



Thomas "Tom" Richard Swift

August 14, 1941 - October 15, 2025

Thomas "Tom" Swift, 84, of Pierce City, MO passed away peacefully on October 15, 2025 at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, MO. Tom was born August 14, 1941 to Theodore and Marie (Verfurth) Swift. He attended school at St. Joseph's in Billings, MO, St. Agnes High School in Springfield, MO, and Benedictine Heights College in Tulsa, OK.

Tom married his early love, Sharon Nagle, on October 19, 1963 in Billings, MO. After an early stint working on the railroad in various locales, he became a lineman for Empire District Electric Company, a career that brought him much pride, a ridiculous amount of enjoyment, and led to so many cherished relationships.

It's hard to convey the breadth of love and impact Tom brought to his family and those around him. His eternal optimism and positivity, humor, kind-heartedness, and quiet generosity were central to who he was. As a lifelong devout Catholic, his faith was strong and he was proud of it. Tom always had a special kindness and patience with all children, and his grandchildren were his greatest source of joy and happiness. He loved their sporting events, programs, recitals, visits, outings, and even graduation ceremonies. Tom enjoyed sports, traveling (by car!), and talking....anywhere to anyone...about anything. He told many stories of early escapades and his family growing up, and it was always entertaining even though questionable judgement was often

involved. It's been a full, wonderful life for Tom. He was "a likeable guy", as he often referred to so many others.

Tom was preceded in death by his mother and father, Theodore and Marie, and three brothers, Ted, Stephen, and John.

Tom is survived by his dear wife, Sharon, of Pierce City and his 5 children: Katrina Trout of Springfield, MO; Melissa Mowrey and her husband Bob of Billings, MO; Tom Swift and his wife Shelly of Springfield, MO; Greg Swift of Eureka Springs, AR; and Jeff Swift and his wife Lydia of Joplin, MO. Along with his 11 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, he will be missed immensely.

Tom is also survived by his sisters Mary Janice Fabro and her husband Larry of Billings, MO; Barbara Dees of Olive Branch, MS; and Regina Howell and her husband Kenny of Springfield, MO; as well as many other loving relatives and friends.

Rosary services will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday October 20, 2025 at St. Mary's Church in Pierce City, MO, with visitation to follow. A funeral mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, also at St. Mary's Church. A lunch reception will follow the funeral, with all invited to attend. Graveside services will be held at St. Joseph Cemetery in Billings, MO at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tom's honor to St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's School, or the charity of your choice. Arrangements are by Lakin Funeral Home, Pierce City, MO.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph Cemetery

607 County Rd MM-9
Billings, MO 65610

Previous Events

Rosary Service

OCT **20**. 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
200 Front Street
Pierce City, MO 65723
(417) 476-2827

Visitation

OCT **20**. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
200 Front Street
Pierce City, MO 65723
(417) 476-2827

Funeral Mass

OCT **21**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
200 Front Street
Pierce City, MO 65723
(417) 476-2827

Tribute Wall

LG

“ You could not ask for the best neighbors Tom and Sharon are the greatest Tom was my mowing buddy he would mow then I would have to because he made big circles out back when he would turn around a tree that meant to me Leo you need to mow we would sit out back on our tractors and just keep talking at one point then we would say hey we're not getting this grass cut. And this would continue for the next 30 years next to each other best mowing buddies you could find together. He always would say to me no beer till 5. I would reply sun is up beers up. We couldn't have asked for better neighbors we love them so much. Leo and Tammy are gonna miss him dearly.rip tom we loved you 🥺

Leo Golubski - October 16, 2025 at 09:07 PM

JK

“ Tom and Sharon was a big part of my childhood💚 I spent the night many times at the Swift house with Melissa, making homemade caramel corn and coffee cake! Tom called us Flaky J and Flaky M!!! Such good warm memories from St. Mary's through High School. You are all in my thoughts💙

Jill Boman Kaiser

jill kaiser - October 16, 2025 at 05:55 PM

MV

“ Michael Velten-Heeter lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Swift



Michael Velten-Heeter - October 16, 2025 at 02:01 PM

PR

“ Tom was a youth minister at st Mary’s when I was a teen. Thought he was so cool and am sure he thought I was trouble. Pray God told him to”quit messing around and get in here”

Pat Witt Rues - October 16, 2025 at 11:20 AM

DF

“ It awesome to read Tom Liked talking, and about anything. had many of those talking points with Tom, and he gave me many of his viewpoints and a lot of advice through the years, and it was good advice. Tom is why I'm doing what I do and he is also the reason I work where I work, its because Tom told me that he thought it would be best for me. What a wonderful guy, a true family friend to the Fenski's and as it said to anyone he met. Prayers of comfort to all that knew Tom.

Daryl Fenski - October 16, 2025 at 11:03 AM