



## Charles Edward Thomas

March 31, 1937 - August 15, 2024

Mr. Charles Edward Thomas, age 87, of Arab, Alabama, passed away on Thursday, August 15, 2024 at Hospice Family Care in Huntsville, AL. Charles was born in Marshall County, AL on March 31, 1937. He was the son of Rubin Ollie Thomas and Maude Lee Stone Thomas. At the age of 19 he married Betty Jo Johnson and they were blessed to share their lives for over 68 years. The two have lived in the Arab area for most of their lives and raised their family here. Charles was of the Baptist faith and served as a Deacon at Arab First Baptist Church. After Charles retired from NASA, the city of Arab was fortunate to have him as their Parks and Recreation Director for over fifteen years. He started coaching PeeWee football as part of the Rec. Dept. and continued coaching within the system for 44 seasons. He made a good many friends and will be missed by all.

Charles is survived by his loving wife, Betty Thomas; daughter, Debbie Thomas Williams; grandchildren, Nick Williams (Monique Williams) and Sawyer Williams (Rachel Williams); six great grandchildren, Lilly, Lucy, Barrett, Eva, River and Shepard; and brother, Rayburn Thomas.

Preceding Charles in death include his parents, Maude and Ollie Thomas; brothers, Joe Thomas, Winston Thomas, Donald Thomas, and Wilburn Thomas; sisters, Earnestine King and Allene King.

Services for Charles will be on Sunday, August 18, 2024 at Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel in Arab, Alabama. The family will receive friends and guest at a visitation from 1:00 p.m. until the funeral service begins at 2:00 p.m.

Brother Frank Whitaker and Dr. Paul Murphy will be officiating. Pallbearers escorting Charles to his final resting place in Arab Memorial Cemetery will be Nick Williams, Sawyer Williams, Brandon Thomas, Steve King, Phillip King, and Mike Thomas.

# Cemetery Details

## Arab Memorial Cemetery

565 South Main Street  
Arab, AL 35016

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 18. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel  
1340 North Main Street  
Arab, AL 35016  
(256) 586-4100

## Funeral Service

AUG 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel  
1340 North Main Street  
Arab, AL 35016  
(256) 586-4100

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel - August 18, 2024 at 02:02 PM



“ It was a blessing to have met Charles. I will remember him by the songs and laughter we shared... I will miss his smile ... rest in peace *BUDDY*

Maria Velazquez - August 18, 2024 at 11:50 AM



“ 18 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel - August 17, 2024 at 07:13 PM

KJ

“ Kenneth J. purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Charles Edward Thomas.



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**Kenneth J.** - August 17, 2024 at 08:56 AM

KJ

“ Kenneth J. planted a </store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518>>Memorial Tree</a> in honor of Charles Edward Thomas.

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**Kenneth J.** - August 17, 2024 at 08:56 AM