



# Thomas Frank Bechtel

DEC 28, 2013



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## **Thomas Frank Bechtel**

DEC 28, 2013

**T**homas “Tom” Frank Bechtel, devoted and loving husband, father, and grandfather, passed away unexpectedly on December 28, 2013 in Huntersville, NC. He was 77.

Tom was born on June 5, 1936 in Easton, PA to Frances and Helen Ricketts Bechtel. He graduated from Easton High School, Class of 1954 and received his B.S. In Mechanical Engineering from Lehigh University. Tom completed his master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati. Most of his professional career in engineering was spent at the General Electric Company, where he received numerous awards for innovations in engineering. Prior to retirement, he was the Director of Research and Development for the Department of Energy in Morgantown, WV. He remained active since retirement as an engineering consultant and served on several company boards. Tom was an active member of St Andrews Lutheran Church in New Bern, NC. Community involvement included the Brotherhood of the Elks, New Bern Civitan Club, and NC Democratic Party. Tom was an avid sports fan and could often be found on the golf course. His greatest enjoyment was watching his grandchildren grow and wished the best for them.

Tom is survived in death by his wife Dolores Mills Bechtel and daughters Deborah Bechtel Blackwell(James), Lisa Bechtel Oehler, Jan Bechtel (Regina). Surviving grandchildren include Ashley Begley, Austin Blackwell, Avery Blackwell, Miles Oehler, Kylie Blackwell and Kelsey Blackwell. He is also survived by his sister Joanne Bechtel Behers.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at St. Andrews Lutheran Church at 11:00 AM with Dr. Ted Rust officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. A reception will be held immediately following the service in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to MERCI Clinic, Inc, 1315 Tatum Drive, New Bern NC 28560; North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in



## Obituary

**Thomas Frank Bechtel**

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America at 1988 Lutheran Synod Drive, Salisbury, NC 28144, or RCS, PO Box 704, 919 George Street, New Bern,NC, 28560.

James Funeral Home,Huntersville,NC is serving the family. [www.jamesfuneralhomeLKN.com](http://www.jamesfuneralhomeLKN.com)



## Tribute Wall

Thomas Frank Bechtel

DM

**Dan Mccollum** posted:

Please accept my condolences on Tom's passing. As a young engineer, Tom was a great influence on me both professionally and personally. I still remember his wisdom and encouragement. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Dan McCollum National Energy Technology Laboratory

January 2 at 5:41 AM

AN

**Ana** posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. The Bible provides comfort during these difficult times. Revelation 21:3-4 states, And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. Very soon now, we will never experience losing our loved ones in death. Hope these words give you a new hope.

January 1 at 7:24 AM

CR

**Chuck And Penny Rettew** posted:

Dee - We are so very sorry to hear of Tom's passing. We want to let you know that you will be in our prayers. We are presently in Haymarket, VA visiting and baby sitting, we will be here through January 19th and are very sorry we will not be at Tom's funeral. If there is anything we can do to help you please do not hesitate to let us know. Fondly, Chuck and Penny

December 31 at 3:18 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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