



Thomas E. McVey

August 21, 1935 - January 4, 2026

Thomas E. McVey, age 90 of Kankakee, passed away on Sunday, January 4, 2026. He was born on August 21, 1935 in Kankakee, the son of Seth and Lillian (Marquart) McVey. Thomas married Alice F. Weaver on January 26, 1957 in Kankakee.

Thomas was a Lieutenant for the City of Kankakee Fire Department and fourth generation Firefighter. He worked at Riverside Medical Center as an Emergency Room Technician and was instrumental in setting up the EMT squad Department for the Kankakee Fire Dept. He was an instructor in First Aid procedures and rescue procedures. He was a police officer for the City of Kankakee, a Chief Deputy Coroner for Kankakee County, and a Deputy for the Kankakee County Sheriff Department. Thomas continued his career as a Deputy Coroner in Orange County and Riverside County in California. His career also had him working in corrections in Orange County, California.

He was featured in a YouTube video on the History of the Kankakee Fire Department: https://youtu.be/gqO85QRxmV8?si=XJ73cB_hoQqI5QxF

Thomas was a musician who loved music and enjoyed performing in local area bands. He loved to travel. Most of all, Thomas loved spending time with family and friends. He found great joy in serving others.

Thomas was a member of the Kankakee Sportsmen Club, Bradley Moose, and the Kankakee American Legion

Thomas was of the Catholic faith all his life.

Thomas was a veteran of the United States Army, proudly serving between

1953 and 1955.

Surviving is Alice, his wife of 69 years; two sons, Scott (Cely) McVey of Ohio and the Philippines, Michael (Celia) of California, Madonna McVey, former spouse of Scott; five grandchildren, Seth, Michael, Mary Alice, Patrick, and Thomas McVey; three great grandchildren, Aryia McVey, Malachy McVey, Grace Gustafson; brothers James, Michael and Donald, and several nieces and nephews.

Thomas is preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Gerald McVey; and one sister, Joan Floriant.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

Memorial visitation will be held from 3-7 p.m. on Monday, February 16, 2026 at Schreffler Funeral Home in Kankakee.

Interment will be held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood.

Memorials may be made to family wishes.

Cemetery Details

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 W. Hoff Road
Elwood, IL 60421
(815) 423-9958
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/abrahamlincoln.asp>

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB **16**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Graveside Service

FEB **17**. 1:30 PM (CT)

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery
20953 W. Hoff Road
Elwood, IL 60421
(815) 423-9958
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/abrahamlincoln.asp>

Tribute Wall

RG

“ Robert & Sherree Gessner lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Robert & Sherree Gessner - February 17 at 04:12 PM

JG

“ Joe And Barbara Geisler lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Joe and Barbara Geisler - February 16 at 11:57 AM

KD

“ Kelly DuMontelle lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Kelly DuMontelle - February 15 at 07:39 PM

CP

“ Cheryl Lambert Peterson lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



cheryl Lambert Peterson - February 15 at 11:36 AM

CP

Tom was a very gentle soul. I met Tom back in the 80s when my Brother had his band Concrete Shoes. Tom's son Scott Mcvey was lead guitarist/ singer in the band and Tom would come to the Gigs to video the band along with his beautiful wife Alice. He was definitely one of a kind and I know he will be deeply missed! Fly High Tom!

cheryl Lambert Peterson - February 15 at 11:41 AM

MM

“*Tom was my brother, same Dad but different Mother. I didn't get the chance to know him until I was 18, but over the years I was privileged to get to know him well. I loved Tom and learned that you could not find a better guy. He was kind, helpful and very funny. As a former police officer and fire man he always had great stories to tell. My wife, Kathleen, and I always love our visits with Tom and Alice when they were here in town. They both treated our daughter, Jennifer, like a princess. I have been sitting in my backyard patio the last couple of weeks remembering the great times we had here together; talking and reminiscing about so much, especially about our brother Jerry. We are going to miss him so much. We love you, brother Tom, God Bless. Michael and Kathleen McVey*

Michael McVey - February 02 at 03:38 PM

CR

“*During my years at Riverside, Tom and I crossed paths many times. A man of such humor, always had a story or a great piece of gossip, but spoke of Alice with such love and admiration. Such a proud man of his careers that he loved. A true HONOR to have known Tom.*

Chardell Smallwood RN - January 13 at 07:00 PM

JM

“ You were a firecracker, Uncle Tom ❤️ You leave a big hole and will be missed. Love, Jennifer



Jennifer McVey - January 12 at 04:32 PM

CP

I met Tom when My Brother had his band Concrete Shoes back in the 80s ,Scott his son was lead guitarist/ singer in the band and Tom would come to there Gigs videoing there performances. Such a sweet soul along with his lovely wife Alice. May you rest in peace Tom,you were definitely one of a kind and a very gentle soul!

cheryl Lambert Peterson - February 15 at 11:34 AM

HZ

“ Heather Ziller lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Heather Ziller - January 12 at 09:11 AM

JC

“ Jeffery T. Cavender lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Jeffery T. Cavender - January 10 at 05:44 PM

DK

“ *Rest in Peace Tom.*



Debra K.Lambert - January 10 at 11:26 AM

CS

“ *Sorry to hear of Tom's passing. I met Tom many years ago during my time with Manteno Fire Department. Tom was a professional on the job and always met and treated patients with a smile and great care! Our sympathy and prayers are with Tom and the entire McVey family. RIP Tom.*

Chuck and Arta Snyder

Charles Snyder - January 10 at 11:06 AM

TA

“ *Thomas Anthony lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey*



Thomas Anthony - January 09 at 10:35 PM

MB

“ *Mary Blum lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey*



Mary Blum - January 09 at 04:45 PM

JL

“ Tom was a good friend of my brothers, Lane and Mark, and, along with his brother, Jerry, was always considered to be a part of the Long family in Kankakee.

After he married Alice, their names became one: Tom-and-Alice, unseparable!

My sincere sympathy to Alice, Scottie, Mike, and families. 🙏🙏

Julia Long
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Julia Long - January 09 at 01:58 PM



“ I was a neighbor of Tom and Alice in K3. They were so welcoming! I enjoyed the summer nights when there would be Bobs. 'Bottle on the Bench". My Dad would also join in when visiting. He was an amazing man. Tom even helped me make it to my surgery on time when my car would not start the morning of my surgery. He will be truly missed. Rest in Gods peace Tom...

Melody McDonald - January 09 at 11:03 AM

MM

“ MR MRS sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas E. McVey



MR MRS - January 09 at 10:56 AM

JL

“ Tom and Alice stood up for Lane and I when we were married on August 4, 1961. Lane and Tom were the best of friends, sharing music and love for life.

Rest in Peace at last. You have left this world a much better place.

Joanne Long

Joanne Long - January 09 at 09:36 AM

CD

“ Tom and Alice were great supporters of Herscher Area Historical Society. That is how I began to know him. I wish I had know him sooner , he had stories to tell that would have written a book.



CAROL DESCH - January 09 at 09:04 AM

JJ

“ Jolinda Jones lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Jolinda Jones - January 09 at 06:21 AM

PA

“ Patricia lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Patricia - January 08 at 10:50 PM

VP

“ Vickie Page lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey



Vickie Page - January 08 at 09:44 PM

GM

“ I have been blessed to have known Tom for about 50 years. I can recall seeing him working in the ER and at the Fire Department and he was always friendly to everyone he encountered. I never had the chance to meet or see my grandfather, Sam Mitchell, but Tom knew him. Sam was also a Kankakee Firefighter. Tom gave me a picture of Sam in his uniform and I will always remember that. Our friendship will last forever. May he R.I.P..

Gary T Mitchell - January 08 at 08:49 PM

MF

“ Tom was one of my paramedic instructors in the 1980s. Always that great smile on his face, consummate gentleman, dry sense of humor, and highly ethical and honest. Tom is one of my greatest earthly treasures, and, I was proud to serve with him in public safety.

Mark W. Field, retired
Wheaton, IL Chief of Police

mark field - January 08 at 07:17 PM

NM

“ *Nora Mehrer lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey*



Nora Mehrer - January 08 at 06:18 PM



“ *Thomas you will always have a special place in my heart...: the love you had for your wife and family, the stories we shared will be cherished, my sincerest condolences go out to the family Riverview pharmacy family sends condolences as well . ❤️*

Dee Samp - January 08 at 03:26 PM

JE

“ *Julie Enright lit a candle in memory of Thomas E. McVey*



Julie Enright - January 08 at 12:23 PM

SB

“ *Tom and Alice were Moose Family! My heart goes out the the family*

Sharon Brown - January 08 at 10:27 AM