



Mr. Arthur Thomas Isham

November 16, 1947 - July 30, 2024

Arthur "Pop" Thomas Isham, Sr., passed away at his home surrounded by family on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at the age of 76.

To his family, Arthur was everything. The glue that held them all together. They thought the world of him and knew he was there for them no matter what. He was a loving and caring husband, patient father, and the best Pop. Arthur will be missed greatly but his family will forever remember all the adventures and memories they had with him. Whether it was fishing, shooting, or just sitting and visiting.

Being one of the first engineers on large oil boats and an educator for many years he left his mark on this world and a lifelong impression on so many individuals. To many that knew Arthur, they may remember him as a hardworking and smart man.

Arthur was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie Diffie Isham and Ruth Elaine Partridge Isham; and brother, Charlie Dexter Isham.

Arthur is survived by his wife, Virginia Ann French Isham; sons, Arthur Thomas Isham Jr., and Patrick Benjamin Isham; granddaughters, Brittney Isham (Colin Jett), Jenny Isham (Lee Robeson), and Makail Dezauche (Hunter); grandson, Hunter Isham (Nevaeh); and his great grandchildren. He is also survived by his daughters-in-law Jan Isham and Kristie Neilsen.

A memorial/celebration of life service will be held at Theodore Church of God in Theodore, AL on Friday, August 09, 2024, at 2:00pm - 5:00pm.

Address for service:

Theodore Church of God - 6360 Theodore Dawes Rd, Theodore, AL 36582

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG 9. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Theodore Church of God
6360 Theodore Dawes Rd
Theodore , AL 36582

Tribute Wall

TR

“ Arthur saved my life... Here's my tribute to "Cousin Arthur"!

My name is Travis Rayner. I am married to Kathy Isham (Arthur's first cousin and daughter of Walter Isham...one of Arthur's Uncles). Back before I knew Kathy or any of the Isham's, there was an event. It was 1977. I was 21 years old and had been admitted to the Mobile Infirmary to have my tonsils removed. I was in a semi-private room. My roommate's name was Arthur. He was there to have hemorrhoid surgery. We were both scheduled to have our procedures the next day. He was about 8 years older than me and we enjoyed talking about all things water related, fishing, crabbing, boating, etc. We also had the running joke between us that as of tomorrow...he would be scared to sit on the toilet and I would be scared to try and eat anything.

After my tonsillectomy and back in my room I kept choking as I was still bleeding. Twice they tried to cauterize the surgical site to stop the bleeding. I used a notebook to write notes to Arthur and we kept checking on each other throughout the day. In the early evening, the nurse came in and they hung a bag of fluids on me. I questioned about being able to walk to the bathroom and the nurse put an extension on the IV bag. We both drifted off to sleep since it was after 10:00 PM.

Somewhere during the night, I woke up confused and basically unable to move. I felt as though I was dying...and that my life was quickly slipping away. I remember grabbing my glass of water from the over-bed table and threw it towards my roommate, Arthur. That is the last thing I remember as I slipped into an unconscious state.

My glass of water basically hit Arthur in his face...and he was quickly awakened and confused about this sudden splash of water in his face. He realized that I was not responding to his calls to me. He got out of bed and shook me...I didn't respond. He hit the call button and started yelling for help. He said they removed me quickly as they talked about the blood that was on the floor (it wasn't until

later that the blood thing came to light). I was taken to an operating room where they did an emergency blood transfusion. Later when I was regaining consciousness, I was surrounded by a number of doctors and nurses. Slowly I became more aware that something bad must have happened to Arthur and that is why they were protecting me from...something! As I slowly became more alert, that was when I realized that I was the problem! When I was returned to our room that was when I noted that Arthur and I were in a different room.

As it turns out...when the nurse hooked up my IV extension hose, something came loose and basically I was bleeding out through my IV and onto the floor. The blood continued to leave my body and thankfully (and I will say, with God's almighty hand) I woke up just enough to throw a glass of water!

Arthur said that the floor was covered in blood...a LOT of blood! He also thought that I had died. I remember him hugging me and he laughed about the fact that he still hadn't gone to the bathroom...but knew that time was close! LOL

11 years later (Kathy and I had married) while we were attending a family gathering at her Dad's house, I was being introduced to a lot of the family that I had not previously met. I was introduced to a man named Arthur. We both commended that we looked familiar to each other. After quite some time we both looked at each other and at the same time I pointed to him and said "hemorrhoids" as he pointed to me and said "tonsils!" We both grabbed each other and hugged...I was brought to tears.

I credit God for watching over me and for placing Arthur in the right place at the right time. I believe there is a reason, on many levels, that we shared the same hospital room and were later reunited at an Isham family gathering! As I write this, I am moved to tears and again give thanks for God putting Arthur in my room at the hospital so that he could be instrumental in saving my life.