



Thomas B. Cates

June 8, 1939 - August 7, 2025

Thomas B. Cates, age 86, resident of Carneys Point, died on August 7, 2025. Born in Wilmington DE, he was the son of Walter and Doris Cates. Tom, as he was called, served in the United States Navy, Seaman 1957–1960 and was honorably discharged.

Tom was educated in the Penns Grove/Carneys Point schools. He attended the University of Alaska Fairbanks, majoring in Wildlife Management, Matanuska-Susitna Community College, and State of Alaska Division of Aviation: Fairbanks International Airport for Basic Firefighting, Police training. Tom had his pilot license and owned a single engine airplane. He enjoyed flying over many beautiful lakes, mountains and wildlife in Alaska.

Tom had many jobs after leaving the Navy.

E&R Motor Parts Penns Grove for 4 years. He moved to Alaska, where he lived for over 20 years, employed as an equipment operator, carpenter, driver, forklift operator, Fire Fighter Squad Boss, warehouseman for Alyeska Pipeline Project, Alaska Airlines, and State of Alaska Dept of Fish & Game Division (this was his favorite job). Coming back east, he was employed by E.I. DuPont Co in Boothwyn, PA as a printer operator.

Tom is survived by his sister Linda of Carneys Point and his daughter Lois of Washington State.

He was predeceased by his parents Walter and Doris Cates and his brother Walter Cates Jr.

Tom requested that he not have a funeral. Interment will be at Eglington

Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Eglington Cemetery

320 Kings Highway
Clarksboro, NJ 08023
(856) 423-0165

Tribute Wall



“ *Carol Molinari Monks lit a candle in memory of Thomas B. Cates*



Carol Molinari Monks - August 09, 2025 at 07:06 PM