



Thomas H. Hopkins

July 14, 1947 - December 12, 2021

Lafayette -

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, December 17, 2021, at 1:00 PM at St. John's Cathedral in Lafayette for Thomas Henry Hopkins, age 74, who passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 12, 2021 surrounded by his loved ones.

Rev. Steven C. LeBlanc will conduct the funeral services. Musical Selections will be performed by Karen Broussard; Ave Maria, One Bread - One Body, Here I Am Lord, and Be Not Afraid. Gift Bearers will be Tom's grandchildren, Rilee Cormier, and Tanner Cormier.

Visitation will be held on Friday, December 17, 2021 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM in the Cypress Funeral Home Chapel.

Tom, known by his family and close friends as Tommy, lived for his athletic lifestyle. He was a successful athlete at home in Dublin, Ireland before accepting a scholarship to the University of Southwest Louisiana, known today as "ULL".

Tommy Hopkins went on to become a legend in Louisiana's running community. He made his mark very early in Acadiana as a distance runner for

the "USL". He immediately became an integral part of the "USL" Cross-Country team. Identified as "the Irishman" in the 1967 yearbook, he was a member of the team during its three consecutive years as the Gulf Coast Conference champions. He continued to improve his running skills while at the university placing 4th in the conference championship in 1966, and 2nd in the 1967 games. By 1968, as the team captain for the 14th Annual Gulf Coast Conference meet, Tommy set the pace and he captured first place over 25 conference rivals ensuring "USL" dominance over the conference for the 3rd consecutive year. In 1970, Tommy continued to astound the running community by setting a record in the distance medley and placing 1st in the "Three Mile Run". His exceptional running abilities coupled with his easy going demeanor which he displayed during his years at "USL" made him an excellent coach and mentor for many future generations of runners in Southwest Louisiana.

Aside from running Tommy also enjoyed the game of golf and in 1975, he won the Golf Championship at Muni.

After college Tommy went on to work for many years as a Landman in the Oil & Gas industry. He looked forward to returning home to Ireland each year to visit with his family. Tommy will be dearly missed by his family and friends here in Louisiana and abroad. His memories will be cherished forever.

Tommy is survived by his loving daughter, Anika Hopkins Cormier (Morris); his grandchildren, Rilee Cormier, and Tanner Cormier; his siblings, Nuala Johns (Bernard), Geraldine Raia, Emily Dowling (Michael), Marie Fleming (James), Desmond Hopkins (Marie), Catherine O'Byrne; as well as his twenty-two nieces and nephews, and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas Hopkins and Anne Marie Hopkins; as well as his brother James Hopkins.

Honored to serve as pallbearers: Morris Cormier, Russell McKay, Desmond O'Connor, Claude Revels, Manny Rachal, and Jim Gonsulin. Tanner Cormier will carry the Crucifix.

Tom's family would like to issue a special thank you to all of his very good friends that have reached out to the family and have continued to show their support for throughout this difficult time.

Cypress Funeral Home & Crematory, 206 West Lafayette St., Maurice, LA. 70555, (337) 740-3123, is in charge of funeral arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 17. 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Cypress Funeral Home & Crematory
206 W. Lafayette St.
Maurice, LA 70555
(337) 740-3123
director@cypressfunerals.com
<https://www.cypressfunerals.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

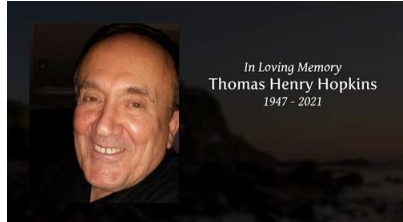
DEC 17. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

The Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist
515 Cathedral St
Lafayette, LA 70501

Tribute Wall



“ *Cypress Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Thomas H. Hopkins*



Cypress Funeral Home & Crematory - December 17, 2021 at 12:47 AM

JN

“ *I trained as an athlete with Tommy at Donore Harriers which was based at that time at Islandbridge in Dublin. He was an excellent runner and very tough to keep up with in training. My father Comdt. John Naughten assisted Tommy with the completion of his financial financial aid forms which were quite complex having done the same for me to go to Boston University. I have many happy memories of our times together and his tongue in cheek sense of humour. May he rest in peace.*

John Naughten April 18 , 2022

John Naughten - April 18, 2022 at 03:43 AM

AC

Thank you for your kind words.

Anika Cormier - March 03 at 10:29 PM

HS

“ When Tom first came to then-USL in the fall of 1967, we (his track teammates) thought he was incredibly shy because he said very little. Looking back on it, I think he was having a "wee bit of culture shock" as he would likely have put it in his Irish brogue, coming to a school 4,000 miles from his home and family. He didn't stay quiet long as his natural gregariousness came to the fore. He was a fierce competitor, great teammate and a friend to all. RIP, Hop.

Herb Stein - December 26, 2021 at 08:20 PM

AC

Thank you so much Mr. Herb

Anika Hopkins Cormier - March 03 at 10:36 PM

JY

“ *“Hop” was a great friend and an inspiration to those who knew him. Always there w/a word of encouragement and a straight to the heart of the matter comment. We'll miss you.*

Jerry Yunker - December 19, 2021 at 08:53 PM

AC

Thank you

Anika Hopkins Cormier - March 03 at 10:36 PM

LG

“ *Tommy was a great team mate and friend for many years. Always a smile on his face. He has been a tremendous mentor to many area runners and will be missed by many. Rest in peace Hoppy*

Lou Groth - December 19, 2021 at 02:40 PM

AC

Thank you

Anika Hopkins Cormier - March 03 at 10:38 PM

CB

“ *Anika, I had every intention of attending the visitation and funeral today. Unfortunately, I am in Covid quarantine and won't be able to come by. We have all been dreading this day for a long time. My prayers are with you and your family. Tommy was a great guy.*

Charles Beazley - December 17, 2021 at 10:41 AM

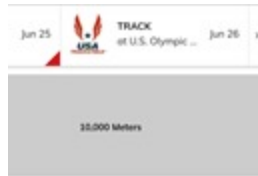
AC

Thank you, Mr. Charles

Anika Hopkins Cormier - March 03 at 10:39 PM

SR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Steele Russell - December 16, 2021 at 11:45 PM

SR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Steele Russell - December 16, 2021 at 11:36 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steele Russell - December 16, 2021 at 11:33 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Steele Russell - December 16, 2021 at 11:31 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steele Russell - December 16, 2021 at 11:27 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steele Russell - December 16, 2021 at 11:26 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steele Russell - December 16, 2021 at 11:25 PM

KM

“ Kevin McAlea sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas H. Hopkins



Kevin McAlea - December 16, 2021 at 11:15 PM

KM

“ Kevin McAlea sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas H. Hopkins



Kevin McAlea - December 16, 2021 at 11:08 PM

KM

“ Kevin McAlea lit a candle in memory of Thomas H. Hopkins



Kevin McAlea - December 16, 2021 at 11:06 PM

GF

“ Geaux Run and family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Thomas H. Hopkins.



Geaux Run and family - December 16, 2021 at 10:15 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas H. Hopkins.



December 16, 2021 at 02:39 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas H. Hopkins.



December 15, 2021 at 09:23 PM

MP

“ 2017 Zydeco Half-marathon, with Jay Pierret and Matt Pierret.



Matt Pierret - December 15, 2021 at 05:49 PM

MP

“ In 1975 I was a high school runner that showed enough promise that my coach, Harold Tridico, asked Tom to help me to achieve my potential. I was also struggling with learning to live with epilepsy, having had grand mal seizures since I was 13. Tom coached me to two state championships, but what he did for me was not to help me win races. He showed me what was possible for a person like me at a time when I could not imagine a normal or successful life. Now, I cannot image what that life would have been had Tom not been a part of it. Rest in peace, Tom.

Matt Pierret - December 15, 2021 at 11:46 AM

AC

Thank you so much for sharing your story.

Anika Hopkins Cormier - March 03 at 10:32 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steele Russell - December 14, 2021 at 08:47 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steele Russell - December 14, 2021 at 08:46 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steele Russell - December 14, 2021 at 08:45 PM

AC

Thank you for sharing all of the pictures.

Anika Hopkins Cormier - March 03 at 10:35 PM