



Thomas "Tom" Rodrick Hardy

January 17, 1940 - October 26, 2025

Thomas "Tom" Rodrick Hardy, 85, of Diana, Tennessee passed away peacefully on October 26, 2025 in Sheffield, Alabama.

He was born on January 17, 1940 in Vance, Alabama to Russell and Gerella Hardy. He joined the Navy in 1957, served in Vietnam and retired after 20 years as a Chief Petty Officer. Following his military retirement, he moved his young family to Diana, Tennessee where he lived on the same farm for the next 47 years. Utilizing his naval experience, he began working on offshore oil rigs and drilling ships and eventually becoming a master mariner and serving as captain aboard the JOIDES Resolution a 471-foot research vessel. During his career, he traveled the world many times over, always to return home to his farm in Diana.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, Dean Hardy and John Hardy and his beloved wife of 57 years, Ocie J. Hardy. He is survived by his loving children, daughter Sherry (Mike) Sands, son Tom (Scarlet) Hardy, and son Danny (Melissa) Hardy. He is also survived by six loving grandchildren: Leslie (Lane) Perry, Lillie (William) Snuggs, Samantha (Luke) Anthony, Haley (Britton Kennamore) Sands, Shannon (Logan Brown) Hardy, and Jack Hardy. He is survived by two great-grandchildren, Maverick Perry and Henry Anthony. A private family memorial service will be held at a later date.

Bennett-May & Pierce Funeral Home is in charge of all arrangements for Thomas "Tom" Rodrick Hardy.

Tribute Wall

PM

“ Like all sailors, Tom had a family at home and a family at sea. I sailed all over the world for many years with Capt. Tom and I know his family meant everything to him. I had an immense amount of respect for him as a shipmate and as a friend. I was very sorry to hear of his passing and my prayers and condolences go out to his family.

Fair Winds and Following Seas Capt. Tom

*Capt. Pete Mowat
Halifax, Nova Scotia*

Peter Mowat - November 06, 2025 at 08:12 PM

DH

“ Danny, Sherry and the rest of the family I am so sorry for yalls loss. Prayers for you all and the whole family.



Dale Hargrove - October 29, 2025 at 07:26 PM

CS

“ My memory of Tom Hardy was taking care of his much beloved Joey. Sympathy to his surviving children..grandchildren and friends

Caroline Scoggin - October 29, 2025 at 06:06 PM

RF

“ Tom was a very honorable man and What a service to his country and working career. The same could be said for about his children ex specially Danny and the others
Good bless.
Roy Griggs

Roy Griggs and family - October 29, 2025 at 02:47 PM

DS

“ So sorry about the passing of Mr Hardy

Donald Simmons

Donald Simmons - October 29, 2025 at 12:56 PM

CB

“ Such an amazing career Mr. Hardy had.

Cindy Brindley - October 29, 2025 at 11:52 AM

CN

“ Charlie And Margaret Norwood lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Rodrick Hardy



Charlie and Margaret Norwood - October 29, 2025 at 09:51 AM

TB

“ So sorry for your loss.

Toby Barrett - October 28, 2025 at 11:02 PM



“ *I have so many childhood memories of Tom and his family. My love and prayers are with the family during this hard time.* ”

Lachelle Bee Fry - October 28, 2025 at 07:51 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Prayers for you and your family and friends.* ”

Lisa Glover - October 28, 2025 at 06:16 PM