



## Thomas M. Schwartz

March 20, 2025

Thomas M. Schwartz, 82, of Sarasota soared into eternity on March 20, 2025.

Tom and his wife Linda J. Schwartz settled into Florida lifestyle in 2003 after serving a combined fifty years in the Army. With 30 years from Infantry PFC to Colonel in Logistics, Tom served as an Aviator for two Vietnam tours and attended the Army Command and General Staff College and Naval War College. He also earned an MBA from University of Tennessee and MMA in National Security from Salve Regina University.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, Jack J. and Myrtle C. Schwartz and his son Jay B. Schwartz.

He is survived by his wife, Linda, daughter, Melanie Hall of Chesapeake VA, stepson Andrew Craig and wife, Jaime of Rock Springs, GA as well as five grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Tom remained active in the Sarasota community as a realtor and volunteer in-school mentor in Big Brothers Big Sisters for 10 years and a Manatee Election Precinct Clerk for 13 years.

# Tribute Wall

LK

“ Heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with Linda and family in the loss of her beloved husband, Tom. We are thankful for his service to our country and for all the lives that he touched here on Earth. He was a very special person who will truly be missed. With our deepest sympathy, love, and prayers.

*Lorri & Mike Kaighin*



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**Lorri Kaighin** - March 21, 2025 at 07:53 PM

LS

“ Tom's obituary does not include service info because we don't have a burial date yet. Tom will be buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery in a year. Arlington is currently backlogged. His created remains will remain with me until then. There will be a local celebration of life in Sarasota in the near future for family and local friends. There will also be a notice to family and friends when we have a date for burial at Arlington.

*Linda Schwartz*

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**Linda Schwartz** - March 21, 2025 at 12:19 PM

JV

*My prayers are with you Linda and the family he was a great mentor to me and so many other people great times and awesome memories we had in the 28th Transportation Bn. He will be missed dearly he was he was such a wonderful person who cared so much for other people. A Great Soldier and Friend that will be missed dearly. Love and Prayes JERRY Venable Ret. US Army CW4*

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**Jerry Venable** - April 01, 2025 at 01:21 PM

KB

“ I hadn't known Tom for long but the way he and his wife Linda welcomed me was amazing. I remember the first day I met him he raved about this chicken sandwich Linda makes him and the next time I came around she made it for us to enjoy & boy was he right lol! He was such a good soul and very knowledgeable. I told him one day during our talks that I enjoy word games/ things that make me think and he introduced me to the word games he plays in the newspaper. We would work on them together and laugh at ourselves with the easy ones we thought too hard on. Don't get him started with scrabble either!! He was one of the toughest I've ever played with but the most enjoyed competitor. I've enjoyed every second with him and he will truly be missed. <3  
-Kyri

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**Kyri Brown** - March 21, 2025 at 10:10 AM

LS

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**Laren Schwartz** - March 21, 2025 at 08:16 AM

EB

“ Tom was such a honest, smart and wholesome man. It was a challenge when we played our scrabble games. He would do anything for you and he welcomed me into his and Linda's life with open arms. Special people come into your life and he was one of them and will truly be missed. Peace be with him. Erika Brand.

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**Erika Brand** - March 21, 2025 at 07:24 AM

F9

*Carl Thomas M Schwartz was a prince of a man.*

*I remember when we had our first one on one meeting after he had been the commander in Germany for a few months.*

*We hit it all great Colonel Tom was a Huey helicopter pilot and I was a flight engineer on Chinook helicopters with the first Calvary division in Vietnam.*

*But and there was always a butt speaking of butts. He asked me when I was gonna get with the program and bring my maintenance program to a satisfactory condition ladies and gentlemen, I was shocked so after he chewed on me a while, give me a little bit of history about the 109th transportation Company's maintenance lack of maintenance program. Same this company had a history of bad commanders and bad maintenance officers.*

*Remember, I have been in the army at that time over 16 years and was a senior NCO E7 I had not been talked to like that in a long, long, long, long time .*

*I got the message from Neighbors. I got the message.*

*The first thing I did when I left his office was go across the street from my maintenance company to the 150th trans company, maintenance officer, CW3 Jerry W Venable. By the way, he had the best maintenance program and the 28th Trans battalion.*

*Well, some much later, Coral Schwartz, summoned me to his office again .. this time it was hotdogs, apple pie, Chevrolet, Georgia and Alabama football.*

*I was from Alabama and Colonel Tom was from Georgia.*

*We remain good friends, right the rest of his life and I always thought he was a superstar officer .*

*I was so glad that he got promoted to full colonel, knowing that the group commander and Colonel Tom, were not on good terms! A group commander was a flaming retarded piece of work for the lack of a better word.*

*Colonel Tom always wanted to make O6 for Colonel cause his dad was a O6 Captain in the Navy. I remember his dad and he was a fine gentleman also.*

*I firmly believed that our friendship was somewhat based on our service in Vietnam, to include CW 3 Jerry Venable's Vietnam service.*

*God bless you, and your family who are missing you so much right now . "En Temps"*

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**Frank Steele Retired CW4 985-507-3280** - April 01, 2025 at 04:38 PM

LT

“ Tom was a truly exceptional person - as a decorated war hero, community volunteer, dedicated parent and loving husband. He made friends wherever he went and was loved by all who knew him. Fond memories of our times together will remain in our hearts forever. We'll miss you, Linda and Bill Tiffan



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**Linda K Tiffan** - March 20, 2025 at 02:15 PM