



## Charles Thomas Holdcraft

October 28, 1935 - December 21, 2022

Charles Thomas Holdcraft, 87, was reunited with our Creator on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 in Winter Park, Florida. Tommy transitioned peacefully, with his son and daughter holding his hands. Tommy was born on October 28, 1935 in Camden, New Jersey. His parents and he moved to Coral Gables, FL as a child in 1942, and Tommy later graduated from Coral Gables Senior High. Tommy learned to fly at age 16, served four years in the United States Air Force, attended the University of Miami, and was an airline pilot for 36 years, flying more than 30 years with Eastern Airlines. A particularly interesting note is Tommy's father was a commercial pilot as is his grandson, Davis. Tommy was known for his dedication to those he loved as well as to his health and fitness. For decades, he could be found running all over Miami. He ran all the major marathons across the U.S. including the Boston Marathon. His other passion and dedication was to his wife, Patricia. They met in high school, boating on Biscayne Bay, and dated for several years. They ended up going their separate ways, then reuniting. Their love was extraordinarily special. As Patricia became ill, Tommy dedicated himself to her loving care. Patricia passed away in 2013, and their final wish was to have their cremains mixed & spread over the bay where they met.

Tommy is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth Mertz (married to Tom) son, Tom Holdcraft (married to Colleen) stepson, Curtis Mase (married to Monica), stepdaughter, Daryl Ann Place (married to Alex), 10 grand children, and his

beloved dog, Tailwind. Tommy also leaves behind a group of loving friends and neighbors who not only looked out for each other, but also gathered regularly for an evening walk to the lake to watch the sunset.

A Celebration of Life will be held Wednesday, December 28, 11:00 at First United Methodist Church of Winter Park, 125 N. Interlachen Ave., with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in loving memory of Tommy to First United Methodist Church of Winter Park.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

DEC 28. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church - Winter Park  
125 N. Interlachen Avenue  
Winter Park, FL 32789

# Tribute Wall

KD

“ I had the honor and privilege of flying with Captain Holdcraft, Tom, at Eastern Airlines. He taught me how to be a good pilot, and how to be a good person. Everybody respected him. I owe my career to Tom as I eventually retired from JetBlue Airlines as a Captain myself. All things eventually pass but my memory of Tom will live with me all the days of my life.  
So long my good friend until we meet again.  
Captain Kurt W DuBeau-Jetblue Retired

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**Kurt W DuBeau** - July 23, 2023 at 08:40 AM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Holdcraft.

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December 28, 2022 at 10:29 AM

TL

“ The Congregation of St. Stephen Lutheran purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Charles Thomas Holdcraft.



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**The Congregation of St. Stephen Lutheran** - December 27, 2022 at 10:25 AM