



Matthew Elvin Thomas

June 30, 1988 - December 25, 2012

LAFAYETTE– Matthew Elvin Thomas, age 24, of Lafayette, passed from this life unexpectedly on December 25, 2012, at the home of his parents, Elvin and Jean Thomas of Greenfield. He was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on June 30, 1988, and had moved to Hancock County with his family at the age of three.

Matt will be remembered as a young man with a quick smile and sense of humor who cared about others. He had a heart for older people and for helping in any way he could. His interests and accomplishments were many- he was an Eagle Scout and had earned Firecrafter and Order of the Arrow honors. Matt was a black belt in TaeKwonDo, a certified lifeguard, and was successful at the Indiana State Fair in 4H horse-driving competition with his mare Moondance Kate. He was a hard worker who enjoyed water sports, archery, target shooting, camping, music, gardening, and competing in Highland Games with his older brother.

After graduating from Eastern Hancock in 2007, Matt went on to Purdue University where he received a B.S. in Agronomy in December 2011. Currently employed by Crop Production Services in Chalmers, Indiana, he had put himself through school by working as a field scout for Harvest Land and interning in Illinois with Growmark. He also raised cattle and did custom baling for others. He loved animals, driving tractors, and building things. He dreamed of having a horse farm of his own to use as therapy for disabled individuals.

Matt was baptized into Christ on December 24, 2000, and was a member of the Shiloh Christian Church in Greenfield. His faith in God was strong. He accepted the challenges he was given, never showing anger toward God about his physical limitations, and remained cheerful and optimistic to the end of his life.

He is survived by his parents; brother, Jim (Kris) Thomas of Spencerville; sisters, Lyn (Steve) Green of Junction City, Kansas, and Sara Coleman of McCordsville; nephews and nieces, Evan Thomas, Nathan and Nicole Green, and Katie, Gracie, and Maddie

Coleman; as well as many loving aunts, uncles, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Elbert and Marjorie Thomas and Buford and Harriet McClurg.

Visitation will take place on Sunday, December 30, 2012, from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m. at Erlewein Mortuary in Greenfield. Funeral services will be on Monday, December 31, 2012, at the mortuary at noon. Burial will take place at Asbury Cemetery in Morristown. Friends may share a memory or send a condolence at www.erleweinmortuary.com or email condolences to sympathy@erleweinmortuary.com.

Cemetery

Events

Asbury Cemetery
10751 N. Asbury Rd.
Morristown, IN, 46161

DEC 30 Visitation 02:00PM - 06:00PM
Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield
1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

DEC 31 Service 12:00PM - 01:00PM
Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield
1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

Comments



“ To my dear Matt,

We just spent the weekend with your loving family,
Rejoicing in your life,
Saddened by your death,
Dealing with anxiety of not knowing "why",
But remembering the good times of years gone by.

You will always be in our hearts
We love you,

From one of your favorite aunts, Joan

Joan Petersen - January 02, 2013 at 06:24 PM



“ My heart has been heavy all week and your family has been in my thoughts and prayers. Matt was such a nice, caring and positive young man. He was inclusive to other students in class and fun to have in FFA. When Eric and I first moved to Wilkinson 7 years ago, Matt was eager to come and lend a hand! I was so impressed with his ability to converse with my parents and other family members that he had never met! They still ask about him from time to time as he left such an impression. What an impact he made on so many in such a short life. He will be greatly missed. God be with you through this difficult time and be your source of strength in the coming weeks. Our prayers are with you.
Eric and Natalie Schilling and Family

Natalie Schilling - January 02, 2013 at 08:39 AM



“ Terry Jilg lit a candle in memory of Matthew Elvin Thomas



Terry Jilg - January 01, 2013 at 10:51 AM



“ Dear Elvin, Jean and Family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Matt was such a wonderful and fine young man. We remember Matt coming to his first cub scout meeting at our house many years ago. Then what a honor to see him getting his Eagle Scout too. We have so many great memories of Matt, his smile and kind words were always there. Heaven has certainly gained a fine young man. We will miss him greatly. The Jilgs, Terry, Julie, Chris, Brandon and Savanna.

Terry Jilg - January 01, 2013 at 10:58 AM



“ We're so sorry about Matt. We know he was a joy to you and you will always have those wonderful memories. I guess God just couldn't wait to have Matt with Him in heaven. We thank God for the time we all had with Matt and for all the people's lives he was able to touch. We're praying that your pain of loss will ease as you consider Matt's eternal gain. Love,
Bill and Sharon

Bill(y) Thomas - December 31, 2012 at 04:21 PM



“ Patti LaGue lit a candle in memory of Matthew Elvin Thomas



Patti LaGue - December 30, 2012 at 06:05 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of great loss. I was deeply saddened and shocked to hear the news of Matt's passing. I worked with Matt over the past year at CPS in Chalmers. He was a very nice young man and was taken way too soon. He will be greatly missed. You have my Deepest Sympathy, Patti La Gue

Patti - December 30, 2012 at 06:15 PM



“ Dear Elvin, Jean, and family,
We are so sorry to hear the sad news of Matt's passing. Our hearts are heavy and we wish we could be there in person to give you hugs. It is obvious from the messages already shared that Matt was a gift to many. We know he was welcomed warmly into heaven. Our prayer is that you may be comforted and given the strength you need as you walk forward.
With love, Gene and Kathy Griffith



Kathy Griffith - December 30, 2012 at 04:37 PM



“ Charles And Bonnie Roland lit a candle in memory of Matthew Elvin Thomas



Charles and Bonnie Roland - December 29, 2012 at 12:31 PM



“ Words escape us to express our sorrow in your loss. May our Heavenly Father console you.

Charles and Bonnie Roland - December 29, 2012 at 12:38 PM



“ Julia Bruce Heckman lit a candle in memory of Matthew Elvin Thomas



Julia Bruce Heckman - December 28, 2012 at 07:17 PM



“ Dear Elvin, Jean and Family I am so broken hearted at the news of the passing of such a warm sweet wonderful soul as your Matt. God has gained a great warrior and the world has lost a compastionate soul My rayers are with all of you in this time of grief and searching for strength. Love to all of you

Julia - December 28, 2012 at 07:21 PM



“ My heart goes out to you all for the loss of a wonderful, caring man. Matt was loved by my family, especially by Nathan and Nicole. I pray for healing of sorrow, the remembrance of his life as we do celebrate Matt's life. Love to all, Winola Green



Winola Green - December 28, 2012 at 09:57 AM



“ Elvin & Jean, we first met Matt when we came to Shiloh. We soon learned what a nice young man he was. After that, he always found time to say hi to us every Sunday. We remember needing straw for the dogs bedding, so Matt & his dad brought some bales over. He seemed very ambitious all the time. We can never find words that will be comforting enough to fill the void we share. God got a good one, may he wrap his loving arms around all of you & comfort you.

With All Our Love,
Tom & Barbara



Tom & Barbara Dennis - December 28, 2012 at 09:02 AM



“ Elvin, Jean and Family, I'm so sad for the Thomas family. Matt was always so kind to Austin in their years together in Boy Scout Troop #293 and the EH FFA. I doubt he knows how much that meant to me. He was always very respectful and considerate to all...just a joy to be around. A bright light has been snuffed out on earth, but heaven is further brightened by his presence. Thoughts and prayers to you from the Gibble Family..Mary

Mary Gibble - December 28, 2012 at 08:50 AM



“ Brenda McClarnon, Shawn and Christina Andrews



brenda mcclarnon - December 28, 2012 at 07:52 AM



“ We are praying for your family. Matt was such a kind young man. May you feel Gods loving arms lifting you up and may you experience Gods peace. Scott, Cindy, Kyle, and Leah Jacobs

Cindy Jacobs - December 28, 2012 at 07:41 AM



“ Ellvin, Jean and family, I am so sad about the passing of this wonderful young man. Loved having him in our Sunday School class and watching him grow into the fine young man he was. We were all blessed to have known him this long and now he is with his Lord and Savior, in heaven.
Our love and prayers to all of you!
Sue and Larry Bowmer

Sue Bowmer - December 27, 2012 at 10:16 PM



“ Amy & Kevin Bunger, Blake & Ethan Richie lit a candle in memory of Matthew Elvin Thomas



Amy & Kevin Bunger, Blake & Ethan Richie - December 27, 2012 at 07:27 PM



“ Jean and Elvin and family,
You may not remember who I am, I am Joan's niece from Iowa. I am so sorry for the loss of your son. I don't believe I ever had the privilege of meeting him. As a parent, I can not imagine the pain in your heart. I pray for and know that God will wrap His loving arms around all of you at this very difficult time.
Our deepest sympathies to all of you.
Rodney and Diane Johnson of Newell, Iowa

Diane Johnson - December 27, 2012 at 07:18 PM



“ Pat / Butch Kuhns lit a candle in memory of Matthew Elvin Thomas



Pat / Butch Kuhns - December 27, 2012 at 04:36 PM



“ Jean & Elvin & Family.... My heart pours out to you. The Speer family has so many good memories of our time spent with Matt. Tyler and I remember all the times you opened your home up to Ty, all the go-carting! I even remember a few jokes they played on Sarah. Erica always wanted to be included on all the fun the boys were having. And we can not forget all the soccer games! Our prayers are with you. Thank you for sharing Matt with us. -Bonnie Speer

Bonnie Speer - December 27, 2012 at 03:02 PM