



Thomas Rhoads

July 5, 2008

On Saturday, July 5, 2008, Tommy Rhoads, age 45 of North Little Rock left this world as the result of a vehicle accident and awoke in the arms of his Lord and Savior. He was the husband of his lifelong love, Renee Helton Rhoads for 25 years, and was the proud father of Christopher Allen Rhoads. He loved to be outdoors, and enjoyed keeping up with Chris's baseball career. He worked for Central Arkansas Water for 25+ years. Tommy was a member of Levy Baptist Church, North Little Rock Optimist Club, and Big Rock Masonic Lodge #633.

Survivors are his wife, Renee Rhoads and son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Kylee Rhoads, all of North Little Rock; parents, Bill and Georgeann Rhoads of Cabot; sister Cookie Brown (Bruce) of Searcy; brother-in-law Keith Helton (Jennifer) of North Little Rock; sister-in-law Cindy Jones (Joey) of Russellville; mother-in-law, Shirley Helton of Russellville; grandmother, Madie Rhoads of North Little Rock; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Memorials to North Little Rock Optimist Club.

Funeral will be at 10:00 A.M. Wednesday at North Little Rock Funeral Home Chapel. Burial in Edgewood Memorial Park.

Visitation from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. Tuesday at North Little Rock Funeral Home, 1921 Main Street, 758-1170.

Online obituary and guest register at www.nlrhf.com.

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Renee, Chris, Kylie, Mr. and Mrs. Rhoads, Mom Helton, and the entire Rhoads family. No one really knows how you feel, with the exception of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I apologize for the lateness of this message. However, I was just in the kitchen thinking about Tommy and you guys and the heartfelt sympathy that we are feeling at this time. The boys are especially saddened by Tommy's passing, as we all know they spent a great deal lot of time with him and Chris when we were on Longview. Continue to look to the hills from whence cometh our help, for the Lord will NEVER put anything on any of us that we can't handle.
In our prayers! Sharon, James, Lil James, and Jamarr Dumas

Sharon Dumas - July 14, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TQ

“ Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades, Cookie and Bruce, Keith, Renee and Chris, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Tommy touched the lives of many people - young and old - and will be missed by everyone he came in contact with. All of my memories of growing up in the Youth Group at Levy involve Tommy. He always had a smile that would brighten the room when he walked in. I will keep all of you in my thoughts and prayers. I love you all.
Traci McClain Quinn

Traci (McClain Quinn) - July 12, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Renee
I am so sorry, Tommy was a good friend and I know he cared deeply for you and Chris. He will be greatly missed. But I know you will see him again.
Jim

Jim Spradlin - July 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ RENE: SO SORRY TO HEAR OF YOUR LOSS OF TOMMY. MAY HAPPIER MEMORIES HELP THROUGH THIS DIFFICULT TIME. BEEN YEARS SINCE OUR BOWLING DAYS.

ARLENE MARCOTTE - July 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ *To the Rhoads Family,
I had the pleasure of working with Tommy on many projects at Central Arkansas Water-I always found him to be polite, professional and above all, a caring supervisor and dedicated man.. Please know that, our loss is abundantly felt and shared, as his work family. I pray for some comfort and understanding in this tragedy.*

Dan & Alane Turner - July 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *There are no words to express how deeply sorry we are for your loss. We can only keep you all in our thoughts and prayers as you each find your own way to cope with this unimaginable situation. You will find strength in God if you put your worries on him.*

Jason and Traci (Allison) Lumpkin - July 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Renee and Family.. I am very sorry to hear the news about Tommy. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. Sorry, I could not attend.*

Tim

Tim Heilman - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *Bill, GeorgeAnn, Cookie, Renee and Chris:
Words cannot express the sorrow that we have for you and your
loss. Our prayers are with you all.*

*Ron & Chuckie Shirley, Rebecca & James DeWald, Rob & Teresa
Shirley, Joe & Kellie Shirley.*

Rebecca (Shirley) DeWald - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Renee, Chris and family I am thinking of ya'll and Tommy this
morning. My prayers are with you.*

Mike Buttler - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ *Renee and Chris, I was so sorry to hear the news. Just wanted to
express my sadness for you and your family. You are in my
thoughts and prayers. Again I am so sorry for your loss.*

Stacie Dillon - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *Renee, Haven't seen you guys much since high school, but I
wanted to let you know how sorry I was to hear about Tommy. My
thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Jackie (Smith) Arrison - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ *We are very sorry to here that you have lost a son. Just keep your
eyes on GOD and he will give you peace in this time of your needs*

Warren and Rhonda Mobbs - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ We are heartbroken over the loss of Tommy. Besides being a good neighbor, he was just an all around good guy who we could always count on for anything we needed, whether it was a big favor or just a kind word and a friendly smile.

While it is terrible for Tommy to have left us so soon, we can all take some comfort from the fact that he was a very lucky man while he was alive. He had a loving family and lots of good friends. He was healthy and had lots of energy that he spent helping others and doing things he enjoyed. In the end, he died doing something he absolutely loved.

Renee and Chris please know that while we don't live right across the road any longer we are still just a phone call and a few minutes away if you ever need anything. We love you guys, and we will miss Tommy very much.

Steve and Christina Gray - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Renee,
You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Mark & Kathy Fuell - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ *Renee & Chris*
We were so shocked and saddened by the loss of Tommy. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Chris, hold on tight to all of your precious memories, they will mean more to you as time goes by. Remember that God will be with both of you every step of the way. You and your family are in our prayers
Glenn & Karen Cox

Glenn & Karen Cox - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this sad time in your life.

David & Tina Bauman - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ We were sorry to hear of your loss. All of you are in our thoughts and prayers

Danny & Selenia Boyett - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ I am so sorry for your loss. We will keep you in our prayers. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you and your family.

Rob St Julien - July 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Renee:

So sad to hear the news about Tommy.... Tommy was such a good guyand remember him from the high school days.... God Bless you and your family...stay strong and keep the faith...

David Smith - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ I have worked with Tommy for nearly 16 years. This is a great loss and we are filled with sadness. We always kept each other updated about our kids' activities. Both of my children met Tommy over the years at different company functions. Renee and Chris--please know that God is walking beside you in every step and He will provide you with strength in the coming days and nights. You are in our prayers. Clayton, Phyllis, Chloe, and James

Clayton & Phyllis Walker - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Renee' and Chris (and all the other family members), please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. God is with all of you and He truly has Tommy in His arms. Tommy has been a part of our family these last 25 years and we have loved him dearly as we do you two; he will surely be sorely missed. We can hardly imagine Christmas Eve without his smiling face which brightened up our entire house but know he is now in a much better place. God Bless!!!

Aunt Bettye & Uncle Charlie - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ It was a joy working with Tommy. He will be missed.

Robert Reneau - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Tommy truly will be missed here at the gym.His presence has touched everyone here.We will keep the family in our prayers....

chuck fountain/mgr@10fitness - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ This is so unreal. We at CAW have lost a true friend and a valuable member of our family. We can't begin to understand this, without knowing God has a plan. Tommy will truly be missed and his contagious smile will be hard to replace. Our hearts are heavy for his family, because we know what he meant to us. Our prayers are with them that God will comfort them in every way while they have to endure this time.

Ken Ashworth - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Renee,
I was shocked when Richie told me the news. Although our paths have not crossed much since high school, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to you, Chris ,your family and Tommy's. May the Lord be with all of you and comfort all of you in your time of need. When Tommy and I would see one another, we always had a hand shake and a hello for each other. He was a good man. I always knew he was a great husband and father. God Bless

Dobie Hicks - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *We wanted you to know that we are so sorry for your loss. We will be praying for all of you during this difficult time.*

Bill and Donna Batte - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *Though acquaintences are many, true friends are few and precious. Tommy was the epitomy of that true friend that few of us have the privelage and honor of knowing and calling "my friend".*

Buck Lewis - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Renee and Chris and all family of Tommy. I can't begin to express the emotions and loss I felt when I heard about Tommy. I moved next door to you almost 8 years ago. At that time I never knew what special neighbors and friends you would become over the years. Tommy's whole life revolved around Renee and Chris. How he loved to watch Chris play baseball. He was definitely a wonderful father and husband. You were there for me in many instances and you will always be appreciated for that. Tommy was one of the most special friends and man I've had the privilege to know. He did so much for me and helped me when I needed anything done around the yard or house. He was always doing something even when he was not asked to - he did it just because he thought it needed fixing. He was always busy, never still. I am very blessed to have been a friend of Tommy's, and I am still blessed to have Renee, Chris, Kylie and all their family as friends. Tommy will always be loved and remembered, as you all will. My heart goes out to each of you. I know it's of no consolation now, but Tommy went to Heaven doing something he loved, and that was riding. I am here for you always. God rest you Tommy - and don't worry, Mitzi will always be taken care of and loved by us all.

Donna Cauley - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this very sad time. Tommy will be missed at Central Arkansas Water. The LORD will give you strength to continue.
Joy Franklin
Human Resources Assistant

Joy Franklin - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ Renee,
Our thoughts and prayers go out to you, Chris and Tommy's entire family.
Les, Kim, Kristen and Lake Griggs

Leslie & Kim Griggs - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ Georgeann and Bill we were so shocked to hear of Tommy's passing. We wanted to let you guys know that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time. It has been 10 years since we last saw you guys at Levy Baptist Church. Always remember that the Lord will sustain you and rely on HIM for all your strength. We will be praying for you and all of your family.

Curran, Ellen & Kristin Papan - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ I was so shocked to hear of Tommy's tragic accident. Chris and my son Jeff, went to mother's day out together when they were small and were good friends. I will always remember how nice Tommy was and how ever so proud he was of Chris. My thoughts and prayers are with you Renee and Chris. Be strong and keep your faith close by, you will get through this with the Lord's help!!

Pam Huston - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Tommy wore many hats in my life over the past few years. He was dad's co-worker... he was groundskeeper for us during me and Chris's high school days... and recently, kept us updated on Chris's baseball accolades. I'm so sorry for your loss and our prayers are with Renee and Chris in this tough time. Let us know if there's anything we can do. We love you guys.

Jarod Floyd - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ Cookie we were so shocked to hear about Tommy as I know you were too. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this most difficult time. I know Tommy will be missed by his family and friends. Trust in the Lord for all the strength you will need during this time and for years to come. Our hearts go out to you.

Curran, Ellen & Kristin Papan - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ My heart and prayers are with all those of whom Tommy has touched. He will be greatly missed.

Kelli Withers - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ It's so heartbreaking to hear the horrible sad news. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Be strong in God, He is the only one that can get you through this tragedy. May peace be in you just knowing Tommy is with our Lord and Savior. God bless each one.

Richard & Donna McCall - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ I felt a great sadness when I heard about the accident and his passing. I told my parents about it and they were both in shock over the death. My father worked with both Tommy and Bill. Tommy was one of the first people to welcome me to NLR Water. He always had a smile on his face and was a genuine nice person to talk to. All of Tommy's family will be in my prayers. Ricky, Harry, and Lois Harvey and Harriet, and Leza Richardson

Ricky Harvey - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Renee and Chris, Please know that my prayers will be with you now and in the days to follow.
Losing Tommy is like losing a family member.

Lynn Floyd - July 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ We did not know Tommy personally, but Ralph and Tommy's worked together years at the NLRFD. It is very sad to lose a love one so sudden. Our thought and prayers go out to the family.

Ralph and Jan Turner - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JZ

“ I was so shocked to read Tommy's obit in the paper this morning when I got to work. But just let me say to Renee and all of Tommy's family and friends I know how you all are feeling and I am so sorry to read about Tommy's passing. I know you all have suffered a great loss. And, I will always remember the first time I saw Tommy in 1st grade with that red hair. I will be praying for all of you at a time like this.

Judy Zorn - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ This is a big loss in the hearts of many. He will be missed. My thoughts go out to the family and friends of Tommy. Will miss talking to Tommy and working with him at Central Arkansas Water.

Judy Mallett - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ We are so sorry for your loss. We will keep you in our prayers.

John and Anita Allison - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Our sincerest prayers and condolences to the Rhoads family. Donny & Kimberly, Zac, John, and Jake

Donny Smith - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ The loss of Tommy is a devastating loss personally and as a coworker. My thoughts and prayers are with the Rhoads family. He will be deeply missed.

Brandon Lackey - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Tommy was great person & friend. He will be greatly missed by all who knew hem. Our thoughts & prayers to the family.

Joseph Poe & Family - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this very difficult time.

Jamie Wetherington - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ We have each of you all in our prayes and thoughts at this time. Tommy will be missed by many and may you find your strengh from God to help you through this time he is our only healer and will be with you.

Wayne and Carolyn Wright - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Lucian and I wanted all of you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. We know that this is a very difficult, and heartbreaking, time for the entire family.

I became acquainted with Shirley, as a child, in the same neighborhood, and later as our Sons played baseball together. Had the pleasure of seeing Renee grow into a fine young woman, that was truly devoted to Tommy and her family. He will surely be missed by all. God bless !

Jo Ann Kitta - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ tommy always took time for his friends to talk and see how you were doing he was always a good school buddy and machine shop at ole main. Sometimes its hard to under why god brings the best home early steve passmore

steve passmore - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ We are praying for each member of Tommy's family as you walk through the days and months ahead. Remember in the midst of our storms, we find peace walking with Jesus. He is sufficient for all your needs.

David and Bobbie Glover - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Bill, Georgeann and Shirley, you are in my prayers today and for many days to come. Heaven must be richer and sweeter today because Tommy has made it home. Renee, your mother and I went to school together from the 1st grade through high school. Also, Bill, Georgeann and Roger went to jr. high and high school with us. I am praying for you and Chris that you may feel the comfort of the Holy Spirit at this time. Pat Morgan

Patricia Wooley Morgan - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Our hearts and prayers are with you in this time of sorrow. May God bless you and keep you in His arms.

Cole and Rachel Brewer

Cole and Rachel (Archer) Brewer - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ The loss of such a good man is a shock to all of us. No condolences will ease the ache or tears wash away the pain; only time will. Be assured that Renee and Chris, as well as, Tommy's extended family will be in my heart and in my prayers.

Sandy Stevens - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ He will be missed by me. I will be praying for all of you at this time. T

debra j webb - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers during this time of loss. May God's love and peace surround you in the days to come.

Bonnie, Casey and CJ Jacoby - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ To Bill, Georgeann and Cookie

We were sorry to hear of Tommy's death. You have our prayers.

Ben and Ethel Finley - July 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM