



Anthony Thomas

APR 13, 1934 - NOV 14, 2023



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Tulsa Funeral Service
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Anthony Thomas

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Anthony Thomas Obituary

A funeral service honoring Anthony Thomas will be held 1 PM Friday, November 17, 2023 at St. James Church at 5050 E. 111th Street in Tulsa. Interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery. Anthony passed away early Tuesday morning on November 14, 2023 in Tulsa. He was 89 years old. Dr. Anthony Thomas was born on April 13, 1934 in the South Indian town of Tiruchirappali in India. He was the youngest of four brothers with an inquisitive mind. Realizing his brilliance and intelligence, his family encouraged him to pursue higher studies. With that in mind, he graduated from St Joseph's College in Tiruchirappali and went on to get his masters, followed by obtaining his Ph.D in Instrumentation from Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. Throughout his career as a scientist in Indian Institute of Science, he followed his passion on doing research in alternative energy sources, especially solar energy, resulting in him traveling to various countries such as USA, Italy, Poland and England, to name a few, on scientific collaboration. He got married to Manjula when he was thirty two years and found a wonderful partner in her. He had a marriage filled with joy, love, and support. He had two children - the oldest a daughter Leena followed by a son Satish - with whom he would eventually live with in the latter years of his life. Manjula passed away in 2011, and he was deeply affected by it. Anthony was not only a scientist but a good administrator too. He served as College Principal for Karunya Institute of Technology and enjoyed teaching and interacting with the students. Following his wife's death, he chose to move to Tulsa to live with his son. He wanted to be close to his family and to spend as much time as possible with his four granddaughters. Given his inquisitive mind and curiosity following his move to Tulsa, he started taking interest in Theology. He was a avid reader and an accomplished writer. He spent his retired years reading and publishing papers on Christianity, and in the process, he acquired additional Ph.D degrees. He



Obituary

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was a teacher, a mentor, and a friend with a gentle spirit. He was a generous soul with a big heart, and many came to seek his advice and find solace in his kind and wise words. Throughout his lifetime, Anthony was loved dearly by a host of friends, relatives, and colleagues. He is survived by his two children: Leena Lourduraj and her husband, Lawrence, and Satish Thomas and his wife, Sailatha; his four grandchildren: Divya, Kanchan, Sophia, and Natalie; and Sailatha's mother: Chandrika, who became like a sister to Anthony. He will be deeply missed by his family.

To send flowers
to the family or plant a tree
in memory of Anthony Thomas, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



Tribute Wall

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EF

Endocrinology Family posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas by Endocrinology family. Send FlowersWe are so sorry for your loss, praying for the familyEndocrinology family

April 22 at 7:28 AM

RU

Renuka, Radhika, Christian, Leonard, Aunty And Uncle posted:

Jade joy was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas by Renuka, Radhika, Christian, Leonard, Aunty and Uncle . Send FlowersMay the good Lord be with you always!Renuka, Radhika, Christian, Leonard, Aunty and Uncle

April 22 at 7:28 AM



Anonymous posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas. Send FlowersMay uncle's soul rest in peace. I am so grateful for Uncle's constant guidance and council as I grew up. I will miss him.

April 22 at 7:28 AM

SB

Sarita Benjamin posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas by Sarita Benjamin. Send FlowersMay Uncles soul rest in peaceSarita Benjamin

April 22 at 7:28 AM



Anonymous posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas. Send FlowersThank you for the happy memories Thatha.From,Leena, Lawrence and loving grand children Sophia and Natalie

April 22 at 7:28 AM



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Anonymous posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas. Send Flowers Dear Uncle, Thank you for the love and guidance you provided our family, every step of the way. Lots of love Namitha

April 22 at 7:28 AM



Shonalatha Sudarshan posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas by Shonalatha Sudarshan . Send Flowers

April 22 at 7:28 AM



Rosaline Godson posted:

Deeply saddened to hear about the demise of Dr. A. Thomas. My heartfelt condolences to his family. Dr. Thomas had been a great source of strength and support to me at Karunya Institute of Technology, Coimbatore, even as I started my teaching career there. Sure, his help and guidance will be remembered forever.

November 20 at 6:28 AM



Morris & Stella posted:

We are deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Dr Thomas. Please accept our heartfelt condolences during this incredibly difficult time. We want you to know that our thoughts are with you. Dr Thomas was a remarkable individual, and the impact of his presence will forever be etched in our memories. We are proud to have worked under him at the Karunya Institute of Technology. His kindness, and warmth, will be cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

November 20 at 5:39 AM



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NA

Naveen posted:

Thomas 'Appa' was my eldest uncle and commanded a great deal of respect, authority and dignity went with his position in our big family. His illustrious and impressive career as an educator par excellence in no less an institution as the Indian Institute of Science just added to his aura and it seemed that he was a true giant of a man. He was! I say these things because more often than not, men of his stature tend to be haughty, arrogant and aloof, patronizing and condescending at every turn and with everyone they meet. But, that wasn't Thomas Appa at all. Let me give you just one personal anecdote. It must have been sometime in January 2002 a few months before a frustrated 16 year old (me), in the 10th standard and busy preparing for the ICSE board exams, was struggling with the Physics textbook. The concepts seemed abstruse, the practical problems daunting and my nerves completely frayed. Mummy called up Manju Aunty and asked if Appa could clarify some 'doubts' for Naveen. And Appa, if anybody knows him at all, very gladly obliged and I found myself, textbook in hand in that beautiful Malleswaram house one Saturday afternoon. As I sat there not knowing what to expect, Appa sat beside me at the dining table and side by side began his lesson. It was the best Physics class I had ever attended up until that point, maybe ever. Using simple language, practical everyday examples, humor and his trademark wit, Appa unlocked that textbook, simplified Physics and sparked a love for science! All in one afternoon! He stressed on learning the principles and 'attacking' (his own words) the problems. He said the theory and description wouldn't be a problem for us English Medium convent school educated city kids going so far as to admit his own struggles as a student educated in Tamil Medium. This in a nutshell was Appa. A storied Professor in a storied institution giving his time for a very young family member. He came down to my level, ignited the passion for Physics and gently guided me in a way that felt that I had arrived at my solutions without his help or guidance. This was a masterclass in Physics. But, more importantly, it was a masterclass in love, humility and service. I'm sure, in the days to come that there will be similar anecdotes from others that will echo similar sentiments. Dear Leena Akka and Chachi Anna, I don't have to tell you more about Appa! And, to Sophia, Natalie, Divya and Kanchan I do hope you read these stories that will tell you how awesome Grandpa was! My deepest and most heartfelt condolences to all of you. May his memories be a blessing to all of you and May God give you all the strength, peace and comfort in this difficult time. Naveen

November 15 at 4:26 PM



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NA

Naveen posted:

Thomas 'Appa' was my eldest uncle and commanded a great deal of respect, authority and dignity went with his position in our big family. His illustrious and impressive career as an educator par excellence in no less an institution as the Indian Institute of Science just added to his aura and it seemed that he was a true giant of a man. He was! I say these things because more often than not, men of his stature tend to be haughty, arrogant and aloof, patronizing and condescending at every turn and with everyone they meet. But, that wasn't Thomas Appa at all. Let me give you just one personal anecdote. It must have been sometime in January 2002 a few months before a frustrated 16 year old (me), in the 10th standard and busy preparing for the ICSE board exams, was struggling with the Physics textbook. The concepts seemed abstruse, the practical problems daunting and my nerves completely frayed. Mummy called up Manju Aunty and asked if Appa could clarify some 'doubts' for Naveen. And Appa, if anybody knows him at all, very gladly obliged and I found myself, textbook in hand in that beautiful Malleswaram house one Saturday afternoon. As I sat there not knowing what to expect, Appa sat beside me at the dining table and side by side began his lesson. It was the best Physics class I had ever attended up until that point, maybe ever. Using simple language, practical everyday examples, humor and his trademark wit, Appa unlocked that textbook, simplified Physics and sparked a love for science! All in one afternoon! He stressed on learning the principles and 'attacking' (his own words) the problems. He said the theory and description wouldn't be a problem for us English Medium convent school educated city kids going so far as to admit his own struggles as a student educated in Tamil Medium. This in a nutshell was Appa. A storied Professor in a storied institution giving his time for a very young family member. He came down to my level, ignited the passion for Physics and gently guided me in a way that felt that I had arrived at my solutions without his help or guidance. This was a masterclass in Physics. But, more importantly, it was a masterclass in love, humility and service. I'm sure, in the days to come that there will be similar anecdotes from others that will echo similar sentiments. Dear Leena Akka and Chachi Anna, I don't have to tell you more about Appa! And, to Sophia, Natalie, Divya and Kanchan I do hope you read these stories that will tell you how awesome Grandpa was! My deepest and most heartfelt condolences to all of you. May his memories be a blessing to all of you and May God give you all the strength, peace and comfort in this difficult time.

November 15 at 4:26 PM



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MJ

Mrs Mahima Sivakumar Johnwesly K posted:

I am related to Dr Thomas through my aunt Mrs Chandrika Padmanabhan and my sister Dr Sailatha Thomas. I got the lovely opportunity of interacting closely with him when I visited the USA with my parents in 2017. When staying at my cousin's house in Tulsa, I remember starting a conversation with Thomas uncle when he asked me about Microsoft Office. He was a patient listener and was very eager to learn. One line he said is still something I remember that "There's no age to stop learning and that we should always keep learning something new". Uncle had an amazing memory. I remember asking him about his college days and senior year project and I was amazed how well he remembered what he worked on. He told me it was about finding the refraction of a prism... And that wasn't the only thing but he also mentioned the value he got! During my entire stay in the USA, Uncle was encouraging me to pray more, to study well and was the first person to encourage me to write a Research Paper for College. When I was studying in Karunya Institute, I have seen his photo in the Main building multiple times. I feel so proud and happy that I am related to such a wonderful and great person. Although the time I spent with him was short, it was lovely. I will miss you uncle! You will surely be remembered in our hearts!

November 17 at 5:40 PM

SI

Sivakumar posted:

Dr Thomas was related to us through matrimony of his son Satish to my niece Dr Sai Latha. We as a family stayed in Tulsa in Satish house and had wonderful time with Dr Thomas. Dr Thomas is very knowledgeable and a jovial . We miss him.SIVAKUMAR & MALATHI

November 17 at 2:49 PM

SI

Sivakumar posted:

Dr Thomas is related to us through matrimony of my niece Dr Sailatha to his son Satish. Dr Thomas helped my first Daughter to get admission to B Tech course in Karunya University. Whenever I visited Karunya University I was thrilled to see his picture receiving an award as " Best Teacher" from Education Minister of India which was displayed in Dean's office. I had wonderful experience with Dr Thomas in Tulsa when I visited USA with my wife and daughter. We had lot of discussions on aviation related topics as he was probably planning to write a book on aviation. During my stay at Tulsa we had gone for walking in the Tulsa neighborhood. We as a family from India miss him and pray Almighty God to give strength to Sathish and my niece Sailatha and my elder sister and grand daughters Divya and Kanchan.

November 17 at 2:38 PM



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SL

Sophia Lourduraj posted:

Thata has been a constant for me my entire life, and one of my biggest cheerleaders. He was kind, thoughtful, persistent, and loving, always looking out for me and all of his family and friends. I'll always have a special place in my heart for Thata ever since he helped take care of me for a few months while my mother was studying for her final boards exam. While my memories of that time remain blurry, my appreciation and love for him since then, and his affection and love for me has always been central to our relationship. My favorite memories with Thata were exploring his house and office in India, which were (and always will remain) a source of amazement to me. Humoring me and taking me around, showing me his many books, explaining the parts of the house, and meeting his tenants were always the highlights of my trips to India and I remember them well and continue to look back on them fondly when I recall my time in India. Thata was such a bright and unapologetic presence in the lives of all who knew him, and his trust, liveliness, and kindness will be missed.

November 17 at 6:20 AM

SS

Shona & Sriram Sudarshan posted:

Our deepest condolences during this time to the families he loved so deeply. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

November 16 at 1:23 PM

BA

Benjamin Aj posted:

Dear Brother in law, I will miss you, you have guided me through my college days, as I completed my engineering you have been there to guide me in my professional career, you and Manju have been with me advising and encouraging me throughout my career and also there for me when I had to get my daughters settled in life. I will always remember the times you and Manju would be there to celebrate my achievements

November 16 at 10:40 AM



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BA

Benjamin A J posted:

Dear Brother in law, I will miss you a lot, you have been my advisor right through my college days, you have guided me through my studies in engineering, you have been there for me as I started my career, encouraging and advising me as I went through my career appreciating and giving me all the encouragement along with Manju, you have been my advisor in guiding my daughters career and also getting them settled. I will always remember every time I get myself a new vehicle you and Manju would be there to have the first ride and celebrate the occasion. I can go on and on for the many occasions. I will dearly miss you as I miss my sister Manju. Benjamin Papu mama.

November 16 at 9:32 AM

CP

Chandrika Padmanabhan posted:

Dearest Anna I am missing you I thank Jesus for giving you as my older brother and companion in my days in Tulsa. I remember fondly our days Bangalore and the love and pride you had in you family I Thank and praise Jesus for giving me you and Manjula Anni as my family. I especially Thank Jesus for guiding you to have my daughter as your daughter-in-law and welcoming her into your family with open arms and loving her as your own daughter Love you Anna until we are going to meet again in the Joy and Peace of our Lord and savior Jesus yours chandrikamma

November 16 at 5:17 AM

RW

Renuka Williams posted:

Dear Periappa, We will miss you a lot. I will miss speaking about Tamil movies with you. You taught me how to have a healthy and tasty meals on a budget. A lesson I carry to this day. Hope to meet Manju Aunty and you - by the Grace and Mercy of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Love you! Rest in Peace! Your niece Renuma

November 16 at 5:13 AM

BH

Ben.Hanibal posted:

Dear Thatha, Your smiling face is still in our eyes. We can wipe away the tears from our eyes, but the ache in our heart will always stay. May your soul find eternal rest, you are one of the great motivations for all of us. We miss you. As you go to be with the Lord, we promise to carry along what you love the most. We loved you, but God loved you more. God has given you better place in his kingdom. May the soul rest in peace, secure that your legacy will continue living. We miss you. We continue our prayers for you. -Ben.Hanibal

November 16 at 4:50 AM



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RW

Renuka Williams posted:

Dear Periappa, We will miss you a lot. Totally enjoyed discussing Tamil movies with you. You taught me how to enjoy a good healthy and tasty meal on a budget! A valuable lesson that I carry to this day. Hope to meet both Manju aunty and you, by the Grace and Mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ - The Savior! Love you Rest in Peace! Your Niece, Renuma

November 16 at 4:49 AM

BH

Ben.Hanibal posted:

Dear Thatha, Your smiling face is always in our eyes. We can wipe away the tears from our eyes, but the ache in our heart will always stay. May your soul find eternal rest, you are one of the great motivations for all of us. We miss you. As you go to be with the Lord, we promise to carry along what you love the most. We loved you, but God loved you more. God has given you a better place in his kingdom. May the soul rest in peace, secure that your legacy will continue living. We miss you. We continue our prayers for you. Ben.Hanibal

November 16 at 4:42 AM

RW

Radhika Williams posted:

Dearest Periappa, Remembering you with the fondest memories. Manju aunty and you have always made me feel welcome in your home and family. I will miss our conversations in Tamil and not to forget your jokes. I will always cherish those moments spent with you where you have always encouraged me to do better. We miss you already and one this note for one last time - We love you. Until we meet again in the Joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ - your neice Rajima ❤️

November 15 at 4:26 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Anthony by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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