Marjorie Jean (Lowmiller) Whiteleather, Brothers-in-law Glenn Whiteleather, Lawrence Whiteleather, Sisters-in-law Kathy (Fred) Johnson, Shirley (Russell) Fox, Ruth (Larry) Orrell, Esther Whiteleather, Margie (Larry) Wilson, Nancy (Dave) McCauley, Su Lin Boulder, Steve Gram, Shari Kuhn, and Bruce Robb. He is also survived by an extended herd of beloved nieces and nephews and aunts and uncles far too long and growing to print in the newspaper.

Tom and Betty were married October 5, 1985, recently celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary, and 38th loving year together. Since 1991, Tom was a constant source of love, humor, and support for Hagan Faye; he was never more than a phone call away.

Tom was a 1971 graduate of Marlinton High School, where he lettered in track and basketball. He continued to play basketball socially for many years following graduation. His careers were many and varied. From a young age, he worked on his family farm and for his father's heating and plumbing company, Hagan Heating and Plumbing. In his adult life, Tom always followed his passions and interests. He worked for NAPA, served oil rigs, laid railroad ties, broke records in sales at East Manufacturing and farmed, fed, and milked Holsteins at Whiteleather Farms. For over a decade, he acted as curator and antique appraiser for Kiko Auctioneers.

Through his many occupations and interests, Tom earned the nickname “Book of Knowledge” as he could identify and appraise almost anything he found. Tom was an antique enthusiast who not only bought and sold unique and strange treasures, but also taught others about their true value - the history of the pieces. His photographic memory was most aptly utilized at Kiko Auctions to advise sellers and buyers. Tom especially enjoyed working with the Kiko Auction Team, and socializing at the Friday night “Auction Barn”. His time at Kiko’s was a job he described as a joy opposed to work.

“Silent Tom” was a conversationalist, and could hold discussions on nearly any topic, for an incredible duration. He shared his time and wisdom with nieces, nephews, cousins, uncles, aunts, in-laws, friends, acquaintances, strangers—really anyone who would listen. Tom’s voice is already missed by many.

Tom became a Member/Board of Director of the Steel Bank Collectors Club in 1992, and the Mechanical Bank Collectors of America in 1994. At conventions, his room was always filled with fellow bank collectors, talking late into the night. These last few years he deeply missed attending, but most of all he missed the conversions and the enthusiasm for banks (he was always a kid at heart). Tom was also a member of the Hartville Flea Market Gang and spoke fondly of his breakfasts with the guys showing and telling, cracking jokes, playing pranks, and simply enjoying life.

We would like to thank the many friends who sent frequent cards filled with warm words and wishes to Tom. All of you kept his spirits up and helped him stay with us for as long as he did. Many thanks to Dr. Chester Bartram, his nurse Karrie, the staff at North Canton Medical Center, Dr. Weiner and his nurse Linda at Akron City Hospital, and all of those who cared for Tom. Deep gratitude to the faculty and staff of United High School for offering endless and powerful support throughout Tom’s illness. A special thanks to the many friends and

family who brought food, sat near him for afternoon conversations, and kept calling even when his end of the conversation got weak.

Tom was a member of the Aldergate Church and attended St. John's Lutheran Church (donations in his name are welcome). Tom so valued the cards he received in the recent months. In lieu of flowers, please send a card or a memory of Tom for Betty Faye and Hagan Faye to treasure. You could also honor Tom by taking a moment to think of him, tell a story, start a conversation, or simply be kind.