

## Gary Lynn Thomas

Gary was born March 30, 1958, in Aitkin, MN, to Lionel and Alice (Maron) Thomas. Gary proudly served his country in the United States Air Force as a KC-135 in-flight refueling specialist.

Gary married Betsy (Platt) Thomas on December 27, 1991, and shortly after adopted her daughter Kristin to complete their happy family.

Gary loved to hunt and fish and spend time in nature camping, canoeing and hiking. He was the last to arrive at a party and the last to leave as well. He loved getting together with friends. He coached Little League baseball and girls' softball for many years. He volunteered his time working on houses for people in need.

His work as a remodeler and finisher was his pride and joy and now Heaven will look a little brighter with his help.

Gary loved wholly with no judgment and was always quick to forgive. He walked this Earth doing what he loved best - being a friend, a teacher, a mentor and a role model for others. Gary has always walked in his truth with love, grace and dignity - just as God wants all of us to live.

Gary Lynn Thomas, 61, died Monday October 7, 2019, peacefully at home surrounded by his family.

Gary is survived by his spouse, Betsy; his daughter, Kristin Thomas; his pride a joy are his grandchildren, Kailey and Sawyer; as well as his beloved sister, Carol Berg; and all of his nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and brothers and sisters in law.

Gary will leave a huge hole in many people's life as well as his community. Soar with the Eagles Gary!

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).

### *The Prayer of St. Francis*

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy;*

*O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

Condolences can be sent to [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com)

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the Vet's Club in Sturgis following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



*In Loving Memory*

**Gary Lynn Thomas**

**March 30, 1958 ~ October 7, 2019**



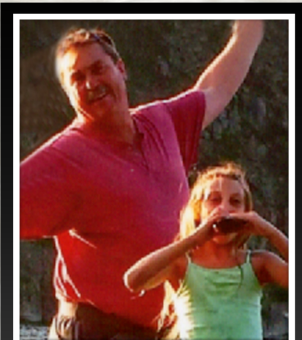


*When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free.*

*Miss me a little – but not for long  
And not with your head bowed low  
Remember the Love that we once shared  
Miss Me – But let Me Go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take  
And each must go alone  
It's all a part of the Master's plan  
And a step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart  
Go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds  
Miss Me – But Let Me Go*



*In Memory Of*  
***Gary Lynn Thomas***

***Date of Birth***  
March 30, 1958  
Aitkin, Minnesota

***Date of Death***  
October 7, 2019  
Rapid City, South Dakota

***Memorial Service***  
Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at 11:00 a.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Clergy***  
Pastor David Baer

***Songs***  
"When I Get Where I'm Going" "The Garden"

***Honorary Pallbearers***  
Ed Gallup ~ Steve Berg ~ Mike Howe  
Shawn Krull ~ Joe AtterBerry

***Military Honors***  
Ellsworth Honor Guard  
Sturgis Veteran's Honor Guard

***Final Resting Place***  
Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota