



## Thomas Graham Staaden

May 7, 1936 - September 2, 2018

Longtime Siskiyou County resident Thomas G. Staaden passed away on September 2, 2018. He was 82 years old.

Tom was born in Racine, Wisconsin on May 7, 1936. In 1956, Tom enlisted in the United States Coast Guard and served on the USS Mackinaw icebreaker in the Great Lakes for two years. Also in 1956, at the age of 20, he married Sharon Sumpter. They were married for 53 years prior to her death in 2009.

Tom worked in factories for many years to support his family. In 1970, he decided to attend college. For two years he worked full time and attended school full time, finally achieving an Associate Degree in Computer Science. Upon completion of his degree, he was employed with the United States Forest Service in Milwaukee, Wisconsin as a computer programmer. After three promotions in three years, Tom transferred to Yreka and enjoyed working with the people of the Klamath National Forest for 26 years prior to his retirement in 1997. After retirement, and until last year, Tom worked in the Fire Cache during fire season, maintaining its computer system among other duties.

Tom was a talented and avid wood worker. Some of his accomplishments included two canoes and a dingy made from scratch in his back yard. Tom also enjoyed many sailing trips from San Francisco to Santa Cruz and Monterey with his son Tom and grandson Keith.

Tom and Sharon had two children, Thomas Staaden (wife Becky, sons Thomas and William Staaden) and Julaine (Julie) Hutchens (husband David, children Cathleen Hutchens, Keith Hutchens and Cori Hansen.) He also had five great grandchildren. Tom is also survived by two sisters, Gretchen Kriegel of Sacramento and L'Oree Conley of Westfield, Indiana.

A memorial service is planned for a later date.