



Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025



Scan to Visit

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6



Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

Thomas Gregory Faist, age 66, of Hilliard, Ohio, passed away peacefully on the evening of May 17, 2025, at The Convallarium of Dublin, after battling cancer for a year.

Born on September 24, 1958, in Columbus, Ohio, Tom was the oldest of four sons of Donald and Patricia (O'Brien) Faist. A lifelong resident of Columbus, Tom graduated from Bishop Watterson High School and from The Ohio State University with a degree in Industrial Design.

In 1987, he married the love of his life, Diane Reed, after meeting as co-workers at McAlister Camera. They are blessed with two adored children, Michael and Katie.

Tom had many lifelong passions, including photography, design, technology, science fiction, football, desktop publishing, camping, travel, and classic cars like the Ford Model A.

In his personal and professional life, Tom loved to help people learn to use new technology. As a pioneer at the dawn of desktop publishing in the 1980s, he co-founded the MacDesigners/Digital Designers Users Group (D2G) in Columbus and authored two books on graphic design for Macromedia Press. He was one of Micro Center's earliest publishing instructors, teaching first in their Columbus store in 1988, and later at their Marietta, Georgia location in 1989.

When Tom returned to Columbus, he joined Bill "B.J." Van de Velde—Dean of Advertising and Graphic Design at the Columbus College of Art and Design (CCAD)—to create their original program for desktop publishing. He purchased early Macintosh computers, developed curriculum, and hired instructors. He taught software such as PageMaker, Illustrator, and Photoshop to college students and digital technology to kids at CCAD's Saturday morning art classes.

Tom's passion for technology and education earned him the role of Director of Information Technology at CCAD, where he contributed to multiple disciplines at the school. At home, he



Obituary

Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

shared his expertise enthusiastically, raising two tech-savvy kids and two of the most iPad-proficient octogenarians the world has ever seen: his mother, Pat, and mother-in-law B.J. Moran. He also enjoyed working as a Genius at the Apple Store at Easton and as a computer specialist with the Upper Arlington City Schools.

Tom was known for his big heart, hearty laugh, friendly smile, and constant willingness to help anyone in need. As the oldest of four, he shared a lifetime of stories with his brothers. While each tale usually ended with one brother at fault, they bonded over a shared, good-natured sense of humor.

He was a devoted and loving husband who supported Diane through life's highs and lows. Together, they embarked on trips to Europe and Hawaii, and took cross-country road trips to national parks like Glacier, Yellowstone, and Grand Teton—creating unforgettable (and well-photographed) family memories.

He loved being a dad: supporting Katie and Michael through soccer games, scouting trips, new pets, cross-country moves, and everything else life had to offer.

Tom made cherished friends wherever he went and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his father, Donald; father-in-law, Thomas E. Reed; and dear golden retriever, Emmie.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Diane; son, Michael; daughter, Katie; mother, Pat; brothers, Craig (Lori), Douglas (Sandy), and Steven (Cami); mother-in-law, B.J. Moran; brothers-in-law, Steve (Lynn) and Andy (Jenny); nieces and nephews; cousins; dear friend, B.J. Van de Velde (“Vandy”) of CCAD; sweet dog, Dasher, and lively grand-dog, Ranger.

A Celebration of Life for Tom will be held on September 26th, 2025, at Cedar Ridge Lodge at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park in Columbus. For details, please email: celebratingtomfaist@gmail.com

In remembrance and celebration of Tom, pet your dog, do a good deed, take a photo, share a laugh, or call a friend to say you care.



Events


Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

Celebration of Life

 **Friday**, September 26, 2025

 **Cedar Ridge Lodge at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park**
OH

 Please email family for details: celebratingtomfaist@gmail.com



Tribute Wall

Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

JB

Jacob B posted:

I worked with Tom while at Upper Arlington, he was a great mentor and a wise counsel while we worked together. I always admired his work ethic, it was always a great reminder to be a man of integrity. I'll hold on to that forever, love you Tom! Rest in peace.

May 27 at 10:59 AM

SC

Stephanie Collins posted:

Tom was so helpful to me as I took on a new role. He obviously loved his family and spoke about them often. I envied all his trips out west. He was a huge loss to us and I'm so sorry for your loss.

May 27 at 2:42 AM

TG

Tim Grady May 27 at 10:16 AM

Prayers & Blessings to you Diane, Michael & Katie, dear cousins all, and all your family & friends on the 'passing into Paradise' of your Beloved husband & dad Tom... on behalf of the extended Hartings Family, our profound sympathies, prayers & condolences to you all! May God's Hands hold Tom with Eternal Love, Amen!

HH

Hannah Hart posted:

Tom was one of a kind and made me feel so at home working at Apple. My best working days were with him. I have never met a man so gentle, kind, and loving to every single human they meet. Tom will be so miss and surely never forgotten. Sending so much love and comfort to his family. ❤️ I am so very sorry for your loss.

May 26 at 8:32 PM

AB

Andrea Brown posted:

Tom had the kindest soul. His passion for technology, positivity, and care for others was unmatched. I will miss seeing his smile in our school hallways at Greensview. Sending big hugs and prayers to the Faist family and friends.

May 26 at 5:37 PM



Tribute Wall

Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

DT

Deborah Tarr posted:

I worked with Tom in Upper Arlington Schools. His patience was unmatched, even when I'm sure he'd heard the same question a thousand times. He was always kind and willing to explain something in terms that even an English teacher could understand. I've missed his smile and his positive spirit. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

May 24 at 2:43 PM

AN

Amanda Neighbarger posted:

Tom made the best pancakes. Growing up as an extended child in the Faist household meant pancakes in the mornings after sleepovers and Speedway freezies on movie nights. The perfect crispy, buttery, and fluffy pancakes were nothing short of perfection. He would even make some without chocolate chips because he knew I liked mine plain. Tom was nothing short of a great Dad and he had the most contagious laugh. My childhood wouldn't be what it was without him.

May 24 at 7:43 AM

NM

Nicole Morgan posted:

Tom will be missed! He was such a genuinely nice person! Always so caring, kind and helpful. I enjoyed working with him! Rest in Peace friend!

May 24 at 1:32 AM

KB

Katie Brownfield posted:

I have such lovely memories of my interactions with Tom at Greensview and Wickliffe; he was consistently kind, calm and deeply warm and present. He is missed. Sending love to his family and all touched by this very sad loss.

May 23 at 11:25 AM

CB

Christy B. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.



May 23 at 11:16 AM



Tribute Wall

Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

CD

Connie & Bill Dohan planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.



May 23 at 6:41 AM

CD

Connie & Bill Dohan sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Faist family.



May 23 at 6:41 AM

JM

Jill Merkle posted:

Tom and I had the pleasure of working together for several years in Upper Arlington City Schools. He had a deep knowledge of technology and was always willing to lend a hand with patience and kindness. What stood out most about Tom was his genuine warmth. He had the kindest smile and a heart to match. He was a true family man and often spoke lovingly about his wife and children. Tom made those around him feel supported and valued. He will be missed more than words can express

May 22 at 10:06 AM

DR

Drew posted:

I worked with Tom at Apple for 2 years. He was so much more than a co-worker. He always remembered our talks and asked how my family was doing every time he saw me. He was so funny and his role in life was to be a light to everyone, and he always will be. My prayers and condolences to his family.

May 22 at 8:02 AM

AF

Amy Ford posted:

Tom was a blessing to our school. Unfailingly kind and able to make every problem not only solvable but a chance to learn something new. Talking with him about his family made my heart warm as the great love he felt shone through. His goodness will be missed.

May 22 at 7:19 AM



Tribute Wall

Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

KA

Kasey Althouse posted:

I had the pleasure of working with Tom during his time at Upper Arlington. He was the kindest man with the warmest smile. His passion for technology helped many students and staff. He will be greatly missed!

May 22 at 6:58 AM

AY

Angel Y posted:

I had the pleasure of working with Tom at Apple and he was such a sweet sweet soul, kind and caring and always willing to help when needed! His absence is certainly felt and he will be greatly missed!! Prayers for his family during this time of grief and loss, but also remembrance! 🙏

May 22 at 5:11 AM

AR

Andrea Rowson posted:

Tom was an incredible person. I work at Upper Arlington with him and he was always willing to help. It was obvious he truly cared and wanted to make life easier for others. He didn't just fix a problem, he worked to make sure we understood how to do what we needed to do. He never made us feel unintelligent or as a burden. Tom was not only great at his job, he was a kind, decent person. He was easy to talk to and made it clear how much he loved his family. He will be missed. His family and friends are in my prayers.

May 22 at 4:29 AM

ES

Elise S. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.



May 22 at 3:52 AM

EL

Elise posted:

Tom is one of the most genuine, big-hearted, and ever-helpful people I've had the privilege to know—a true ray of sunshine! His kindness and warmth touched so many. I know I'm not alone in saying he will be missed!

May 22 at 3:37 AM



Tribute Wall

Thomas Gregory Faist

SEP 24, 1958 - MAY 17, 2025

SH

Shannon Hemmelgarn posted:

Tom and I worked together at Upper Arlington for several years. He was my go-to tech guy. Always eager to support and so knowledgeable. We shared a deep love of the National Parks and would text pictures to each other all year long of our adventures with our families. He always had great suggestions about the best hikes and drives (The Road to the Sun!). He was so proud of his children and would speak of them fondly about their interests and all they had achieved. I will miss you Tom! Grateful our lives crossed paths.

May 21 at 4:05 PM

DH

Dillon Hubbell posted:

I worked with Tom for a little less than two years. He was one of the most kind, helpful, and pleasant people I've ever had the pleasure of working alongside. He put so much care in to his interactions, I will forever remember that time.

May 21 at 3:59 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



Scan to Visit