



Jim "Long Gone" Thomas

December 18, 1938 - October 4, 2015

No obituary found for this tribute.

Previous Events

Service

OCT **10**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Columbus High School
215 Hemlock Street
Columbus, MS 39702

Tribute Wall



“ Lee-Sykes Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jim "Long Gone" Thomas



Lee-Sykes Funeral Home - October 09, 2015 at 09:16 AM



“ Jim "Long Gone" Thomas

October 09, 2023 at 04:28 AM

AD

“ As I sit watching the semi finals today, my thoughts move back to another year when I was a young and impressionable student nurse. I had the honour of caring for Jim in the ER during football season following a leg injury prior to the one that brought about his retirement. We had several football players in during that shift. There were some with egos the size of the football field and attitudes to match. "Your Jim", on the other hand, was a total gentleman - kind, thoughtful and understanding in spite of the excruciating pain he was in that evening - which some of the most arrogant of them were not.

I have never forgotten him. Every football season he comes to mind again and it is one of my fondest memory of my student days. I am almost 70 now and he was only 8 years older than me at the time. From all that I experienced that evening, he was one of the finest gentlemen I've ever met.

I was thinking of him again today so googled him. I see that it's been over a year since he passed so I'm a bit late. I just thought I'd pass this memory forward.

*Thank you.
Alexis Drewicki*

Alexis Drewicki - November 20, 2016 at 06:26 PM

OG

“ Jim was an outstanding running back for the Edmonton Eskimos from 1963-1971. I got his autograph on two occasions as a kid (one on the back of a cigarette package) and they are among my most prized sports treasures. He was an explosive runner that brought fans out of their seats. Jim is the only player in CFL history to have two runs from the line of scrimmage of 100 yards or more (104 & 100 yards). I have often wondered why his name is not up on the 'Wall of Honor' at Commonwealth Stadium....up there with other greats such as Jackie Parker & Warren Moon. Perhaps the Eskimos will finally realize that this great player has been overlooked and honor him accordingly. My condolences to Jim's family. Once an Eskimo...always an Eskimo.
Oscar Gilbertson

oscar gilbertson - October 10, 2015 at 10:06 AM

SJ

“ I played for Coach T from 1983-1986. He always kept us in a good mood with his jokes and stories. He helped mold many lives over the years and I am truly thankful that he was a big part of my life. He meant a great deal to us as players and to the Ole Miss family!

Steve Joyner

Steve Joyner - October 10, 2015 at 09:50 AM

GK

“ My football hero of my youth is gone. "Long Gone" is a icon here in Edmonton Canada.
Thank you to the Thomas family for sharing Jim with us. What a running back ! What a great smile.
Deepest sympathies to his family and friends
Eskimo fan-Gerry Kordoski

Gerry Kordoski - October 09, 2015 at 11:03 AM

JS

“ *Jeanine Monroe and Christopher Starke purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jim "Long Gone" Thomas.*



Jeanine Monroe and Christopher Starke - October 09, 2015 at 10:30 AM

KC

“ *Jim Thomas was my first sports "hero" as a child in Edmonton Canada back in the 1960's. He was the star, and one of the few shining lights of what was a often struggling football team. He was an exciting player, and is still remembered fondly by this --now 60 year old -- former fan.*

My sympathy to his family and friends.

*Kevin Campbell
(Still from Edmonton Canada)*

Kevin Campbell - October 09, 2015 at 10:28 AM

OG

*A true legend in the proud & rich history of the Edmonton Eskimos.
Oscar Gilbertson*

oscar gilbertson - October 10, 2015 at 02:47 PM



As a kid in Edmonton I watched "Long Gone" with awe as he thrilled Eskimo fans with terrific speed and lifted a team wanting for inspiration- Thanks for the memories Jim!-Greg Plouffe

Greg Plouffe - January 20, 2016 at 11:09 PM

JT

I just learned of Coach Thomas' passing. He was one of the greatest running backs to play the game of football in any league. His career yards per carry average of 5.5 yards speaks for itself. My deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

John Turner, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

John Turner - November 03, 2016 at 09:31 PM

BH

"Long Gone" was the epitome of class, on & off the field. His passing was beyond tragic.

BRIAN J HAMILTON - November 22, 2022 at 09:31 PM



“ 45 files added to the album Life Tributes



Lee-Sykes Funeral Home - October 09, 2015 at 09:00 AM

JW

“ Please accept my sympathy and prayers. Coach T was a fine man and joyous man of integrity. He raised a fine family. He assisted in mentoring thousands of men with the characteristics tenacity, love, honor, humor and respect.

He will be sorely missed! Jay Webb

jay webb - October 09, 2015 at 08:01 AM

KD

“*Kimberly Danner lit a candle in memory of Jim
"Long Gone" Thomas*



Kimberly Danner - October 07, 2015 at 04:42 PM

KD

May God bless The Thomas Family. Love you all so very much!!!

Kimberly Danner - October 07, 2015 at 04:49 PM

TW

“*Coach T was a very special person in our lives and will be
remembered with much love and many smiles. We love you, Coach
T.*

Tom and Linda Windham - October 07, 2015 at 07:23 AM