



Philip H. Thomas Jr.

September 17, 1931 - June 17, 2025

Philip H. Thomas, Jr., 93, of New Britain, widower of Joan (Gavitt) Thomas, passed away Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at New Britain General Hospital, peacefully with family by his side. Born in New Milford on September 17, 1931, son of the late Philip H. Thomas, Sr. and Catherine (McGeary) Thomas, he lived in New Britain since the 1940s.

Philip, who was better known as Tom, was born with cerebral palsy and faced many challenges in life but was proud and thankful to have met them. He was self-employed as a milkman, a Fuller Brush salesman, and a wholesale bakery franchisee. After a factory stint at Fafnir, Tom worked for the Connecticut Services for the Blind for 10 years, retiring in 1992.

Tom received an associate's degree from Tunxis Community College at age 50, and in his 70s, took courses at Central Connecticut State University. In 2024, his portfolio of written works was published into a 164-page book, fulfilling a longtime goal. His writings feature Tom's famous sense of humor.

He was a member of First Church of Christ, Congregational in New Britain, and was a "Friend of Bill W." for 56 years. Tom and family were seasonal campers at Hammonasset Beach State Park for several years, and he was one of the first to own a site at Klondike Camping Resort in Otis, MA. He enjoyed bicycling and in his later years, riding a scooter, which gave him the independence he always treasured.

Surviving are three sons, Philip H. Thomas, III and his wife Barbara of Farmington; Robert L. Thomas of New Britain; and John C. Thomas and his wife Ellen Cohen of Westport; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Patricia Shick (Nelson) and Lynn White (David); and several nieces and nephews. Besides his parents and wife Joan, he was predeceased by a sister, Emy Thomas of St. Croix, USVI.

A Memorial Service will be held Friday, July 25 at 1 p.m. at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 830 Corbin Ave., New Britain, CT 06052. There are no calling hours. He will be buried in South Burying Ground, Kensington at the convenience of family. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting with arrangements. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First Church of Christ, Congregational. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 25. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Church of Christ, Congregational
830 Corbin Ave
New Britain, CT 06052

Tribute Wall

RT

“ *My Hero,
He and I would dip around New Britain on his scooters to Meetings as soon as the weather got warmer. These pictures were taken a little over a year ago. Every Friday we went to the park for our weekly meeting and lunch. As you can see he could have gotten pulled over for speeding because once the door opened to the Garage GPOST was out. He didn't always behave, I wonder where I got that from. I was Blessed to have been able to have Spend as much time with him as I did. I wish for one more ride.*



Rob ThomZ - July 12, 2025 at 05:32 PM

RT

From Robert Thomas not Thomz.

Rob Thomas - July 12, 2025 at 05:38 PM

TR

This is my favorite vision of him. There was nothing stopping him with that scooter as his portal to anywhere!! we miss him terribly, his sparkly personality always a sense of humor and always generous and kind! All our love goes to your family always!!!

Tracy - July 23, 2025 at 10:19 AM