



## Thomas R. Gibbons, Jr.

August 6, 1931 - August 17, 2013

Thomas R. Gibbons, Jr., died on Saturday, August 17, 2013 at the Hospice Comfort Unit at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Hudson surrounded by his family. He was 82 years old.

He was born on August 6, 1931 in Worcester, Massachusetts, the son of the late Gladys Gibbons and Thomas R. Gibbons, Sr. He was also preceded by his son, Thomas R. Gibbons, III.

Tom graduated from South High School, Class of 1950, he attended Worcester State Teachers where he received his Masters in Education. He served his country after graduation and was stationed at Fort Richardson, Fairbanks, Alaska. After being discharged he had a brief teaching career in Worcester. Tom and his new bride, Ruth, moved to Philmont, where Tom continued his teaching career at Ockawamick School, which merged into Taconic Hills Central School. Tom was also elected, in 1976, Town Justice of Philmont. He continued to service both the Village of Philmont and the Town of Claverack as Town Justice until he retired his gavel.

Tom was a devout Catholic. He and his family attended Church at the Sacred Heart in Philmont for many years. Tom and his family continued their Catholic ties with the Holy Family, Stottville, NY, St. Mary's in Hudson, and Pius X in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Spending time with his grandchildren was Tom's favorite pastime. He shared his love of reading with them and would discuss and share his favorite books. He loved hearing about their lives, their activities, and took an active role in their college and career decisions. Second to his grandchildren, was Tom's love of the game of golf. Tom and Ruth were snow birds and he was able to extend his golf season spending six months a year in Fort Lauderdale. Coming home every May, Tom was an active member of Columbia Golf and Country Club. As a member, his favorite times were playing with the "11:00 clocker's league", until his illness prohibited him from swinging his clubs.

In addition to his loving wife of over 57 years, Ruth, he is survived by three daughters and two sons-in-law; Bonnie and her husband, Gregg Ublacker of Belchertown, Massachusetts, Ruth Ann Barto of Kingston, New York, and Mary Margaret and her husband, William Gerlach of Claverack New York, and three sons and two daughters-in-law, Mark Gibbons and his wife, Veronica, of Flowery Branch, Georgia, Luke Gibbons of Hudson, New York, and John Gibbons and his wife, Kathleen of Suwanee, Georgia. Tom was "Poppie" to ten surviving grandchildren, Sean Ublacker, Brian Ublacker, Scott Ublacker, Patrick Cranna, Colin Cranna, Nicholas Barto, Geoffrey Gibbons, Grant Gibbons, and Chloe Ruth and Raina Bonnie Gibbons, a brother and sister-in-law, William and Patricia Gibbons, as well as many nieces and nephews and countless friends.

Visitation will be from 4:00 to 7:00 pm Wednesday, August 21, 2013 at the Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home, 110 Green St., Hudson, NY, 12534.

The funeral will be at 11:00 am Thursday, August 22, 2013 at St. Mary's Church in Hudson, NY. Tom will be interred with his son, "Tiger" at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Columbia-Greene Hospice Association, 47 Liberty St., Catskill, NY, 12414.

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ *To The Gibbons' Family*

*I was saddened to learn of the passing of Mr Gibbons. I had the good fortune to be a student in a number of his classes at Taconic Hills during the late 70's. He was a fine teacher who genuinely cared about his students. I will never forget the rock poetry class! I will also never forget having to write my philosophy of life - not a favorite!*

*He was one of my favorite teachers, and I learned so much in his classes. I always got a chuckle hearing him say " Marcia, Marcia, where'd you park the car?" in his distinctive Worcester accent. My deepest sympathy for your loss. I will always remember Mr Gibbons as a fine man.*

*With deep sympathy  
Jonathan Davis  
Schoolhouse Rd  
Ghent, NY*

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**jonathan davis** - September 02, 2013 at 09:12 AM

CL

“ *Dear Ruth and family, My sincere sympathy to you and yours. So many memories were made and so many stories shared. Mr. Gibbons will not be forgotten.*

*Claudia*

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**Claudia** - August 25, 2013 at 07:16 PM

VW

“ Dear Bonnie and Gregg, so sorry to hear about the passing of your Father. I have such fond memories of him marrying Jon and Chris all those years ago. My condolences to you and to your family.

*Vickie Wilder*

Vickie Wilder - August 23, 2013 at 02:34 AM

 Jim Decker

“ I remember all the fun times we all had hanging around the porch and how Mr. Gibbons would pick on me all the time. I am sorry for your loss. With sympathy Jim Decker

Jim Decker - August 22, 2013 at 06:01 PM

TE

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Gibbons passing. Even though I never had him as a teacher he would always great you. He was one of the best teachers TH ever had.

*Terry Houghton*

terry - August 21, 2013 at 07:05 PM



CH

“ To Luke ,and family. I am sorry for your loss , you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers , please accept my sympathy .

Cindy Ho - August 21, 2013 at 10:22 AM



GW

“ To the Gibbons Family: Tom was an incredible educator and I know everyone in my family feels the same way. He will indeed be missed. I will always remember the story of how he promised my sister Lynore that he would some day sing at her wedding. He did indeed fulfill that promise. May your healing be fast and memories incredible. George White

George White - August 21, 2013 at 07:14 AM

GM

“ My sincere sympathies to Mrs. Gibbons and all the children and grandchildren. Mr. Gibbons was a great English teacher and I am sure the funniest teacher any of us ever had. I always loved his accent and all the cute nicknames he had for everyone. And for any of us that was ever fortunate enough to sit in the town court where he was later a judge, he continued his ready wit. A favorite tip he gave me was, "Never when drive while you're arguing because all the blood will rush to your feet.". And I deservedly still paid the fine for speeding. He was a great guy and a wonderful teacher and will be sorely missed by so many.



Gay Miller - August 20, 2013 at 10:56 PM

BE

“ Bobbie Erlichman lit a candle in memory of Thomas R. Gibbons, Jr.



Bobbie Erlichman - August 20, 2013 at 08:33 PM

CP

“ *To Mary, Bill and family--  
Our deepest condolences and sympathy.  
Karen and Carlo Petrini*

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**Carlo Petrini** - August 20, 2013 at 08:06 PM

JC

“ *Ruth and Family, I am so sorry for your loss.. i have fond memories growing up and being a part of your family as a child. I was also lucky enough to have Tom as a teacher and he was the best. He always made me laugh. He will be greatly missed.*

*Jessica "Hamm" Chiera*

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**Jessica Chiera** - August 20, 2013 at 04:01 PM

FJ

“ *Ruth and Family,*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this this most difficult time. We will always remember the great times we had in the old Ockawamick School especially the chicken barbecues and jolly fat men parties. Tom was a great teacher, friend, and family man who will sorely be missed.*

*Frank and Paula Jause*

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**Frank and Paula Jause** - August 20, 2013 at 03:13 PM

JW

“ *Mr Gibbons was really good to me and gave me some extra chance when I clearly didn't deserve them. For that I will always be grateful. I hope that I have made good on those extra chances. He and his whole family were such a great part of my middle childhood. The memories come flooding back now. My deepest sympathies to his family but what an awesome life he had with you!* ”



**Jim Weisner** - August 20, 2013 at 02:14 PM

SG

“ *Susan Goodsill lit a candle in memory of Thomas R. Gibbons, Jr.* ”



**Susan Goodsill** - August 19, 2013 at 09:12 PM

SG

*Mr. Gibbons, you were one of the greatest teachers. You will be forever missed by many. My deepest condolences to the family.*

**Susan Goodsill** - August 19, 2013 at 09:14 PM



*Tom Gibbons: Incredible educator and even better person. My thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family. George White*

**George White** - August 21, 2013 at 07:20 AM