

JESUS CARES MINISTRIES

Restoring Individuals Marriages Families

PO Box 371 Chandler AZ 85244

Spring 2022 Newsletter

www.jesuscaresministries.org

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*"My flesh and my heart may fail,
But God is the rock and strength
of my heart and my portion
forever."*

Psalm 73:26



Filling the Voids...

Filling Tom's shoes is impossible. What he accomplished in his almost 66 years on this earth is a most beautiful legacy for all who knew and loved him. Replacing the voids he left would be a lifelong endeavor for me and this mission. We can, however, keep up the vision of seeking God's Kingdom first and being fully confident that all we need will be supplied! Every day and all day, God is showing Himself strong to us. The outpourings of blessings have not ceased. Tom's flesh may have failed, but God is now his forever portion. This passage means so much to me as I face the upheaval that grief brings to my soul. God is upholding me and for now, I am in a season of healing and recovery. We covet your prayers!

Send them out like arrows...



Evan aiming for the target



Don with the bow shooting crew.



"Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth." Psalm 127:4

One such blessing is a special couple whom we enjoyed getting to know in 2021. Tom had been teaching classes in our congregation and we had the pleasure of getting to know Don and Barb during this time. When Tom passed they were eager to see how they could fill the void and help out. Bow shooting was an activity that Tom enjoyed doing with some of the young men he was mentoring as well as with our grands.

My heart broke that this would not be available for them anymore. Well, Don and Barb stepped up, meeting up with a group of us for some safety lessons and tips. We culminated our event in Tom fashion with Bosa donuts for everyone! Thank you to this beautiful couple for helping me fulfill a deep desire to hold this event with these eager participants!

Saying Goodbye to My Earthly Hero...

A memorial to a good and faithful man

It is not often that people get to live with the person they most admire in life. I had this privilege and I am forever grateful. The genuineness of Tom's walk was something we watched daily. Saying goodbye with honor was not difficult. Many gathered at the memorial... new friends and old friends, helping, serving, and loving us through it all. Men who loved Tom worked quickly to set up that day. My daughters amazed me with their composure; the apple does not fall far from the tree. My heart was encouraged to see the richness of God's love lavished on all of us. Some made a fresh commitment to serve God more faithfully. Others are living for eternity with a greater fervency than ever. We are still hearing stories of how this memorial touched their hearts. We are so grateful that this moment was captured by our dear friends and Pastors, the Nelson family. Here is a link to the memorial for those who were unable to attend.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6-IZNH2jCs>

New Beginnings...

Last year we witnessed Catie being baptized. God was clearly pursuing this young lady. We had counseled and mentored her and released her to Gloria from New Turning Point for Women. She had some work to do identifying unhealthy relationships and establishing healthy ones. It was a joy to see her eventually find fellowship with a good community of people. Catie was growing! Sue Helen, her daughter, was also benefiting from this family of believers. This year, Gloria and I were able to enjoy the fruit of our labor as we witnessed Sue Helen taking the plunge into new life with Jesus.

Make new friends and keep the old. One is silver and the other gold...



Gloria, Sue Helen, and Catie at her baptism.

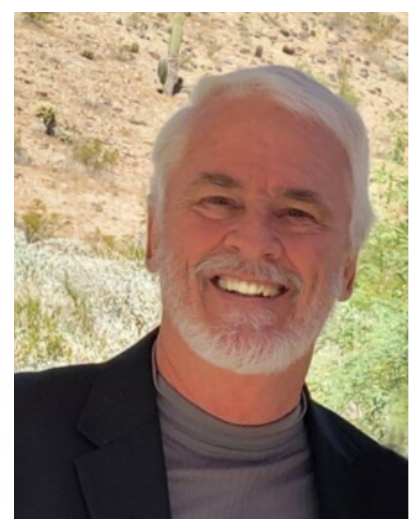
That little jingle was playing in my head weeks before Tom died. It has proven to be so true! Dinah and I go way back. We both were crazy enough to take in pregnant teens! We sometimes exchanged residents that needed a different environment and kept in touch sparsely throughout the years. She contacted me months ago to tell me of a new ministry endeavor she had begun. **Psalm 51 Ministry** is a beautiful outreach birthed miraculously in her heart after the death of her beloved husband of 46 years. Little did I know when I signed up for the retreat, I would soon join the ranks of widows along with Dinah. It was a beautiful four days up at the **Robin's Nest Retreat** in the cool country of Show Low. It turns out that this will be an additional training opportunity I will offer to women interning with Jesus Cares! Her words of comfort to me as a widow were invaluable. Watching her strength and the new ways God was using her was such a joy to my heart. Please don't hesitate to check out this beautiful ministry and the curriculum that focuses on breaking shame and living out an authentic Christian life before the Lord and others!

<https://www.psalmfifty.one> Dinah Monahan: dinah@psalmfifty.one



...to all family, friends, and neighbors who served, shared, and blessed us with gifts of love, prayers, and encouragement. The list is truly endless! You have shown us that truly.... **JESUS CARES!**

Thank you!



"...but a faithful man, who can find?"

Proverbs 20:6

Thomas Keith Strohm passed peacefully into glory on the 23rd of January, 2022, surrounded by his beloved wife and daughters. His legacy is more than can be recounted. The impact that he had on countless lives will continue for eternity.

One of four siblings born to Robert and Patricia Strohm, Tom deeply loved and respected his family. He began serving in business with his father at 14. His search for "more meaning" was fulfilled when Joe Augustine shared the simplicity of the gospel with Tom in 1976. It turned his life upside down and for those of us who were witnesses, it was very much like the conversion of Paul from the book of Acts. Leaving the businesses behind in New York, Tom ventured to Arizona sensing that the Lord was leading him and his wife, Doreen, into a new season. He worked as an accountant before entering full-time ministry in 1987.

It was soon after arriving in Arizona that he sensed the Lord's calling to open their home to pregnant teens. For over 30 years they housed teens and young adults, developing a full-service maternity home where over 500 women and children took refuge. A men's program was added years later at a complex in Tempe and then transitioned into a homeless recovery program. In the years that followed, they provided free counseling for marriages, individuals, and families, with the goal of restoration and rebuilding. Tom and Doreen wrote "Freedom's Journey" for recovering addicts, developed and taught countless seminars on grief and parenting, and launched and trained many for ministry.

Tom also had a passion for his local congregation, Beth Emanuel, where he served gratefully as an elder for the last 8 years. In addition to serving as president of the ministry he founded: Jesus Cares Ministries (jesuscaresministries.org), he also served joyfully on the boards of Fortified Marriages Ministry (<http://www.fortifiedmarriages.com>), New Creation Ministries, and Swaziserve Inc. (swaziserve.com).

Thomas "Keith" managed to do all that and raise four beautiful daughters. He loved his girls fiercely! These daughters were very involved in all the ministry's activities from their earliest memories. Sharing their mom and dad was often difficult, but they all considered it part of the beautiful heritage that was passed on to them. People coming and going, lives changing, stories of tragedy and triumph, and serving the broken was the family's call for each day! Tom managed to take time for each daughter. Family excursions were a regular part of his mission; he believed that modeling Jesus to his family and serving them was every bit as important and an integral part of his ministry calling. No family members felt neglected around Tom.

Tom enjoyed every one of his grandchildren (plus the multiple foster grands that he adored). Whether cooking for his grandbabies, taking them on little day trips, baking, camping out, bow shooting, fishing or just hanging out, "Papa" always had enough love to go around! He loved them all so well that each grandchild seemed convinced they were his "favorite." Monthly family worship Sundays were a time for him to continue his investments into his adult children and their husbands, whom he adored as his own sons. He was the real deal!!! A passion for Truth to be protected and the genuine to be upheld will always be what we admired so much

Tom was husband of 46 years to a wife whom he adored and cherished. He was a faithful father, fun papa, foster dad and grandpa to many, brother, friend, neighbor, and mentor. Thomas "Keith" was preceded in death by his father, Robert Strohm, and his sister-in-law, Pam. He blazed a trail into glory for those left behind: his treasured wife, Doreen; his pride and joy daughters, Stefanie, Christina, Melody, and Tiffany; beloved sons-in-law, Scott, Micah, William, and Christian; his "favorite" grandchildren, Petra, Joshua, Kailey, Esther, Alexis, Madi, Wyatt, Abi, Summer, Gavin, Elijah, Charlotte, Bennett, Liam, Breelynn, and Emalynn; his precious mama, Patricia Strohm, whom he adored; loved siblings, Robert Jr. (Sandy), Peter, and Patty (Phil) and all their children. He was a kind-hearted brother to his sisters-in-law, Denise, Chris, and Dawn, and a loving uncle to their children. Uncle Keith was a favorite! He also left behind countless spiritual sons and daughters.

The void is huge but the call is greater. The call to follow the Master is clear to all of us. Who can find a faithful man? We did and we will never be the same!



Thank you to all that donated to Jesus Cares Ministries in memory of Tom. Your donations are already at work. The memorial was an opportunity to honor Tom along with the hundreds of individuals who sowed graciously and loved lavishly over the years to make this ministry possible. Tom's passing marked 42 years in ministry. We are so grateful for this enduring legacy! We are so grateful to all of our supporters!

New friends and old friends...



ministry daughters in the faith...



In honor of Tom the "clown evangelist" Leslie cheered little hearts.

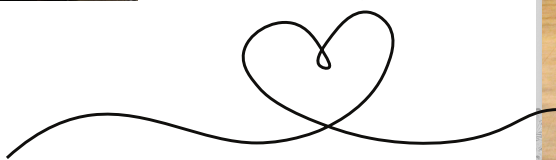
faithful and generous servants...



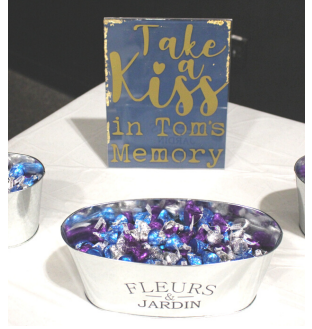
neighbors and family...



"Heaven on a Spoon" served Tom's favorite gelato!



So many came together to serve and to honor his life and legacy.



A chocolate kiss in his memory...



Memories comforted the grieving...

Tom will be forever missed and loved. I am grateful to God for allowing me to walk with this man in ministry. Countless lives have been changed by his influence including mine! Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of my Amazing Thomas!



Papa's snickerdoodles were a nice touch.



We gave out "Heaven" booklets by Randy Alcorn...Tom's new place of residence