



Thomas P. Lahr

September 7, 1945 - July 29, 2018

Thomas Paul Lahr was born September 7, 1945 to Sheldon and Rosanna (Steinhilber) Lahr in Forest, Ohio. After graduating from DeVry Technical Institute in Chicago, Tom took a job at WOSU-TV. During his 46-plus year tenure Tom served the station in many technical capacities. He served 4 years in the U.S. Navy during the 1960's then returned to WOSU. He later became Chief Engineer for T.V. and continued to work part-time at the station after retirement. He is survived by Marilyn Smith, his wife of 34 years; his daughter, Caitlin Lahr of Columbus; son, Steven (Elizabeth) Lahr of Reynoldsburg; sister, Betty Lahr of Columbus; brothers, Robert (Pam) Lahr of Blacklick and Sheldon Lahr of Indian Lake, Ohio. He is also survived by mother-in-law, Ann Smith of Amherst, NY; brothers-in-law, Kevin (Elaine) of Buffalo, NY, Steven Smith of Amherst and Richard (Denise) Smith of Amherst, NY; many nieces, nephews, and countless good friends. Tom loved spending time with his family. He took immense pride in his work and being with his WOSU family. He enjoyed woodworking, restoring his old house and fixing anything that needed it. Friends may call at RUTHERFORD FUNERAL HOME, 2383 N. High St. Monday, August 6, 2018 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave. Father Fritzner Valcin, Celebrant. The service will be followed by a gathering of family and friends in the Parish Hall. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to WOSU Public Media. To leave a condolence for the family please visit www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

AUG 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home-University
2383 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43202
(614) 299-1153
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Mass

AUG 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
386 Buttles Ave
Columbus, OH 43215

Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas P. Lahr*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Although it has been over 40 years since I lived in Columbus or worked at WOSU, I often saw Tom at the Danube after work Saturday evenings, then Thursday afternoons at Applebees, and recently, at O'Leary's when I was in town to visit my mother. He was instrumental in helping me create an Emmy-award winning special for WOSU-TV, a live show that almost didn't happen until Tom helped fix a power problem the afternoon before the show aired. Although I worked primarily in radio, I always saw Tom as someone who was a good leader at the station and fun to talk to over the years. I miss him.*

John Archer - August 24, 2018 at 06:43 PM



“ *Tom was very supportive of me as a student working at WOSU-TV in the 1970's. He had a great sense of humor and was a perfect fit with all the personalities who roamed the halls of TV, AM and FM. I saw him from time to time over the years when I'd stop by the station for an impromptu visit. He was always the same warm and generous Tom I came to know back in the day. He will be missed...*

Geoff Hetrick

Geoff Hetrick - August 07, 2018 at 09:33 AM

SN

“ Tom was one of my favorite people. I'll never forget the laughs, the work, the laughs, the calls, the laughs... you may notice a pattern here. When I was told the news the world seemed dimmer for a moment, then as I dug through my memories I laughed and laughed. I think he would have wanted it that way. So long my friend.

Scott Nash - August 07, 2018 at 07:00 AM

LP

“ Tom was one of the kindest people I've ever met, thoughtful and always willing to help. The last time I saw him was at WOSU, where he worked part time after he retired. He was busy fixing things, joking and happy. I'll hold that memory in my heart. My deepest condolences to you, Marilyn, and to Caitlin and Steven as well. We all feel your terrible loss.

Lisa Prosek - August 06, 2018 at 09:19 PM

DS

My deepest condolences to To Marilyn, Caitlin, and Steven. I knew Toms gentle, kind, and funny personality. I am familiar with when a loved one is feeling depression and so deeply. My heart is broken for the whole family. My prayers will continue for all of you during this difficult time.

Deborah Smith - August 07, 2018 at 07:21 AM

TH

“ I would still be trying to figure out the wiring on Wilber avenue if it wasn't for Tom. Great memories of being your neighbors and we deeply cherish our friendship. Sending your family our very best wishes. Tom, Jen, Connor, Ronan and Finn Hayes

Thomas Hayes - August 06, 2018 at 07:50 AM

QC

“ I can't put into words the memorable experiences I shared with Tom or "Lardo" as we all called him. We both had similar paths in life having started at the WOSU stations at about the same time, gone to technical schools at about the same time, served in the military (the Army in my case), and born in the same year (he was two months older than me).

I often think about Tom and the wonderful memories we had together. We played golf, bowled after work, drank beer together (he could drink me under the table as he did quite often). I have wonderful memories of working with Marilyn as well since we both worked for the radio stations. My heart goes out to you and your family Marilyn; I am deeply sorry for the sudden loss of such a wonderful person.

May you and your family find the strength to go on with your lives with the knowledge that Tom was loved by all. God bless you all.

Quick Coddington

Quick Coddington - August 03, 2018 at 10:23 PM

HO

“ Howie "Uncle Woolly" Ornstein purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Thomas P. Lahr.



Howie "Uncle Woolly" Ornstein - August 03, 2018 at 07:21 PM

JN

“ Our sympathy goes to you, Marilyn, and your family after the sudden loss of your husband and their father. John and I are praying for all of you, and asking our God to hold you all in his loving arms.
Love,
John and Joanna Nunn
St. Francis Church

Joanna Nunn - August 03, 2018 at 10:19 AM

HU

“ God Bless and Thank YOU, Tom for your service in The United States Navy.... RIP And Semper Fi.



Herb Guyer-Sharfenaker USMC - August 02, 2018 at 10:22 PM

SM

“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Tom Lahr. I so enjoyed my time working with Tom: his sense of humor and sharp wit I'll always remember. I can only imagine how you, Marilyn, Caitlyn, and Steven, and your families are feeling. I will keep you in both my thoughts and my prayers.

SUSAN M MEYER - August 02, 2018 at 12:22 PM

GC

“ Tom was a great man. I worked with him for 20 years at WOSU. He always came into TV Master Control joking around and always made me laugh. Tom was the best of the best at his craft. He could fix anything. I miss him terribly already. I will miss him coming in with his great smile and sense of humor that left you laughing after he would leave the room. He made me a better Broadcast Technician and for all of us that knew him and worked with him, we are all better for knowing him. Rest easy, my good friend. You will be in my heart and my memories forever. My thoughts and prayers are with all of his family and friends. Sincerely and deeply saddened, Greg S. Coulson

Greg S. Coulson - August 01, 2018 at 02:35 PM

RF

“ Robert Half Family purchased the *Pretty Please* for the family of Thomas P. Lahr.



Robert Half Family - August 01, 2018 at 01:46 PM