



Thomas Bradley Martin

December 28, 1990 - April 22, 2025

Tommy Martin, age 34, has been a Centerville farmer “ever since I could walk and touch the pedals on the tractor,” he wrote on his application for Eagle Scout, which he earned at age 17 in 2008.

He died on April 22, 2025 at his home in the Shipp’s Bend Community, close by the homes of the men who inspired his love of the land: the late Wash Shouse Jr., who provided his first tractor experiences; the late Emmett Thompson Jr., his grandfather, who encouraged him; and Tim Johnston, who operates the Thompson farm to this day.

This Centerville man spent the last 10 years as a farm hand for John and Ben West’s cattle operation in Gray’s Bend — cutting and storing hay, giving vaccinations and making sure they remain healthy and protected. It was a six-day-a-week commitment that often ran past sundown.

In the last year, he started his own business, Martin Excavating, which was building through his quality work.

Friends knew that Tommy enjoyed poking fun, eating local, keeping cats and a dog or two — Rip, a Jack Russell terrier, was his constant companion — plus bowling and action movies, especially the epic *Band of Brothers*.

He had a national farming experience, traveling in 2016 with a harvest crew from Texas to Saskatchewan, following the hayfields as they matured during a season that began in April and ended in November. He loved it enough to do it a second year.

That helped inspire a travel bug, instigating trips to monument-laden Washington, D.C., as well as the rocky coast of Maine, in addition to New York City. International trips to see his harvesting buddies, who live in Europe and Australia, were on his list.

The son of Brad and Alice Martin of Centerville, Tommy's pre-teen years were spent among the horses of Mary Beth Pruett, whose instruction empowered him to succeed in events of the Pleasure Walking Horse Association of Tennessee in several classes. In 2002, he won recognition on the National Walking Horse Association's Register of Merit in the E-Z Rider Western Youth program.

Tommy graduated from Hickman County High School in 2009 — earning Welding and Agriculture department awards — and then tried UT Martin for a year, until Math knocked him out. TCAT-Dickson has a diesel mechanic and repair program that was a match for his mechanical interest and ability; he graduated from it and then was hired Huggins Diesel, in Pinewood, gaining confidence through experience.

Thomas Bradley Martin earned the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout in 2008, one of four members of Boy Scout Troop 772 recognized on the same day for achieving the distinction. They were part of a group that camped their way through the ranks together since their Cub Scout days.

“Farmers are like Scouts,” he wrote in that Eagle Scout essay, “they live off the land, they use anything possible to help them get through and they enjoy

being in nature all the time.”

He leaves his beloved niece, Monroe Bratton Gordon, age 5; his sister and brother-in-law, Annie and Gavin Gordon of Lyles; and several uncles, aunts and cousins.

His family offers their thanks to the care of Ryan McDonald, Bill McDonald and McDonald Funeral Home; to the friends who have visited to talk about Tommy and fill his parents' kitchen with home-cooked food, and to all who have offered support, especially the aunts and uncles who are traveling here from East and West coasts to celebrate this young man.

His ashes will be buried on Saturday, May 3 at Oakmont Cemetery in Shipp's Bend, close by Wash and Gertrude Shouse, who helped raise Tommy and Annie and claimed them as family. At the funeral home, visitation begins at 10 a.m. and will end with the service, at 2, burial following.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Hickman Humane Society, Boy Scout Troop 772 or Hickman County Cattleman's Association.

Cemetery Details

Oakmont Cemetery

995 Old State Rte 50
Centerville, TN 37033

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 3. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (cst)

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

Memorial Service

MAY 3. 2:00 PM (cst)

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

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*
Mable Scates



Mable Scates - May 04, 2025 at 11:48 PM

AS

“ *Anne Bates Stanley lit a candle in memory of Thomas Martin*



Anne Bates Stanley - May 03, 2025 at 11:19 AM

MF

“ *Dear Bradley, Alice and family, sending our love and prayers for you all. We are united together in memory of your dear son Tommy. God bless.*

Mary Lou & Martin Coons & family - May 03, 2025 at 09:42 AM

WP

“ *Brad and Alice--your family is in our thoughts.*



Wayne and Jewell Prince - May 02, 2025 at 09:34 AM

SL

“ *Suzy Lancaster lit a candle in memory of Thomas Martin*



Suzy Lancaster - May 01, 2025 at 12:51 PM

PG

“ *Patty Gossett lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Patty Gossett - April 30, 2025 at 01:47 PM



Praying for Y'all...sorry for your loss

Kimberly Ann Luther - May 03, 2025 at 12:59 AM

GW

“ *Gary Waddey lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Gary Waddey - April 29, 2025 at 09:40 PM

LA

“ Alice and Brad, So sorry for your loss. I'm thinking about you at this difficult time.



Larry Alexander - April 29, 2025 at 04:12 PM

AA

“ Anita Armstrong lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Anita Armstrong - April 29, 2025 at 02:40 PM

LC

“ Leah Conder lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Leah Conder - April 29, 2025 at 02:25 PM

LW

“ Lynne Williams lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Lynne Williams - April 29, 2025 at 01:15 PM

JB

“ *Joey Bell lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Joey Bell - April 28, 2025 at 09:32 PM

JW

“ *Janet Wright lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Janet Wright - April 28, 2025 at 04:44 PM

AA

“ *Jim and I are so sorry for the tragic loss of your beloved son. He sounds like a wonderful man. Our prayers for comfort, peace and strength are with you all.*

Anne Alderson Anthony - April 28, 2025 at 03:23 PM

VB

“ *VICKY A BEAGLE sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



VICKY A BEAGLE - April 28, 2025 at 01:12 PM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Michael Bates - April 28, 2025 at 10:13 AM



“ *Tommy was a kind soul. I enjoyed hearing stories of his travels, while working as a custom harvester out west. He will be missed.*

James Harlan - April 27, 2025 at 09:29 PM

GO

“ *Glenda Orman lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Glenda Orman - April 27, 2025 at 05:41 PM

RS

“ *Renee Shepard sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Renee Shepard - April 27, 2025 at 05:36 PM

RC

“ *Bradley, Alice, Annie, Gavin, Ms. Monroe*
So sorry for your loss, my heart is with you at this very sad time.
Sending love and prayers!

rose connell - April 27, 2025 at 03:35 PM

RC

“ *Rose Connell lit a candle in memory of*
Thomas Bradley Martin



rose connell - April 27, 2025 at 03:31 PM

LB

“ *Lionel Barrett lit a candle in memory of*
Thomas Bradley Martin



Lionel Barrett - April 27, 2025 at 12:26 AM

SB

“ *Tommy was always a quiet talking young man*
and he had a heart of gold. We will miss
seeing him.



Sheila bettini - April 26, 2025 at 09:08 PM

AB

“ Our thoughts and prayers to you Brad and Alice, family. My heart hurts with you. 🙏

AB - April 26, 2025 at 04:11 PM

DO

“ Keeping all of you in our prayers. Mike and Dawn Orton



dawn orton - April 26, 2025 at 11:21 AM

MT

“ Mark And Tina Truett lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Mark and Tina Truett - April 26, 2025 at 09:44 AM

FW

“ Felicia Wilbanks sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Felicia Wilbanks - April 26, 2025 at 08:24 AM

CR

“ Tommy was always such a nice guy through school. Praying hard for his family!



Christina Rochelle - April 26, 2025 at 12:52 AM

PH

“ There are no words... Cherish the memories and share his story. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Pam Hinson - April 25, 2025 at 11:40 PM

KF

“ Kevin Hall And Family lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Kevin Hall and family - April 25, 2025 at 10:13 PM

FW

“ Felicia Wilbanks sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Felicia Wilbanks - April 25, 2025 at 09:12 PM

LD

“ So sorry for your loss! Prayers for your family during these difficult days ahead! 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤�



laura DeLong - April 25, 2025 at 05:11 PM

SG

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



Stanley & Judy Gordon - April 25, 2025 at 04:52 PM

JG

“ Prayers for you Alice, Brad and family. So heartbreaking, I just can't imagine! He was always so kind and polite when he came to the welding shop.



Jane Gilbert - April 25, 2025 at 03:16 PM

SP

“ Stephanie Plotzer lit a candle in memory of Thomas Martin



Stephanie Plotzer - April 25, 2025 at 03:07 PM

MC

“ *McCollonough lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



McCollonough - April 25, 2025 at 01:52 PM

BG

“ *Brian Douglas Graham lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Brian Douglas Graham - April 25, 2025 at 01:19 PM

MC

“ *Maelynn Campbell sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Maelynn Campbell - April 25, 2025 at 12:34 PM



“ *Carole Loveless lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Carole Loveless - April 25, 2025 at 11:12 AM

JM

“ *My deepest condolences to the Martin family.
Your family will be in my prayers.* ”



Janie McCord - April 25, 2025 at 11:04 AM

MT

“ *I am so sorry to Brad, Alice, Annie, Gavin,
and Monroe. My prayers are with you all.* ”



Melody Tidwell - April 25, 2025 at 11:01 AM

RG

“ *Ronald Gammons lit a candle in memory of
Thomas Bradley Martin* ”



Ronald Gammons - April 25, 2025 at 10:46 AM

DL

“ *Denise Lodato lit a candle in memory of
Thomas Bradley Martin* ”



Denise Lodato - April 25, 2025 at 09:56 AM

CW

“ *Coleen Williams lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Coleen Williams - April 25, 2025 at 09:55 AM

LG

“ *Lonnie/Diane Garrett lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Lonnie/Diane Garrett - April 25, 2025 at 09:43 AM

BL

“ *Precious child..So many memories. Kirk... Diving in Pool with Tommy's hearing aids in the pocket of his shorts. Fireworks accident ... Green alcohol Aunt Barb lathered him and A.C. in for insect repellent. Holding him my arms at Beaver dam house when he was about a year old and finally taking him in house because fireworks noise hurt his ears.. Jessica. Annie and Tommy covered in 100 year old dirt from Mary Beth's barn. You stole a piece of my heart when you were born and you still have it. I love you beloved TomBoy...Always and Forever.*



Barb Loveless - April 25, 2025 at 09:30 AM

KS

“ *Kathy Scott lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Kathy Scott - April 25, 2025 at 09:00 AM

GB

“ *George & Mary Sue Bragg lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



George & Mary Sue Bragg - April 25, 2025 at 08:44 AM

TF

“ *Tammy Jenkins & Family lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Tammy Jenkins & family - April 25, 2025 at 08:34 AM

JW

“ *I held this fine young man when he was a baby. The loss of a child is life changing. Losing a child is totally debilitating. It changes the rest of your life. I love you, TomBoy. 🙏🙏❤️*



John M Wilson - April 25, 2025 at 12:23 AM

LG

“ *Lonnie/Marilyn Gilliam sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Lonnie/Marilyn Gilliam - April 24, 2025 at 10:24 PM

SW

“ *Sheryl Waugh lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Sheryl Waugh - April 24, 2025 at 10:02 PM

DS

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. May God give you strength. Comfort, and peace that passeth all understanding. My deepest sympathy.* 🙏💔



Debbie Semore - April 24, 2025 at 09:26 PM

CC

“ *Carson Chessor lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Carson Chessor - April 24, 2025 at 09:08 PM

CM

“ *Cheeva McClearen lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Cheeva McClearen - April 24, 2025 at 09:01 PM

PA

“ *Paul Aydelott lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Paul Aydelott - April 24, 2025 at 08:49 PM



“ *Teresa Carroll lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Teresa Carroll - April 24, 2025 at 08:37 PM

BM

“ *Keeping Brad, Alice, Annie and family in our thoughts and prayers!*



Bobby/Sandy McFarlin - April 24, 2025 at 08:10 PM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Michael Bates - April 24, 2025 at 07:59 PM

DB

“ *Oh the memories we have with Tommy. He was always like one of our own. So sorry for your loss, he will be missed. You are in our thoughts and prayers!*❤️

Debbie Bradley - April 24, 2025 at 07:45 PM

JW

“ *Janet Wright lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Janet Wright - April 24, 2025 at 07:39 PM

KS

“ *Kim Skelton lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin*



Kim skelton - April 24, 2025 at 07:35 PM

JT

“ I am heartbroken...Tommy has always held a special place in my heart 💔. Sending all my love to Alice, Brad and Annie...

Jean Thompson - April 24, 2025 at 07:31 PM

RH

“ We are so sorry of the loss.

Ruby & Rex Horner - April 24, 2025 at 07:24 PM

MS

“ Condolences to all the Martin Family
Barry, Melissa, & Ashley Shelton



MELISSA SHELTON - April 24, 2025 at 07:17 PM

PM

“ Paige Martin lit a candle in memory of
Thomas Bradley Martin



paige martin - April 24, 2025 at 07:13 PM



“ James Arthur (Tank) & Dana Atkinson lit a
candle in memory of Thomas Martin



James Arthur (Tank) & Dana Atkinson - April 24, 2025 at 07:09 PM

PM

“ You never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. “Timmy” you are already so so missed! Thank you for having such a beautiful kind soul and being such a dear best friend to Dillon!!!!



Paige Martin - April 24, 2025 at 07:04 PM

CB

“ Connie Bowen lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bradley Martin



Connie Bowen - April 24, 2025 at 06:57 PM

BP

“ What a loss for our community. Tommy was a quiet and mannerly fifth grader when he was ten. And I believe these traits continued through his adult age. He worked hard. My deepest sympathy to Brad, Alice, Annie Carol and sweet Monroe and all friends and family.

Belinda Potts - April 24, 2025 at 06:52 PM

SH

“ Sarah Hinson lit a candle in memory of Thomas Martin



Sarah Hinson - April 24, 2025 at 06:47 PM



“ *Speechless. Have been best friends with Tommy since elementary school, he is family like a brother. He has always been there for me through the good and the bad. He is one that would do anything for anyone and never expect anything back.the memories we all had will always be in my heart.i could go on and on about all the things we did but man that would fill a book, i can say that The things that happens in this life is sometimes blurry and confusing but god got another great one.hope to see him again one day. I love ya brother and will deeply miss you. Brad,Alice,Annie you are in our thoughts and prayers we love y'all to.*

Josh Bradley - April 24, 2025 at 06:31 PM

ML

“ *Tommy was a wonderful person . One of my favorites at school. Prayers for your family.*

Melissa lovell - April 24, 2025 at 06:18 PM



“ *Betty Love lit a candle in memory of Thomas Martin*



Betty Love - April 24, 2025 at 05:05 PM

ES

“ *Ed and Melinda Sullivan lit a candle in memory of Thomas Martin*



Ed and Melinda Sullivan - April 24, 2025 at 05:02 PM

SA

“ *Thoughts and Many Prayers for this Sweet and Dear Family, Will always remember his farm jokes and cutting up. Rest Easy in that Hay Field*



Steve and Susan Anglin - April 24, 2025 at 04:53 PM