



Tom E. Ness

June 24, 1948 - September 26, 2025

Thomas E. “Tom” Ness, age 77, of Atlanta, passed away peacefully on September 26, 2025, surrounded by his loving and devoted wife, Dana, and daughters, Erin and Kathleen.

Tom graduated from Kent State University in 1970 with a B.A. in Psychology and was a proud member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Shortly after graduation, he moved to Atlanta to begin his professional golf teaching career at Atlanta Country Club under the mentorship of Davis Love Jr.

In 1980, Tom joined the Golf Digest Schools, beginning a distinguished teaching career that spanned several decades. A gifted instructor and passionate educator, Tom authored several articles for Golf Digest and was honored by his peers as one of Golf Digest’s “America’s 50 Greatest Teachers.” He also spent many rewarding years teaching at Chateau Elan before bringing his talents to Hawks Ridge Golf Club, where he cherished his time working at their Golf Training Center. Tom was also a proud member of the PGA.

Tom’s legacy is one of dedication, humility, and excellence in golf instruction—but more importantly, he will be remembered as a loving husband, father, brother, and friend.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lowell and Algia Ness, and his brother, William (Bill) Ness. He is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years, Dana Ness; daughters, Erin Ness and Kathleen Ness; brother and sister-in-law, Richard (Rick) and Karen Ness; sisters-in-law, Elaine Ness, Patricia Clements, and Catherine Corcoran; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cherished friends.

A celebration of Tom's life will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at 11:00 AM at Birmingham United Methodist Church, followed by a reception at Hawks Ridge Golf Club.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made in Tom's memory to the Parkinson's Foundation.

Cemetery Details

Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Previous Events

Celebration Of Life

OCT 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Birmingham United Methodist Church
15770 Birmingham Hwy
Milton, GA 30004-2687
(678) 942-1600

Tribute Wall

KM

“ Karen M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tom E. Ness.

Karen M. - October 18, 2025 at 10:55 AM

BR

“ Bob & Darlene Rotella purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Tom E. Ness.



Bob & Darlene Rotella - October 17, 2025 at 12:34 PM

WG

“ Woody, Kathy and “The Girls” planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tom E. Ness.

Woody, Kathy and “The Girls” - October 15, 2025 at 07:36 AM

WG

“ Woody, Kathy and “The Girls” purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Tom E. Ness.



Woody, Kathy and “The Girls” - October 15, 2025 at 07:36 AM

DM

“ *Diana M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tom E. Ness.*

Diana M. - October 14, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Tom E. Ness.*



October 14, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ *Tom was like a grandfather to me. We spent 3 years working on my golf swing... sometimes he'd have me up there twice a week for entertainment. He was such a classic. A great soul with a heart of gold. I'll carry his memory with me.. and especially while I'm on any golf course. I'll miss you, Tom. I'm so sorry, Dana. You're the best. I'm so thankful to have met you and Tom.*



Chase Campbell - October 07, 2025 at 07:49 PM

SP

You know when the Lord created someone TomNess , I think he just sat down and smiled. I think he said, I 've done enough done enough for the world today. world today.

Sylvia Patrick - October 08, 2025 at 07:15 PM

MR

Just like a bird when free from its cage soars to the heights so the Christian soul in death soars home to God. Welcome home Tom

Marcia Roach - October 10, 2025 at 04:58 PM

DM

“*Dana, So sorry for your loss of Tom. We all have wonderful memories of our friend; My special memories go back when he first arrived in Atlanta. He worked for Davis Love @ ACC, my brother, Dan @ Dorado Beach, & the Golf Digest schools. We will all miss our friend, Tom Ness. Dick Murphy*

Dick Murphy - October 07, 2025 at 04:14 PM

RR

“*Loved playing Basketball with you all 4 years of high school and our Hitch-hiking trip to Maryland after Freshman college year! RIP Sam!*

Richard Ross - October 03, 2025 at 02:45 PM

TH

“*My dad will be looking for you, Sam. You were one of his favorites. Say hello for all of us.
Tom Hennings*

tom Hennings - October 03, 2025 at 01:01 PM