

Thomas J. Rice

Havertown, PA

25 February 1951 to 28 August 2011

A man on the move...

Thomas J. Rice was a man on the move. From an early age he liked fast cars and motorcycles and having a truck on hand. As life went on, he moved to bicycling, but his favorite activity was just moving one foot in front of the other--- running.

He grew up in a Philadelphia row home at the peak of the baby boom generation in St. Francis of Assisi parish. Naturally, he took a liking to the enduring characteristics of *Rocky*. And throughout his life whenever the going got tough, he may have spent some time on the ropes, but never down for the count. He always moved on...

He was married in 1978 to Margaret Mary Gambescia. He was the beloved father of Christina (Contreras, of Drexel Hill), the late Maria and Sergeant Tommy John (U.S. Army, Denver CO). He was the proud grandfather of Maia and Ella Contreras and Lauren (Loera), Dominic, and Sophia Rice.

Tommy Rice would move to far-away places or travel great distances each day to provide for his family. No job was too big or too small, and often they would be dangerous. He most recently worked for Arbonite P&R Industries doing coatings and linings.

Tom not only had a good habit of industry but believed in improving the human condition. He worked out religiously (running and weightlifting) and no kit or elixir was too farfetched to try if it meant being stronger and going faster and higher.

When not on the move, he enjoyed some soft music, watching tropical fish in a humongous tank, and talking to his parrot Toby. He had several hobbies including photography, fast cars, motorcycles and anything with the latest technology.

He was tripped up on an early spring motorcycle launch. The miracles of modern medicine and skills of the best trauma, surgical, and rehabilitation teams at Penn extended his life, so he could live to fight another day. And fight he did....

Tom Rice did not see the world as winners and losers but only the many opportunities we all have to play the game of life. He fought the good fight and ran the good race.

Friends and relatives may call 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. at Saint Matthias Church, Bala Cynwyd, PA, Funeral Mass to follow at 10:00 am. Interment Calvary Cemetery. Memorial donations can be sent to the Trauma Center at Penn, 3535 Market Street, Suite 750, Phila., PA 19104.

Arrangements by The Donohue Funeral Home, Upper Darby, PA (610) 449-0300. Online condolences www.donohuefuneralhome.com