



## Thomas Whitson Schmittou

October 29, 1923 - October 12, 2023

Thomas Whitson Schmittou passed away peacefully on October 12, 2023, in Centerville, TN, just short of his 100th birthday. Born on October 29, 1923, in Waynesboro, TN, Thomas was the son of the late Albert and Gladys (Whitson) Schmittou.

Thomas's distinguished career spanned across several branches of the military. He served with honor in the Army, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines and retired from the Air Force. He was a Bronze Star recipient and an expert sharpshooter. His commitment to his country was visible in his dedicated service. His innovative nature led to the development of several military patents. His leadership skills were recognized when he was appointed Colonel aide de camp, a position he held with great pride.

Thomas was a simple man at heart. His resourcefulness and intelligence were evident in his successful transition from military service to farming, a testament to his adaptability and resilience. He was known for his sharp intellect. His family said that he was the luckiest poker player they knew, always ready with a winning hand and a warm smile. He was a generous man, always willing to lend a helping hand or help someone in their time of need. He was also immensely proud of his roots as a First Families of Tennessee member.

Above all, Thomas was a family man. His love for his family could be seen in his actions. He instilled in his children and grandchildren the values of honesty, hard work, and respect for others. His life was a testament to the power of perseverance, the importance of family, and the value of living on one's own terms.

He leaves behind to cherish his life, his beloved wife, Bernardine Smith Schmittou; children, Lorna Schmittou Karr, Neil (Karen) Schmittou, Sonia (Sandy) Bedell, Tania Schmittou Trevett, Gloria (JJ) Ebarb, and Craig (Shannon) Schmittou; sister, Carolyn Nixon; 14 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren.

Visitation with Mr. Schmittou's family will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Graveside services will be held at Lewis County Memorial Gardens on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the charity of your choice in memory of Mr. Schmittou.

McDonald Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Schmittou family.

# Cemetery Details

## Lewis County Memorial Gardens

1014 Summertown Hwy  
Hohenwald, TN 38462

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 17. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Lewis County  
20 West 2nd Avenue  
Hohenwald, TN 38462  
(931) 796-2207

## Graveside Service

OCT 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lewis County Memorial Gardens  
1014 Summertown Hwy  
Hohenwald, TN 38462

# Tribute Wall



“ McDonald Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Thomas Whitson Schmittou



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McDonald Funeral Home, Inc - August 02, 2024 at 11:10 AM

DH

“ Deborah Hurd lit a candle in memory of Thomas Schmittou



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Deborah Hurd - October 23, 2023 at 01:57 PM

SC

“ Sheila Chance lit a candle in memory of Thomas Schmittou



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Sheila Chance - October 23, 2023 at 12:15 AM

CS

“ Chris Schmittou lit a candle in memory of Thomas Whitson Schmittou



chris schmittou - October 15, 2023 at 02:55 PM

MG

“ Marilyn Gilliam sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Whitson Schmittou



Marilyn Gilliam - October 15, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ Betty Love lit a candle in memory of Thomas Whitson Schmittou



Betty Love - October 14, 2023 at 03:28 PM

RG

“ Ronald Gammons lit a candle in memory of Thomas Whitson Schmittou



Ronald Gammons - October 14, 2023 at 11:36 AM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Thomas Whitson Schmittou*



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**Michael Bates** - October 13, 2023 at 07:55 PM