



## Thomas Riley Davis

December 1, 1925 - May 5, 2010

Thomas R. Davis

Coulee City, WA

His chair is empty, his pickup parked and our hearts are broken by the loss of a beloved husband,

father, grandpa, poppa and friend. Thomas R. Davis (also known as "T.R.", "Tommy" and "Tom") passed away in the early hours of Thursday, May 6, 2010, at the age 84, in his home in Coulee City, WA. Thomas R. Davis was born December 1, 1925, to David M. and Teressa M. "Tressie" Davis. He was the youngest of four. During his elementary years, Tommy attended the Highland School in Douglas County, often riding to the one-room schoolhouse on a horse with his sister, Betty Mae. He graduated from Coulee City High School in 1944. On November 1, 1945, Tommy married Claudine Faye Buckingham at the family homestead, west of Coulee City. Tommy's many interests included trapshooting, flying (which began with flying lessons at age 16), golf, traveling to Needles, CA in the winter and taking trips in his RV. An avid sports enthusiast, Tommy faithfully followed the local high school athletic teams. He could usually be found at high school home games, as well as many away games, arriving early enough to not miss any of the warm-ups and pre-game activity. Tommy also served the community as an ambulance driver for over 20 years. He even drove his daughter to the hospital for the birth of his first grandson. In 1977, Tommy was one of four farmers selected to

represent the nation's farmers at a private luncheon with President Jimmy Carter on National Agriculture Day. Having the opportunity to meet President Carter and discuss issues pertaining to wheat growers, was one of the highlights of Tommy's life. In 1987, Tommy miraculously survived being run over by his tractor, while working out in the shop. He suffered broken legs and internal injuries, and months of rehabilitation forced him to miss his first harvest in over 50 years. Tommy returned to the fields the following year, and continued to help bring in the harvest for another 25 years. Tommy worked the land with his dad and his brother from the time he was a young boy and never ceased involving himself with the farm until his passing. Tommy was well known for his sense of humor and no one was safe from his practical jokes. The more he teased you, the better he liked you! He loved good food, flying, farming, friends and, most of all, his family. Tommy could often be seen in his pickup, driving out to the ranch to check on his sons and his nephew, or driving to the office to see his daughter, and nothing brought him more joy than the sight of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Tommy was preceded in death by his parents, David M. and Tressie Davis; his brothers, baby, Jackie Howard Davis and David G. "Davie" Davis. Tommy is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Claudine; his sister, Betty Mae Berman; three children, Jim Davis and his wife, Lennie, Jack Davis and Kathy (Davis) Dormaier and her husband, Dave; seven grandchildren, Marla Davis, Kelley (Dormaier) Morris, Brad Cerenzia, David Dormaier, Dan Dormaier, Katie (Dormaier) Visker and Dawson Dormaier; and seven great-grandchildren, Dakota Dillon, Jesse Dillon, Sadie Winters, Hanna Morris, Sam , Olivia Morris, and Asres Morris (Pete to Poppa!). The empty spaces left by Tommy's passing will never be filled, but our hearts will forever hold dear, the lifetime we were given with him. Viewing will be held from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 11, 2010, at the Waterville Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be conducted at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 12, 2010, in the Coulee City

Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Highland Cemetery, in Tommy's memory. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guestbook at [jonesjonesbetts.com](http://jonesjonesbetts.com). Arrangements are by the Waterville Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 11. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Waterville Funeral Home  
303 West Locust  
Waterville, WA 98858

## Service

MAY 12. 1:00 PM (PT)

Coulee City Presbyterian  
214 N 4th Street  
Coulee City, WA 99115

# Tribute Wall

 Tina  
Smith

“ *Candle lit by*



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**Tina Smith** - May 18, 2010 at 03:53 PM