



## Thomas W. Oxton, Sr.

October 14, 1949 - December 18, 2008

Thomas William Oxton, Sr., 59, of 1518 Bosley Hill Rd. Readsboro, Vermont, died Thursday evening, Dec. 18th, at Albany (N.Y.) Medical Center.

He was born in Teaneck, New Jersey on October 14, 1949, son of Thomas Oxton and the late Jean (Boler) Oxton. He attended schools in New Jersey, including Bergen County Vocational Technical High School.

Mr. Oxton was a Veteran of the Vietnam War. He enlisted in the US Marine Corps in May of 1967, and after basic training, he went overseas as a member of the Third Marine Division. Eight months after his arrival, he was seriously wounded by a land mine in the Quang Tri province of Vietnam. After nine months of recovery in a military hospital, he became a machine gun instructor at the Marine base in Quantico, Virginia, until his retirement in February of 1970. He received the Purple Heart Medal as well as several campaign medals and unit citations.

He moved to this area in the late 1970's, and graduated from the New England Tractor Trailer Training School in Boston. He worked for many years as a driver for the former R.B. Bator Trucking Co., and later worked as an independent driver for several trucking firms, until retiring in 1988.

He was a member of American Legion Post 29 in Readsboro; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 15047; the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and the Vietnam Veterans of America. He was a former member the Readsboro Volunteer Fire Dept. and the Readsboro Lions Club.

He especially enjoyed spending time with his late son and his grandchildren

and nephews, attending many of their sports games.

Besides his father, of East Stroudsburg, PA, he is survived by his wife, the former Diane L. Ziter, whom he married on September 20, 1985;

1 Daughter, Stephanie J. Oxtan of Readsboro; 1 Stepson , Gene Sebastino, Jr. of Adams;

3 Sisters , Ellen Lewis of E. Stroudsburg, PA; Mona Nelson of Oradell, N.J. and Marie LaMendola of Dumont, N.J.; 3 grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

His son, Thomas W. "T.J." Oxtan, Jr. died on March 13, 2005. A sister, Eileen Saunders, died on August 10, 1995.

The funeral will be held on Saturday, December 27th, at 10:00 AM in the First Baptist Church, Commercial St. (Rt. 8) Adams, MA. Rev. Donald E. Gray will officiate.

Burial will be in the Spring in South Hill Cemetery in Readsboro, Vermont.

Calling hours at the PACIOREK FUNERAL HOME, 13 Hoosac St. Adams, MA will be Friday, Dec. 26 from 4 to 7 PM.

Memorial donations may be made to any charity of the donor's choice through the funeral home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Always will be loved & missed.*

*Love Michael & Carolyn*

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**carolyn gagliarducci** - June 07, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ *Sadly missed every day of my life. Michael & I love you Tommy and always will.*

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**CAROLYN GAGLIARDUCCI** - June 07, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ To Tommy's incredible family-  
*I did not know of Tommy's passing, but I woke up this morning thinking of him and had a powerful urge to go to the internet and google his name. I actually thought that it was T.J. that I was would find. But, sadly and unexpectedly, it was his obituary that appeared. I can't tell you how sorry I am for the loss of this special person in y/our lives. I always admired Tommy for his grace, dignity and strength in the face of the many challenging times and situations that he experienced. He never chose self-pity; instead he would gather himself and face the future once again with optimism, humor and a kind of gentle defiance that was inspiring. He was a marvel in many ways. Despite tough times, he always had time for others and shared his wisdom with open generosity. Without a thought or hesitation, he would give you the shirt off his back, the last beer in the bucket or last buck in his pocket. He was a good man, who despite his tragic wounds, overcame the obstacles in his life time and time again to continue living, fully and deeply, the adventure of his life. He has now made the choice to inspire, humor, love and support his friends and family from a place of ultimate peace. I pray that everyone can find comfort in that knowledge.*

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February 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I know you do not want to hear from me but Tommy and i were best friends for many years dating back to New Jersey. I am so very sorry for your loss. I do mean this. We had many great memories and some pretty bad ones too. I beleive in my HEART that Tommy and T.J. are together with Tommies Mom. Again , i am TRULY very sorry*

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December 31, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ To the family/friends of Tommy,  
Tommy was a real friendly guy. I remember him being around during my childhood, as my he and Diane were my sisters Godparents. He always had a smile on his face whenever I saw him, a smile similar to my own fathers. They were great friends for a very long time. My thoughts, prayers, and sympathies go to everyone. God never forgets great soldiers.

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December 24, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Tommy was one of the best people I ever knew. He had my respect and my affection. He helped me tremendously after my truck accident and I will never, ever forget him or the powerful story of his life. He was filled with courage. My deepest sympathies to Diane, Stephanie, and all the members of his family. Sue Bush

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December 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM