



FOUR BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED TO NEW TERMS

Tim Imhoff, Carl Thompson, Ralph Oliver and Phil McMeins were elected to new 3-year terms at the OT Annual Meeting in November.

Imhoff is the director over the Midwest Electric Railway, Thompson - Gas Engines, Oliver - Tractors and Entertainment. McMeins is over Special Projects & Fundraising.

The board elected new officers at the board meeting that followed. Bob Welander—President; Bob Gerdes—VP; Phil McMeins—Secretary and Alan Buckert—Treasurer.



L to R: Tim Imhoff, Carl Thompson, Ralph Oliver and Phil McMeins pose for a photo at the 2023 OT Annual Meeting. All four were elected to new, four-year terms on the board.

ATTENTION CAMPERS!!!

For those campers who had a reserved spot in the Campground during the 2023 Reunion, letters will be mailed out January 4th asking if you want to reserve the same spot in 2024. Those forms MUST be returned by Friday, February 2nd if you want the same spot. Reservations open up to the public beginning Monday, February 5th.

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STAFF, BOARD, VOLUNTEERS DONATE TOYS



Midwest Old Settlers and Threshers Association Staff, Volunteers, and the Board of Directors worked together to donate toys for the Mt. Pleasant, Iowa Police Department Toy Drive. Pictured Left to Right are Julie Scott, Police Chief Lyle Murray, Grant Davidson, Rich Lanphier, and Terry McWilliams CEO.

Dear Friends of Old Threshers,

“Waiting Is Never A Waste of Time” – The longer you have to wait for something the more you will appreciate it when it finally arrives. The harder you have to fight for something. The more priceless it will become once you achieve it. And the more pain you have to endure on your journey, the sweeter the arrival at your destination. All good things are worth waiting for and worth the effort.

My Waiting Timeline:

- Years back – Ideas to expand the campgrounds, more 30 amp camping sites and 50-amp full-service sites
- Fall of 2020 – Camp Grounds southwest corner filled in for more level camping sites
- Chaff Winter 2021 – Looking ahead into 2022 and beyond for “Growth”
- Spring of 2022 – Board of Directors start setting our nickels and dimes aside for the “Growth”
- Summer of 2022 - 16 new 50-amp sites go in the southwest corner that was leveled in 2020
- Chaff Winter 2022 – Old Threshers Foundation Support for Trolley Car 1779 Repairs
- Chaff Winter 2022 – Looking at Growth. The big campground south 40 development plans with 30 new 30amp spots and 70 new 50amp, water, sewer, and hard surface parking sites. As well as trolley truck repairs for 1779 and purchase of another Milan style trolley car rolls out at an estimated \$1.2 million.
- Spring Chaff- 2023 – Destination Iowa Funds Awarded for the project “Campground and Transportation Development”, with Federal funds. Board of Directors give the green light on the projects.

Now the fun began, lots of paperwork, meetings, contracts, price quotes and bids, electrical needs and requirements, fencing, water lines, sewer lines, engineering designs, plans and secs, easements, more fundraising, grants, and individual donors. Did I mention lots of paper work? Permits, dates and deadlines, more paper work, and time delays and cost increases on a daily basis. State and Federal guidelines and regulations. In the last six months costed have risen to a new level of \$1.4 million for the project. Did you know that they make 6” three ring binders to hold paper work? I didn’t but I do now! The project is moving forward and I’m drowning in paperwork. But the wait will be worth it in the end!

Since, early November the project has been moving along at an exciting pace. I have started to fill a 5” binder now with more paper work. The fence portion in complete around the south end of the grounds and both trolleys are under way at Gomaco Trolley Company. Designs and plans are complete for the camping area! Transformers and electrical pedestals and supplies will be arriving soon. Water pipe and fire hydrants are on site awaiting. The man hole covers, sewer lines and hydrants all will be arriving soon.

It has been a long Wait, but will be exciting to have the camps sites open, get the open air 1779 trolley back on the tracks and the new Milan trolley car moving folks around at the Reunion and other events.

Thank you to my staff and the Board of Directors for another great year at Old Threshers.

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!



Terry McWilliams – CEO

PS – Check out a few of my latest photos on page 3



ANNUAL FESTIVAL LIGHTS UP THE OT CAMPGROUND

The Mount Pleasant Festival of Lights marks its 11th year of making the Old Threshers Campground a destination for thousands of visitors from November thru New Year's Eve.

Over a mile and a half of light displays line the terraces and offer viewing from both sides of the car.

It takes many volunteers to work the gate selling tickets and welcoming



2023 Miss Sweet 16 Charissa Wissmann volunteered at the Santa House as an elf.

people from 65 Iowa counties and 40 states. Thank you to everyone who made this event possible, especially the sponsors. Thanks to a grant from the Enhance



Pictured is one of the newest light displays. These reindeer are taking the ride of their lives on a trolley.

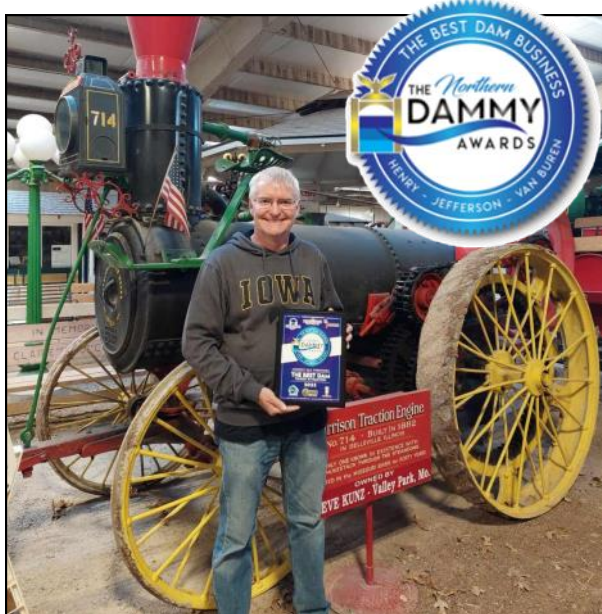
Henry County Foundation, a generous donation from the family of Wes and Gerry Barton, and proceeds from Festival of Lights, OT will be able to purchase the trolley display pictured above. This will ensure it stays in Mount Pleasant and won't rotate out with the other temporary displays.

The Festival of Lights continues through New Year's Eve. Gates open at 5:30pm with the last car admitted at 9pm. Cost is \$10 for a family vehicle, \$25 for limousines \$25, mini coaches \$30, motor coach \$60.

Santa will be in his house every night thru December 23rd.

THANK YOU!!

Grateful and honored to receive the Dammy Award for Best Tourist Attraction! Thank you to everyone who voted and supported us.



Terry shares some exciting photos with Chaff readers.

Can you tell what clues are being shared in the top photo?

The dirt is moving in the South 40!



WINNERS OF THE 2023 OT PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



1st Place: David Holtz, Stockton, Iowa



2nd Place: Christina Dunkin, Douds, IA



3rd Place: Michelle Bixler, Blandensville, IL

2023 MISS SWEET 16 CONTESTANTS ENJOY NEW HOME

The 2023 Miss Sweet 16 participants had the privilege of being the first group to be based out of a new location. The area behind the Camper Grocery Store was the perfect place to turn into "Sweet 16 central." The young ladies enjoyed a private, quiet place to gather, change clothes and take a break in what was once the Campground Hospitality Center. The new space allows for climate controlled storage of 250 dresses and crinolines. Previously, participants had to meet and dress in the OT office where there was little space and even less privacy. Thank you to coordinator Danielle Davidson and Rebekah Imhoff for all they do for the program.

They are always looking for more dresses. If you would like to donate. Or even sew some, please contact Danielle through the Old Threshers office at 319-385-8937.



Above: 2023 Sweet 16 participants gather around the 2022 Sweet 16 winners for their group photo.



Bottom Right: Congratulations to Miss Volunteer: Alexa Fuller; Miss Sweet 16 2023: Charissa Wissmann; 1st Runner up: Megan Lee; 2nd Runner up: Kaylee Knerr. And congratulations to all the participants. Everyone worked very hard to make visitors feel welcome.

CAMPGROUND/TRANSPORTATION PROJECT MOVES FORWARD

With help from a Destination Iowa Grant, Enhance Henry County Foundation Grant and financial support from the OT Foundation, Midwest Old Threshers was able to break ground in December.

Dirt work in the Campground South 40 has signaled the start of campground improvements as excavators started laying the groundwork for 80 full-hookup camping sites. If the winter remains mild, it is very possible the new sites will be available for the 2024 Reunion.

The GOMACO Trolley Co. is working on the open-air 1773 car belonging to the Midwest Electric Railway, as well as building a new Milan Car. Funding for both of these trolleys also came from

the OT Foundation and Destination Iowa Grant. The total cost of these improvements will be in excess of \$2 million.



2024 30-HOUR VOLUNTEER AWARD UNVEILED

The 2024 30-hour volunteer award was unveiled at the November Annual Meeting . The pencil drawing features the 2023 Miss Sweet 16 winners— from left to right—Miss Volunteer: Alexa Fuller; Miss Sweet 16 2023: Charissa Wissmann; 1st Runner up: Megan Lee; 2nd Runner up: Kaylee Knerr.

Those receiving the first 30-hour awards for 2024 were the dedicated volunteers from the Thrashers House of Terror. This group of people start building the haunted house just days after the end of the Reunion. Opening night is the first Thursday in October, which doesn't leave much time to get the job done.

Building the house is only the beginning. Managing the actors, nightly operations and tearing down and putting away is also part of the job description. And some of them are actors in the house as well, working for 13 nights, scaring thousands of visitors.



Thrashers House of Terror core volunteers received the first 30-hour awards for 2023. From left to right: Steve Tolander, Ron Fortune, Danielle Davidson, Vicki Durr, Seth Orr, Mike Kauffman and Abby Kauffman.

FEATURED AT THE 2024 OLD THRESHERS REUNION



2024 Featured Tractor
1936 Massey Harris
GP 4WD
Owned by: Tim & Konnie Pace of Muscatine, IA



2024 Featured Garden Tractor
1968
Massey Ferguson
MF10
Owned by: Alex Peterson of Mt.

2024 Featured Antique Truck
1919 REO Speed wagon Model F
Owned by: David Sewen of Kahoka, MO



2024 Featured Traction Steam Engine
1914 Advance
20HP
Owned by: Aaron Bixler of Blandinsville, IL



2024 Featured Antique Car
1927 Ford Model T Sedan
Owned by: Marc Thannert of New London, IA



2024 Featured Horse
"Miniature Horses"



2024 Featured Antique Gas Engine
Fractional
Horsepower Gas
Engines
Owned by: Reynolds Family of Mt. Pleasant, IA

2023 REUNION BRINGS RECORD CROWDS

Midwest Old Threshers recorded 36,640 hard ticket sales for the 2023 Reunion compared to 37,079 in 2022 making this year the second highest in attendance since 2011.

There were 624 gas engines exhibited, 88 traction steam engines, 1097 gas tractors, and 150 cars & trucks. Nine teams of horses competed in front of a packed grandstand during the Don Carlson Memorial Horsepull.

Five days of spectacular weather allowed for uninterrupted demonstrations throughout the grounds starting at 9am and continuing through the evening. All four nights of country music on the KILJ Grandstand Stage had record attendance as well.

All of the events organized by Old Threshers could not have been as successful as they were without the help of volunteers. There were a total of 41,895 volunteer hours in 2023 given by 1,175 volunteers. These are just the numbers recorded by those who turned in their hours. There are many more who help without recognition. Thank you all!



FACES OF THE 2023 OLD THRESHERS REUNION



"Share in the Smiles"

JUDY AND JIM KINNEY RECEIVE GOLDEN WHEAT AWARD

By AnnaMarie Ward

Reprinted courtesy of the Southeast Iowa Union

Lifetime Mt. Pleasant residents and Midwest Old Threshers Reunion supporters Jim and Judy Kinney received the Golden Wheat Award at a ceremony honoring a group of over 20 other Old Threshers volunteers over the weekend.

With hundreds of volunteers necessary to put together the Old Threshers Reunion each year, the board of the Old Threshers Foundation takes time out of their jam-packed reunion schedules to express their gratitude for the hard work, effort, time commitment, and dedication put forth by each of its volunteers.

After recognizing a total of 22 volunteers, Board President Todd Mabeus and board secretary Melinda Husinga presented Jim and Judy Kinney with the Golden Wheat Award for their service to the foundation board with their dedication to Midwest Old Threshers.

"This award is presented to major donors in the foundation and is one of the highest levels of recognition," Mabeus said.

"I know that Old Threshers is truly a reunion to them," Mabeus said.

Mabeus recounted growing up with Jim and gathering each year at his grandparent's house across Locust Street on the west side of the event grounds.

According to Mabeus, Judy also grew up at Old Threshers. She spent her time working in the church food tent where the Wright Food Pavilion is now.

Judy then started volunteering in the church kitchen making the First United Methodist Church's meatloaf and serving at the carousel throughout her adult life.

As a couple, the two sponsored the college intern working in the Old Threshers Foundation office in the summer of 2015 that designed the foundation's brochures currently used.

Much of Jim's activity with the reunion over the years includes financial contributions and work with his company Kinney and Sons Excavating and Grading.



OT Foundation CEO, Melinda Husinga (far left) and President, Todd Mabeus (far right), present Judy and Jim Kinney with the Golden Wheat Award during the 2023 Old Threshers Reunion.

"As just one of the many donations to the Foundation's Endowment, in 2016 Jim donated their undeveloped housing property in New London, Iowa which later sold leaving \$10,000 in proceeds to be invested," Mabeus shared.

The Kinneys also made significant contributions to the Santa House which opened during the Festival of Lights 2021.

"With all the support the Kinney's have given over the years, they are near being member of the Foundation's Preservation League, our highest honor for supporters having given over \$100,000," Mabeus said. "After being on the Old Threshers Foundation Board nearly since its inception in 1986, Jim retired from the board in November 2016."

The Kinney family remains active with the board, however, as their son Greg Kinney is now an elected member.



A Financial Support Organization for Midwest Old Threshers

WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT?

Can you tell what these things are? And if so, where can one find them during the Old Threshers Reunion?
Answers are at the bottom of page 11.

A



B



D



C



E



F



2024 Calendar of Events

Office Closed December 22-January 3rd, 2023
 January 4—Campground Letters Mailed Out
 February 2—Last Day to Renew Campground Reservations
 February 5—Campground Reservations Open to the Public
 February 19—Office Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day
 March 13—2024 Concert Announcement 6pm
 March 29—Office Closed in Observance of Good Friday
 April 24—Start of School Tours
 April 27-28—Steam School
 May 4-5—Steam School
 May 24-25—Greater Iowa Swap Meet & Collectibles Show | Gun Show 5/24-26
 June 1—Trolley School
 July 4—Community 4th of July Celebration
 July 17-22—Henry County Fair
 August 2-4—Western Illinois Threshers
 August 8-17—Iowa State Fair
 August 14—Reunion Briefing Meeting
 August 17—Campground Opens
 August 28—Harvest Day Parade
 August 29-September 2—2024 Midwest Old Threshers Reunion
 September 12-14—Printers' Fair
 October 3-5, 10-12, 17-19, 24-26, 31—Thrashers House of Terror
 October 11-12, 18-19, 25-26—Haunted Rails
 November 9—Old Threshers Annual Meeting | Foundation Annual Meeting
 November 23-24—Walk-thru Nights Festival of Lights
 November 27-December 31—Festival of Lights
 November 28-29—Office Closed for Thanksgiving
 December 21-January 5, 2025—Office Closed



OLD THRESHERS REUNION

Aug. 29 - Sept. 2, 2024 * Mount Pleasant, Iowa

WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT? FROM PAGE 10

A) Open air trolley 1718. B. Best looking manure spreader around located at the Mian Walk-in Gate. C) Linotype machine at Printers' Hall. D) Saw blade of the Sears Sawmill located east of Traction Steam HQ. E) BINGO board at the east end of Museum B. F) Smokestack of MCRR's #6.

OBITUARIES

Jerry Fricke

Jerry A. Fricke, 81, of Winfield, passed away August 20, at his home in Winfield.

Jerry Alden Fricke was born May 5, 1942, in Burlington, Iowa, the son of Charles Jr. and Ella Mae (Perrenoud) Fricke. He graduated from Mt. Union Consolidated School in 1960 and from Iowa State University in 1965. Jerry married Phyllis Kay McDonald and the couple later divorced. He was united in marriage to Patsy Jean Dunsmore Ross on February 28, 1987, in Mt. Union, Iowa.

After a start in ag product sales, Jerry returned to southeast Iowa where he farmed most of his life. Throughout his career, Jerry also pursued another passion as a builder and contractor. He was still working on several projects. Jerry enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting pheasant and quail. He placed great importance on conservation as he completed multiple improvements on his land. Jerry was always willing to quietly support or actively participate in a community project. He would give of his time, talents, or "big boy toys" to lend a hand up. Jerry served on many boards throughout the community including the WMU School, Sunrise Terrace, Prairie Ag Co-op, and Sheridan Cemetery. Jerry loved his family dearly and took great pride in being his grandchildren's #1 fan.

Jerry will be deeply missed by his wife, Pat Fricke of Winfield; children: Jerilyn (Allan) Luers of Middletown, Darin (Diana) Fricke of Winfield, Mason (Emily) Ross of Morning Sun, and Sam (Kelly) Ross of Wapello; grandchildren: Kate Luers; Grant (Metaija), Max (Alison), and Brock Fricke; Nolan Ross; and Brenton (Sadie), Evan, and Macoy Ross; sister, Sharon (Jerry) Davis of Salem; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorials may be directed to the Winfield First Responders or the Winfield Habitat for Humanity House. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.sandhfuneralservice.com.

Gary Burkey

Gary Wayne Burkey, 79, of Lockridge passed away at his home on October 13.

Gary was born on September 22, 1944, in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Kenneth C. and Lena I. (Brown) Burkey. He graduated with the class of 1962, from Mt. Pleasant High School. Gary worked for Blue Bird Midwest, McKay Envelope, Orscheln Farm & Home Supply and later retired from Midwest Old Threshers. He was a member of the Salem Congregational Church in Salem. Gary enjoyed spending time with the Lockridge coffee group in the afternoons.

He is survived by his sister, Elaine Bunge of Lowden, his two brothers, Ralph Burkey of Star, Idaho and Darrell Burkey of Franklinville, New Jersey along with several nieces and nephews.

Gary is preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial has been established in his memory.

Sara Siedel

Sara A. Siedel, 82, of Knoxville, Illinois died October 15, at Seminary Manor, Galesburg, Illinois.

She was born September 10, 1941, in Galesburg to Scott and Elma (Soper) Hamilton. She married Robert Greene in 1960. She later married Jack Siedel, May 3, 1975, in Galesburg. He preceded her in death July 4, 2020.

Surviving are two sons, Bryan (and Patti) Greene of Galesburg and Tim Greene (and King) of Galesburg, four grandchildren, Ashley Greene Gerstel, Ozzy Greene, Christopher Greene, and Megan Greene, four great grandchildren, and her four-legged child, Sadie. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Bob Morrison.

Sara graduated from Galesburg High School in 1959. She worked at Gale Product Outboard Marine Corporation in Galesburg. She later worked as a secretary for Knox College and NAPA Auto Parts, both in Galesburg. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Galesburg. She enjoyed making crafts

including stained glass, ceramics and embroidery. She also enjoyed growing flowers in her garden. Most of all Sara loved spending time with her family.

Sara volunteered at Vera's Souvenir Stand and helped in the Threshers office getting souvenirs ready for the Reunion.

Memorials may be made to the family.

Mary Keller Obituary

Mary Gwynn Keller, 92, of Donnellson, Iowa, went home to Heaven on November 24, at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Ft. Madison, Iowa.

She was born on March 2, 1931, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the daughter of James and Effie (Cone) Johnson. On January 21, 1949, she married John Ronald Keller in Billings, Montana. He passed away on March 22, 2018.

Survivors include their six children: Rhonda (Tom) Shouf of Palatine, Illinois, Stanley (Kathleen) Keller of Brookville, Indiana, Mickey (Rebecca Wright) Keller of Ft. Madison, Iowa, James Keller of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Calvin (Kimberly) Keller of Morning Sun, Iowa, and Teddy Ann (Paul) Van Velzer of DuBois, Wyoming; one sister: Sharon Stockton of Owatonna, Minnesota; fifteen grandchildren and forty-seven great grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband: Ron; her son: Mark; her daughter-in-law: Cyndi Keller; great granddaughter: Sarah Dane and grandson: Micah Keller.

Mary attended Embury United Methodist Church. She enjoyed Bible study and her faith was in the Lord Jesus Christ as her Savior. She enjoyed studying the genealogy of her family. The highlight of her year was being part of the Pioneer Village at the Old Threshers Reunion in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. She especially loved interacting with people as she sat on the log cabin porch playing her dulcimer.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in her memory for Backpack Ministries at Embury United Methodist Church

Continued on page 13

OT GOES BIG FOR THE LIGHTED HOLIDAY PARADE



This year's theme for the Mt. Pleasant Lighted Holiday Parade was Christmas songs. Of course, OT had to go big or go home for "Frosty the Snowman." Standing 22 ft in the air going through downtown Mt. Pleasant, the float won Best Community Entry.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season from all of us at Midwest Old Threshers.



OBITUARIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Harold E. Rebling, Jr.

Harold (George) Edmond Rebling, age 87, went to be with the Lord Thursday, December 7, at Parkview Care Center in Fairfield, IA. He was born June 11, 1936 in rural Jefferson County, IA to Harold A. Rebling and Mildred (Sinn) Rebling.

Harold graduated from Fairfield HS, class of 1954. He made the best decision of his life in marrying Beverly Jane Miller on October 9, 1955, at the Methodist Church in Brighton. They made their home and raised their family on their farm near Fairfield. Harold enjoyed many years of farming and carpentry work, and was also an avid hunter, never missing a season. He was always proud to share that he shot the first deer in Jefferson County in 1951. Harold was a natural-born storyteller who could get a whole room laughing in no time with his stories of growing up and getting into (mostly) harmless mischief. Some of his most legendary stories have been memorialized in a book compiled by his granddaughter.

Harold loved restoring old cars and displaying them every year at the Old Thresher's Reunion. The kids in his life shared many special moments with him riding in the rumble seat of his Model A. Twice his cars received the "Featured Auto Award" at Old Threshers, presented by the Southeast Iowa Antique Car Club, of which he was a long-time member and past president.

Harold will be deeply missed by his sons Bruce (Renee) Rebling, Alan (Vicki) Rebling, and daughter Kristine (Philip) Barker, grandchildren Aaron (Danielle), Rachel (Howard), Jenna (Shane), Nathan (Sidney), Allison, and five great-grandchildren, as well as siblings Paul (Donna), Norma, and Anna Mae.

He was preceded in death by his wife Beverly, parents Harold and Mildred, brother Donald, and sister Evelyn.

Memorials may be made to Word of Life Lutheran Church.

Elmer "Tom" Delaney, Jr.

Elmer Thomas "Tom" Delaney Jr., 80, of Cedar Rapids passed away unexpectedly from heart failure on December 11, at his home.

Tom is survived by his wife, Dorene; two sons, Thomas Delaney of Fairfax and Daniel Delaney of Minneapolis, MN; daughter, Joni Delaney of Cedar Rapids; two grandchildren, Alexis and Andrew Delaney; grand puppies, Ellie and Declan; brother, Ronald (Jan) Delaney; two sisters, Gayle (Frank) Gergely and Debbie (Don) Crane; step-siblings, David Miller and Leslie (Paul) Miller; two brothers-in-law, Duane (Frieda) Coonrod and Don (Shirley) Coonrod; sisters-in-law, Diane Spicer, Nancy Miller, Chris Miller and Deb Miller; aunt, Elaine Buol; nieces and nephews, Mike (Karen) Delaney, Denise (Brad) Sevcik, Zac (Amy) Crane, Kelly (Roberto) Ocasio, Michelle Crawford, Matt Miller,

Nate Miller, Heather Bell, Jeff Folkedahl, Jennifer Huggins, Jess Miller, Jill Miller, Sara (Jon) Eagle, Andrea (Josh) Prymek, Amber (Jim) Dostal, Colbi (Jermelle) Lewis, Karen Coonrod, Dana (Kris) Sjobakken, Kelly (Bill) Zbanek, Dean (Shelly) Spicer and Tracy (Dustin) Ehrman; and many great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Bernice Delaney; father and step-mother, Elmer and Betty Delaney Sr.; In-laws, Virgil and Lillian Coonrod; Keith Coonrod, David Spicer, Denise Spicer, Kim Coonrod, Bob Miller, Steve Miller and Linda Folkedahl; and many aunts and uncles.

Elmer Thomas was born on July 11, 1943 in Cedar Rapids the son of Elmer T. and Bernice Harms Delaney. He graduated from Regis High School in 1961. On September 23, 1967, Tom married Dorene Coonrod at St. Jude Catholic Church. He worked as an electrician for the IBEW Local 405 for 40 years and was a national and local board member for the Health and Welfare Pension Fund.

Tom was an avid hunter and fisherman and a member of the Izaak Walton League. He enjoyed watching westerns and the Molly B. Polka Party, and listening to 1950 to 1960s rock and roll. Tom liked to dance, play basketball, solve Sudoku puzzles and collect memorabilia. Above all, Elmer loved spending time with his family and his grand puppies.