

Invictus

By William Ernest Henley

**Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.**

**In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.**

**Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.**

**It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.**

Celebrating **THE LIFE OF**



**MAJOR IRA BEYNON THOMAS, JR
US ARMY, RETIRED**

July 2, 1947 - August 30, 2021



RUGGLES-WILCOX
FUNERAL HOME
(870) 246-4551 • 517 CLAY STREET • ARKADAPLHIA, AR 71923

www.ruggleswilcox.com

Major Ira Beynon Thomas, Jr, US Army, Retired, age 74, of Gurdon, passed away August 30, 2021. He was born July 2, 1947, to the late Ira Beynon Thomas, Sr. and Annie Viola (Smith) Thomas in Prescott. Ira is also preceded in death by two sisters, Mary Ann and Judith, and two half-sisters, Marjarie and Joyce.

Ira retired from the US Army after 20 years of honorable service as a Military Intelligence Officer. If you drove past Ira and Sylvia's house, you would know that Ira took great care of his yard and landscaping.

Ira is survived by his wife of 49 years, Sylvia Vallet Thomas; son, Chad Beynon Thomas and wife Galey of Hattiesburg, MS; two granddaughters, Tatum (9) and Tenley (6) Thomas; three sisters, Iris, Ruth, and Annette; three fur-babies, Charlie, Rudy, and Maizie; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

Funeral Service will be 10AM, Friday, September 3, 2021, at Ruggles-Wilcox Funeral Home, 517 Clay St, Arkadelphia, AR 71923. Burial to follow at Harts Chapel Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour prior to service

The family would like to thank Elite Hospice and the VA Hospital oncology and hematology departments for their love and care for Ira.

Memorials may be made to Harts Chapel Cemetery Association, 272 Curtis Rd, Gurdon, AR 71743 or to a charity of your choice.



Order of Service for Celebration of Life

Song

"How Great Thou Art"
Mr. Jason Newton

Eulogies

Mr. John M. Tatum II
Mr. Chad B. Thomas

Song

"America the Beautiful"
Mr. Jason Newton

Interment will be held at Hart's Chapel Cemetery, with Military Honors, following the service.