



Thomas Howard Alderson

May 15, 1930 - April 3, 2025

Thomas Howard Alderson was born on May 15, 1930, and passed away on April 3, 2025, at the age of 94.

Mr. Alderson is the son of the late John Wesley Alderson and Ora Lawson Alderson. He is also preceded in death by his sister Emma Harber, brother JB Alderson, sister Cora Ann Coble and grandchild John Wesley Alderson.

Mr. Alderson leaves to cherish his memory wife Carolyn Alderson, son Thomas Alfred Alderson, daughter Anne Elizabeth Anthony, son John Nelson Alderson, 9 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Cemetery Details

Little Lot Cemetery

Duck River, TN

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 8. 2:30 PM (CT)

Little Lot Cemetery
Duck River, TN

Tribute Wall

LF

“ *LENORE FRANCISCO-LOCATELLI sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Howard Alderson*



LENORE FRANCISCO-LOCATELLI - April 13, 2025 at 09:12 AM

CB

“ *Connie Bowen lit a candle in memory of Thomas Howard Alderson*



Connie Bowen - April 07, 2025 at 09:21 PM

ES

“ *Ed And Melinda Sullivan lit a candle in memory of Thomas Howard Alderson*



Ed and Melinda Sullivan - April 07, 2025 at 08:28 PM

“It's hard for me to pull up a singular memory of Papa, perhaps because he lived his life with such consistency that each and every moment with him was a joy. As young children, my sisters and I wanted to spend as much time with him and Nannie as possible, but we relished the time even more if we got to do it alone. We would try to wake up early without waking the others in order to join in the daily routine of feeding the cows and moving them from field to field. Nannie and Papa did not need our help at all, but they made us welcome all the same, trying to find tasks that we were capable of doing. I remember tottering unsteadily along with the feed bucket, setting it down for a much-needed rest, and seeing Papa stride past with two, no four full buckets. There's nothing quite like farm strong. Back at the house, Papa would often be sweeping and whistling. Or humming. Or singing. He never sang loudly, except maybe at church, but even when he was just singing to himself it added to the atmosphere of joy that the whole farm exuded thanks to him and Nannie.

You always wanted to hear what he had to say, too. Whether gathered in the living room near Papa's chair or around the table for one of Nannie's incredible meals, often using several vegetables from Papa's garden, we loved to listen to Papa. He was so funny and full of wit. Occasionally he would say something that Nannie thought crossed the line of zaniness and she would scold him, "Tom!", but then laugh along with everyone else. Sometimes he would reveal some great secret that he had kept for decades, like casually revealing that he had been Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, and how a girl had been so taken by his good looks that she had fallen in a ditch when he drove past.

I loved and greatly cherished sharing the same birthday as Papa, though he had claimed it 60 years before I had. My eighth birthday was so special. I got to fly down to the farm and we shared a John Deere birthday cake. Papa went with me to the movies. We watched *Mulan*, to which he replied, "Well that was something else." In my twenties I moved to China to teach English. Papa shared some memories of R&R in Hong Kong and buying so many things there. He would ask me lots of questions each time I visited, just

wanting to know I was doing well. Eventually he remarked, "Well, if that's where God wants you, then that's where you should be." Those words provide extra comfort to me today, as I know they are just as true about Papa. Papa, you are so deeply loved and dearly missed by all of us. I look forward to seeing you again in heaven and hearing you whistle, hum, and sing with angels.



David Anthony - April 07, 2025 at 07:05 PM

SH

Tom had a beautiful service today in Little Lot. Special man. Susan Harber

Susan Harber - April 08, 2025 at 05:25 PM

GM

“ Gary Mahrenholz lit a candle in memory of Thomas Howard Alderson



Gary Mahrenholz - April 07, 2025 at 06:30 PM

JS

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Jeannette Anderson Scott - April 07, 2025 at 04:12 PM

AA

“ My sweet daddy lived a humble quiet life so I didn't even know of his many outstanding accomplishments until I was grown. What stood out to me was how he loved us all so well. He taught me patience, humility, generosity, humor, faith in God and gentleness by his example. He was always singing (mostly hymns and old country songs) and making witty comments that always made us laugh. He never tired of telling the story of how he met my mom for the first time and went home and woke his parents to tell them he'd met the girl he was going to marry. His mom said, "I hope she's a good girl." "She's the best!" was my daddy's reply. (And, of course, she is!) One time when my parents visited us in Baltimore, Daddy planted a vegetable garden for us. Oh, my! We never saw such an abundant crop! He loved his gardening. I grew up moving around from army post to army post as Daddy served as a dentist in the army. But we always loved coming to the farm in TN to visit Papa, his father. And then Daddy bought the farm and became Papa, too. But in between retiring from his army career and moving back to the farm he grew up on, he spent 15 years teaching dentistry at the University of FL in Gainesville, FL. One of those years, he had the distinct honor of being Teacher of the Year, receiving a standing ovation from the students and faculty at the graduation ceremony. I only heard about the standing ovation in the last couple of years. Daddy was not one to blow his own horn. There is so much more I could say. But I'll close by saying he's the best daddy and I love him and will miss him so much. ❤️

Anne Elizabeth Alderson Anthony - April 07, 2025 at 04:11 PM

SG

“ Stanley & Judy Gordon lit a candle in memory of Thomas Alderson



Stanley & Judy Gordon - April 07, 2025 at 01:06 PM

RG

“ *Ronald Gammons lit a candle in memory of Thomas Alderson*



Ronald Gammons - April 07, 2025 at 12:19 PM

ER

“ *Elizabeth Ann Rhea sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Alderson*



Elizabeth Ann Rhea - April 07, 2025 at 09:34 AM

DO

“ *The World has lost another great man of his generation and will be worse off without Uncle Tom. Unfortunately, I did not spend as much time with Uncle Tom and Aunt Carolyn as they roamed the world far away from Anderson Bend as I did with the Andersons, but I felt connected to them the same. My memories of Uncle Tom are of a man with a gentle spirit, always a smile on his face and quick to laugh. Even when there was much time between visits, he always was glad to see you and accepted my hugs graciously (I am not sure he was used to this from a grown man, but I was giving him one anyhow). Growing up we visited them, maybe in Fort Campbell, and I remember the large house they lived it with Army tanks running around everywhere. I did not know a lot about the military but listening to my father talk about the rank Uncle Tom had achieve I know Uncle Tom was something special as my dad was not easily impressed. Then it seemed Uncle Tom and Aunt Carolyn followed the path of the famous TV show "Green Acres" and moved to the homeplace. Then I only knew Uncle Tom in bibbed overalls and giving me a wild ride in his favorite truck up the hill to see John. I very short ride but one I will never forget. I believe Uncle Tom's desire to move back home to a simpler life demonstrated his true spirit, wanting to be connected to the land, taking time to slow down and enjoy his life and time with Aunt Carolyn and family, this clearly demonstrated his wisdom. While we did not spend as much time together as I did with my other uncles, Uncle Tom made a huge impression on me and will be significantly missed. While Elizabeth and the rest of the Rhea's will not be able to be there with the Alderson's physically during this time our hearts and minds are with you, and we are praying for Peace and Love to with you at this time.*

Doug - April 07, 2025 at 08:50 AM

RH

“ *We are thinking of u.*

Ruby & Rex Horner - April 06, 2025 at 05:21 PM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Howard Alderson*



Michael Bates - April 06, 2025 at 04:44 PM

JW

“ *Janet Wright sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Howard Alderson*



Janet Wright - April 06, 2025 at 03:56 PM