



Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds

April 15, 1951 - December 6, 2019

Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds was born on April 15, 1951, in Highland Park, Michigan. He passed away on December 6, 2019, in Centerville, Tennessee. He was 68 years, 7 months, and 21 days old.

He was the son of the late Thomas Richard Edmonds and Gladys Muriel Abray Edmonds.

He is survived by his wife Bernadette "Bernie" Ann Dvorak Edmonds of Lyles. Son Tommy (Laura) Edmonds of Lyles. Daughter Jennifer (Nathan) Edmonds Turpin of Lyles. Grandchildren Emma and Chase Turpin, and Kate and Maddie Edmonds. Brother Raymond Abray of New Mexico. Sisters Sharon Edmonds Fish of New Mexico, Bonne Edmonds of New Mexico, Cindy Edmonds Hutton of Maryland, and Kimberly Edmonds Ramirez of Centerville. Along with many other relatives, friends, and loved ones.

He was born in Highland Park, Michigan, but moved to Maryland when he was 8 years old. There he graduated from Bohemia Manor High School in 1969. Tom then attended the University of Maryland for 3 years from 1969 - 1972. After this, he started the University of Georgia School of Veterinary Medicine in 1972 and graduated with honors in June of 1976.

After finishing school, he moved to Tennessee and worked for 1 year in

Dickson. He then started his own practice in Hickman County in September of 1977. He has served there ever since.

He was truly grateful for his employees, and his family wants to extend to all of his clients over the years sincere thanks and gratitude for the trust placed in him.

He was a Mason, and a member of Lodge 618 in Centerville. He also held memberships with the American Veterinary Medical Association, the board of the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association, Knights of Pythias, Hickman County Cattleman's Association, Hickman County Chamber of Commerce, and the Board of St. Thomas Hickman Hospital. He was voted Citizen of the Year in 2017.

Dr. Edmonds enjoyed bike riding, lifting weights, water skiing, farming, fishing, crabbing along the Chesapeake Bay and animals. He was an avid Georgia fan and enjoyed watching football. He loved to watch the Tour De France. He was also adamant that as much as possible be "Made in the USA".

He also thoroughly enjoyed music. If you had ever ridden with him in a car you would find that he was a radio station surfer, scanning through the stations until he found something that he liked. He loved oldies, country, the Eagles, Bob Seger, and Lynyrd Skynyrd. Sweet Home Alabama was his ringtone. During surgeries, you would hear the 70's Pandora Radio station playing and he would be howling and singing along horribly. He could not hold a tune in a bucket, but it did not ever stop him!

He especially enjoyed his grandchildren, and family. His children say he was the best dad that anyone could ask for. He imparted on them nuggets of wisdom and encouragement such as "keep pecking away", "it is okay to fail a little bit", and "if it were easy everyone would do it.". He was a constant source

of encouragement and support for his children, grandchildren, and wife.

Dr. Edmonds will be buried on his farm overlooking the land he loved.

Serving as Pall Bearers will be Stephen Tomlinson, Marty Allen, Jon Warren, Josh Robinson, Keith Cochran, and Curt Harakas. Honorary Pall Bearer will be Bob Holt.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 9. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Masonic Service

DEC 9. 7:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Visitation

DEC 10. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Funeral Service

DEC 10. 1:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Tribute Wall

TW

“ We were city girls who moved to the country & he was not just a great Veterinarian, but a wonderful man who taught us so much about country life & country people. I cannot believe he is gone, but I know he is hard at work caring for all the animals at the Rainbow Bridge. Mourning deepest condolences to his lovely family.

T. Wilkes - October 12, 2025 at 09:37 AM

MH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Mary Catherine Hall - May 26, 2020 at 02:09 PM

JM

“ He was a junior surgery partner at UGA. So sorry to learn of his passing. Talked to him at last Reunion. Prayers for the family.

Joe May, DVM

Joseph May - May 03, 2020 at 11:00 PM

DO

“ What a great guy. You will be greatly missed
David
Gail
Osting ,our prayers are with the family



David Osting - December 23, 2019 at 08:28 PM

AM

“ *He was a great vet and one that not only understood the pets and animals that were brought in but the owners also. He will be greatly missed.* 🥺



Amber - December 15, 2019 at 01:43 PM

JB

“ *John Blade lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds*



John Blade - December 12, 2019 at 02:07 PM

BQ

“ *Bernard Quallsb lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds*



bernard quallsb - December 11, 2019 at 01:11 PM

SB

“ *He was a great vet. Our family will truly miss him.*



Sheila Bettini - December 11, 2019 at 11:58 AM

PH

“ *Paula Hay lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds*



Paula Hay - December 10, 2019 at 12:03 PM

JH

“ *Doc Edmonds was a fine man. He will be missed.*

James Harlan - December 10, 2019 at 10:36 AM

BW

“ *Tommy was our neighbor growing up in rural MD. He hung out with my older brother Jimmy and was often in our home. He had a sunny nature, like my brother. They were always smiling and having fun. I remember when Tommy was contemplating his future and desire to attend college. He would talk to my mother and ask her advice. Mom always admired Tommy's devotion to school and his effort to get good grades. I remember how proud she was of Tommy when he announced his intention to attend Veterinary College. Years later while visiting mom, I noticed she has a book written by Tommy about his life. When I asked her about it, she smiled and said he sent it to her. I knew she was proud of Tommy!*

I remember Tommy as a kind, hardworking individual who always smiled. I know he will be missed by many. His legacy will live on through his wife, children and community.

I bid you a fond farewell my old neighbor and friend. I always admired you. May you Rest In Peace.

Fondly,
Bev Brown Widmer

Beverly Brown Widmer - December 10, 2019 at 10:18 AM

DB

“ *Doc always called me by name and would tell me he remembered how much I loved my cocker spaniel.*



Donna Baker - December 09, 2019 at 11:15 PM

RB

“ *Tom was my first boss after I graduated from veterinary school. He took me in completely and endeavored to teach a very stubborn new graduate his pearls of wisdom gleaned over 30 years in the profession at the time. All of the chaotic and frustrating events that can occur during a given day in rural mixed animal practice Tom saw as a fun challenge. "Its a good workout" he would always say after pulling a calf for 2 hours in the mud during a 30 degree windy day at dusk. "We will just take this one to surgery and get it out" he said about an aggressive 100 pound Rottweiler with a needle in her esophagus. Tom said this after a specialist in Nashville declined treatment. We sedated her and Tom removed the needle. No sweat. He was fearless and joyful.*

Tom practiced to help people and their animals. In most cases Hickman Veterinary Hospital was the one and only hospital to consider. From emergencies to complicated surgeries Tom and his practice were the end of the line; the only vet to consider. His philosophy on client care and his overall work ethic were to be praised. Tom was a true professional. I am better for his mentorship and I know that the good people and animals in Hickman county are better for all of his years of care to the community.

Russell Bauman DVM

Russel Bauman - December 09, 2019 at 09:53 PM

LR

“ I was a pre-veterinary college student and Dr Edmonds offered me the opportunity to shadow him. Ill never forget the old dilapidated building where he started his practice. He was surely a 'prince of a man.' -Larry Rogers

Larry Rogers - December 09, 2019 at 08:51 PM

RT

“ Rhonda Taylor sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds



Rhonda Taylor - December 09, 2019 at 07:30 PM

PB

“ Dr. Edmonds was always a gentleman.

Paul Burd - December 09, 2019 at 05:59 PM

PJ

“ They say animals are the best judge of character. I must say I agree with that statement. Everyone of my dogs love Dr. Edmonds. He was so caring and went above and beyond to take care of all of my dogs. He took the time to talk to you when you were upset about your pet. He will be missed. My condolences go out to the love ones that are left behind.



Patricia Jenkins - December 09, 2019 at 04:05 PM

LG

“ *Lonnie And Marilyn Gilliam lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds*



Lonnie and Marilyn Gilliam - December 09, 2019 at 02:27 PM

SR

“ *So sorry for your loss, prayers for his wonderful family.*



Sherry Lomax Richardson - December 09, 2019 at 12:18 PM

GG

“ *Dr. Tom served as our veterinary since he first opened for business. Our pets loved him and he was so caring with our pets. He always went above and beyond to help and care for our pets. We will so miss him. Rest in peace, friend.*

Charles & Carol Gilmer

Glenda C. Elliott Gilmer - December 09, 2019 at 12:18 PM

PM

“ *Patricia McNeese lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds*



Patricia McNeese - December 09, 2019 at 12:07 PM

DC

“ *Dr. Edmonds was not only a great man, but a great veterinarian. Our community has lost an amazing person. Sending our condolences to the Edmonds family, friends, and the staff at Hickman Vet during this difficult time.*

*Sincerely,
The staff of Dickson Veterinary Clinic*

Dickson Vet Clinic - December 09, 2019 at 11:30 AM

CS

“ *our sincere & deepest sympathies to the Edmonds family, Bernie, Jennifer & Tommy. Dr Tom was a wonderful man, & a great vet. showed alot of compassion with us just a few months ago when we lost 1 of our dogs, he also help us out with our friend who has cancer getting hay for his horses.
thank you Dr Tom for your years of service & for being everyone's friend in their time of need.*

the Schafers

cathye schaffer - December 09, 2019 at 10:46 AM



AR

“ Our deepest condolences to the family. Dr. Edmonds began taking care of our animals - horses, dogs, cats - in the 1970's when my family moved to Hickman County. I continued to bring my dogs to him after moving to Nashville, including two strays I rescued from the streets of Centerville. Dr. Edmonds was professional, caring, generous with his time, and a wonderful person to know. We will miss him.

The Del Reeves Family: Ellen, Anne, Kari and Bethany Reeves

Anne Reeves - December 09, 2019 at 10:13 AM

PR

“ Pamela Rhea lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds



Pamela Rhea - December 09, 2019 at 09:44 AM

DA

“ My heart goes out to The family. He was a great vet. You will be in my Prayers

Daisy - December 08, 2019 at 11:04 PM

CM

“ Cheeva McClearen lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds



Cheeva McClearen - December 08, 2019 at 09:42 PM

AS

“ He will be miss



April sensing - December 08, 2019 at 07:52 PM

CS

“ There is so much one could say and "there are no words". Integrity and kindness, perhaps, say it well about Dr. Tom.

Charlotte Maricia Staggs - December 08, 2019 at 06:57 PM

LM

“ So sad to hear about Dr. Tom. He was always a kind and joyful soul. Always made you smile when you saw him because he was always smiling. Loved his family, friends, his work family and his animals. Will be missed terribly. Healing prayers and thoughts to his family. God bless you.



Lewis & Candy Morris - December 08, 2019 at 06:38 PM

Terri Shimko

“ Deepest sympathies to your family. Dr Tom was a great man. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him💙💙💙. Joe & Terri Shimko. Cap'n Rhett Butler too🐾🐾🐾

Terri Shimko - December 08, 2019 at 05:58 PM

RH

“ To:Edmonds Family,
We are thinking of you during this difficult time.

Ruby &Rex Horner - December 08, 2019 at 01:44 PM

RS

“ To: Edmonds Family,
We are thinking of you during this difficult time.

Regina &Martha Shelton - December 08, 2019 at 01:41 PM

PM

“ So kind and helpful, such sadness over his loss.

Pam Mitchell-Clark - December 08, 2019 at 11:32 AM

CJ

“ Corey Jones lit a candle in memory of Dr.
Thomas Dale Edmonds



Corey Jones - December 08, 2019 at 10:52 AM

VC

“ Vicky Curtis lit a candle in memory of Dr.
Thomas Dale Edmonds



Vicky Curtis - December 08, 2019 at 10:47 AM

AC

“ *Ms. Edmondson and Tommy,
Tom and you have been very good friends
and neighbors for years, it saddens me for your
loss of Tom and the loss of one of the
greatest men I have had the pleasure of
calling my friend.*

Aundrae Cannon



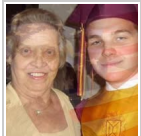
aa cannon - December 08, 2019 at 01:51 AM



“ *Glenda Coates lit a candle in memory of Dr.
Thomas Dale Edmonds*



Glenda Coates - December 07, 2019 at 11:33 PM



“ *Claudine Cline lit a candle in memory of Dr.
Thomas Dale Edmonds*



Claudine Cline - December 07, 2019 at 11:20 PM

MH

“ *My deepest sympathy to his family. May God be with you during this time. God bless you.*



Marilyn Horner - December 07, 2019 at 09:19 PM

SM

“ *Sharon McCoy lit a candle in memory of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds*



Sharon McCoy - December 07, 2019 at 08:43 PM

PH

“ *So sorry for your loss.*



Phyllis Meyers

Phyllis - December 07, 2019 at 08:19 PM

JM

“ *Bobby and I will miss Dr. Tom, as well as our Coco. We all loved him.*



Joyce Mayberry - December 07, 2019 at 07:24 PM

DM

“ We have known Tom since 1986. He was a great friend and always wore a smile. We have so many memories from his clinic and our farm. Whether we talked politics or pregnant mares, we always enjoyed our time together. We will sure miss this sincere vet and dear friend.

Dan & Debbie McGee

Dan & Debbie McGee - December 07, 2019 at 04:45 PM

PH

Dr. Tom was so kind to us ,the kindness and compassion he showed us with our Pookie and Bailey was exceptional.He will be missed by so many.Prayers for you all.Pam and Bob Hunnicutt.

Pam Hunnicutt - December 08, 2019 at 01:02 PM

PM

“ Patricia M. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Dr. Thomas Dale Edmonds.



Patricia M. - December 07, 2019 at 04:00 PM

JM

“ Dr. Tom was our vet for over 30 years. We felt he was a friend as well as our pets vet. He laughed with us and cried with us when we lost one of our beloved pets.

Janie McClanahan - December 07, 2019 at 02:31 PM

DM

“ *Dr. Tom was truly a wonderful and caring professional and person. He was one of the first people I met when my family and pets came here to Centerville in 2003. Every pet we had paid him a visit. And it was alot. He would laugh at me , I had a habit of collecting strays. My family and I will greatly miss him. To the family and friends of Dr. Tom, sincerest condolences to you and our prayers are with you. . .*

Dorie Myers - December 07, 2019 at 02:14 PM

CP

Tom has been my vet since I moved here in 1977. I was one of his first clients when he was in the small converted house on the highway. I've always had beagles, and as many as 17 at one time. He's always been great with all of them. A lot of knowledge, laughs and tears have been shared with this great man over a 42 year period. He called me the stray beagle magnet and told me when he passed, he wanted to come back as one of my beagles. Doc, I'm waiting for you with open arms. To his family, my deepest condolences.

Cindy Porter - December 07, 2019 at 10:08 PM



Dr. Tom has been our vet. for many years and had pulled my dog's from deaths door several times. We had laughed and shared many stories over the years. He will be missed but not forgotten. RIP Doc

Glenda Coates - December 07, 2019 at 11:32 PM