



# Thomas Charles Derocher

JUN 22, 1940 - SEP 30, 2016



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## Thomas Charles Derocher

JUN 22, 1940 - SEP 30, 2016

**T**homas Charles Derocher, age 76, of East China Twp., died September 30, 2016. He was born June 22, 1940 in Pontiac, Michigan.

Tom was a general contractor for over 50 years. He owned and operated Derocher Construction. Tom constructed residential and commercial buildings throughout the lower half of Michigan. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Marysville Council.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years Carole Piper, his children; Tom (Cathy) Derocher, Bill (Bobbi) Derocher, Lisa (John) Herring, Cheri (Matt) Ritter and Katie (Ray) Soerries, step children; Julianne Boulier, Amy (Jeff) Hill, Victoria Maynard and Shannon Piper, 23 grandchildren, three great grandchildren, Patricia Derocher, two sisters and a brother.

He was preceded in death by his son Douglas Derocher, step son Michael Piper and a brother.

Mass of Resurrection will be Thursday October 6th at 12:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Our Lady on the River Parish, Marine City. Visiting hours are Wednesday 2 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m. at Young Funeral Home, China Twp. with a rosary recital at 7 p.m. and Thursday 10:30 to 12:15 at church prior to mass.

In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society. To leave a message of comfort please visit [www.youngcolonial.com](http://www.youngcolonial.com)



# Events

**Thomas Charles Derocher**

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## Visitation

**Wednesday**, October 5, 2016

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM ET

**Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI



## Visitation

**Wednesday**, October 5, 2016

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM ET

**Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI

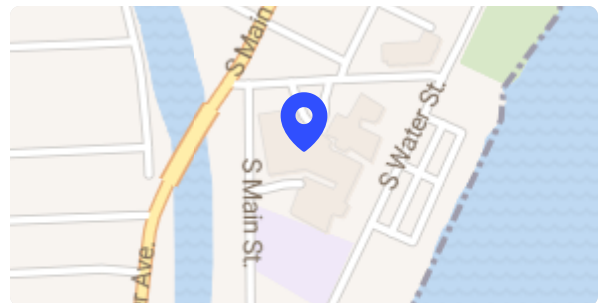


## Visitation

**Thursday**, October 6, 2016

10:30 AM - 12:15 PM ET

**Holy Cross Catholic Church, Our Lady on the River Parish**  
610 Water St., Marine city MI 48039

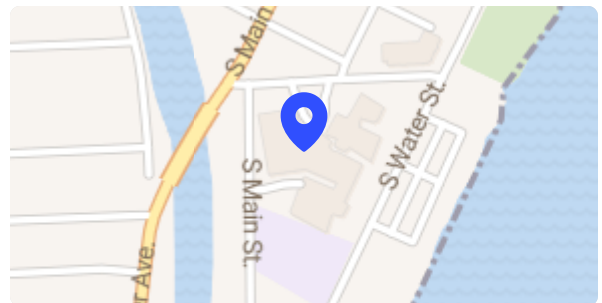


## Funeral Mass

**Thursday**, October 6, 2016

12:30 PM ET

**Holy Cross Catholic Church, Our Lady on the River Parish**  
610 Water St., Marine city MI 48039






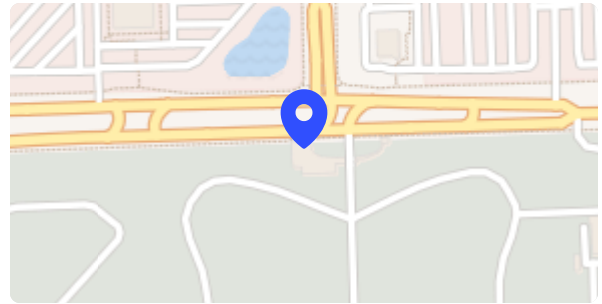
## Events

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### Cemetery Details

 **White Chapel Memorial Park Cemetery**  
621 W. Long Lake Rd., Troy MI 48098





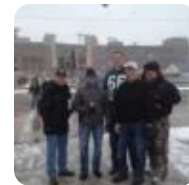
# Tribute Wall

**Thomas Charles Derocher**

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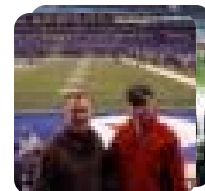
**Tom Derocher** shared an album called **New Album Name.**



October 18 at 9:27 AM



**Tom Derocher** shared an album called **New Album Name.**



October 17 at 6:46 AM



**Ben Quattrone** posted:

Tom became a good friend and advisor to me in just the couple years I knew him. It was immediately obvious to me that he was a hard working, honorable and well respected man. I will always remember his commitment to excellence and his continuous positive attitude about everything he was involved with. Please accept my deepest condolences for the loss of such a good man. we will miss him. Ben Quattrone and the Champaign Automotive Team

October 11 at 10:58 AM



**Front Range Honda** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Derocher family.



October 5 at 7:14 AM



**Jordan And Joshua Rataj** lit a candle in honor of Thomas.



October 4 at 6:32 PM



**Shannon & Julia Piper** lit a candle in honor of Thomas.



October 4 at 4:51 PM



# Tribute Wall

**Thomas Charles Derocher**

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**Tom And Kay Gilbert** posted:

Dear Carole and family, We were so very sad and sorry to hear of Tom's passing. Although no words can really help to ease your loss, know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. You have our heartfelt sympathy, Tom and Kay Gilbert

October 4 at 11:41 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Fiery Lily and Rose to the Derocher family.



October 4 at 9:01 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Lily and Rose Tribute Spray to the Derocher family.



October 4 at 8:56 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Magnificent Life Spray to the Derocher family.



October 4 at 5:38 AM



**John Flanagan** posted:

I only knew Tom from working with him on projects that he oversaw at our dealership. He was passionate about what he did. if it wasn't "just right" he would make sure it was fixed or redone till he was satisfied. We never had to worry about anything because we knew Tom's standards were as high if not higher than our own. The crews that came in spoke of him with great respect. We heard several times, " make sure it's done right, Tom won't have it any other way." I would imagine the rest of the things in his life were treated the same way. That is not a trait you can turn on and off. Tom was very kind, fair, efficient, positive and even when he moving at his brisk pace he would take time to end with a smile and or a little bit of humor. You don't meet to many people these days that WOW you with how they are and how they do their job. Tom was definitely one of those rare WOW people, and I felt privileged to know and work with. My deepest sympathy goes out to your family. My family and I will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. John Flanagan, Milnes Chevrolet Imlay City Michigan

October 4 at 4:42 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Susan Carrier-Winzer** posted:

Carole and Family, Our hearts go out to you during this very difficult time. Keeping you in our warmest thoughts and prayers. Chuck and Susie Winzer

October 4 at 3:50 AM



**Joann Lalonde Morandini** posted:

Carole my name is JoAnn LaLonde Morandini and I would like to say how sorry I am on hearing of Tom's passing. He was my parents next door neighbor and was very sweet to the both of them especially my dad. I would like to say they were pals despite their age difference. I remember the story when Tom moved in and thought he had hit the jack pot- a older couple lived next door- things would be quiet. Then one Saturday the 11 of us showed up with our spouses and all our kids and had an Olympic family reunion. That jack pot wasn't looking so good after all. It all ended well and Tom was a great neighbor to Veronica and Joe. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.Hugs, JoAnn LaLonde Morandini

October 4 at 2:35 AM



**Serra Buick Gmc Cadillac Kia - Washington Township** sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Derocher family.



October 3 at 8:48 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sweet Remembrance Spray to the Derocher family.



October 3 at 6:37 AM



**Brian Sugar** posted:

Tom was an amazing man ,a true gentleman . I very much enjoyed his company and our talks., He was one of the most energetic , honest ,caring and competent person I have come to know. He demanded the best of people and that is exactly what he gave back to all . Heaven just got a lot better. See you on the other side .Brian Sugar Al Serra Auto Plaza

October 2 at 4:21 PM



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**Jerry Colten** posted:

Tom was great to me. For many years I have worked as a General Manager for Serra Automotive. I've had to do endless construction projects which I knew almost nothing about. Tom helped me with everyone and never lost his patience with my ignorance of the situation. He would smile, take his time, and explain it to me. I had the pleasure one day of us working a 12 hour day and then grabbing a late dinner. After eating dinner, he said, "I think I'll have dessert tonight-I'm 65 today". Just typical Tom-he had never mentioned the birthday all day. It was just another day of hard work for him. He was a tremendous inspiration and I will miss him. Jerry Colten-Colorado Springs

October 2 at 3:14 PM



## Tribute Wall

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SM

**Susan Macinnis** posted:

I have three favorite uncles in my life. They happen to be on my momma's side of the family. My uncle Joe passed a few years back. He knew Jesus as Lord and Savior so I know he is with Jesus. Now yesterday another one of my favorite uncles went home to be with Jesus. I am sad for his family as they are dealing with this loss. I am praying for God to comfort them during this heart aching time. I loved Uncle Tom so much. He had a very special spot in my heart. He even let me pray with him to receive Jesus as Lord Savior when I was in high school. I know there was a celebration and welcoming party for his going home ( Doug, Grandma Katie, Grandpa AL, Uncle Joe...) I am reminded continually that earth is not our home. We have a hope if we know Jesus as Lord and Savior that we will see again those loved ones of ours that also know Jesus as Lord and Savior. That gives me comfort. I look forward to that day. My hope, heart, peace, everything that I need is in my Jesus. Without Him I am as good as dead. With Him I live in joy and peace. He is the protector of my heart and my life. I want to be in step with Him and always in His time and will. We do not understand. But I Trust in Him. Hebrews 13:14 New Living Translation (NLT) 14 For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come. Heehee his favorite niece Susan.

October 2 at 8:15 AM

TM

**Ted Moss** October 5 at 8:10 PM

Tom's relatives and loved ones who read this, will not know me, as I am just one of many vendors that work on dozens of projects with Tom over many years. I would say that I did not know him personally, but anyone who did business with Tom over any length of time, knew him personally. He shared with great earnest, stories of the family he loved and his opinions about what was happening in world events. He was an open and honest man with unusually great passion and great heart. Commercial construction is a tough business and Tom, while always up to the challenge, was a man of fierce loyalty to the clients he served as well as the vendors he called upon to help him provide that service. He was demanding but highly ethical. This can seldom be said, and in this, Tom was definitely the exception to the rule. I am sure these characteristics were evident in his personal life, but the truly unique thing about Tom (and in my 30 years in Commercial Construct, I have never seen before or since) was his genuine and heart felt concern for fairness and equity with all who worked with him. He was truly one of a kind and I was privileged to have known him along the way. So one last time..."Thanks Tom, you are a pretty cool guy." My sincere condolences & blessings to all his friends and family & I am sure you will all carry a little bit of Tom forward with you, to share, like he did with us. Ted Moss

TB

**Tim Baldrige** October 5 at 6:19 AM

To the Derocher Family, Please accept my deepest condolences for the loss of Tom. He was a good man, who loved life, and it was a honor and pleasure to have known him, and to have his assistance in our projects here at the dealership. He was a friend, and I will always remember the lessons he taught me, and the good person he was. Rest in Peace. Tim Baldrige



## Tribute Wall

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**Don Schaffer** October 5 at 5:44 AM

To the Derocher Family - Our sincere sympathies for our loss of Tom. I had the opportunity over the last several years to work with Tom on his dealership projects. Tom's remarkable energy and drive was fueled by his passion to exceed his customers expectations, which he always somehow did. And Tom always made sure you clearly understood what his expectations were - with his favorite ending comment - "you know what I mean, right". His wry sense of humor and great big smile will be sadly missed by all of us. Don Schaffer  
Keen Technical Solutions



**Genevieve Hamlin** October 3 at 11:42 AM

So sorry Carole and family. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Jenny Hamlin



Tom Derocher shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

October 18 at 9:27 AM



With Dad at the Green Bay game



Tom Derocher shared 2 photos to the **New Album Name** album.

October 17 at 6:46 AM



With Dad in Denver



With Dad in Indianapolis



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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