



## Thomas Tommy Zinda

April 10, 1944 - May 12, 2010

Thomas F. "Tadpole Tommy" Zinda, age 66 of Lake Tomahawk, WI died on Wednesday May 12th at his residence. Tommy was born on April 10, 1944 the son

of Clement and Loretta (nee Heinzelman) Zinda.

Known as "Tadpole Tommy" of Tommy's Fishing Adventures.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia Banks and by his children: Christopher (Heather) Zinda, Bradley Sage, Laura Sage, Karen Siebrecht, Donna (Jonathan) Sigouin, Laure

(Thad) Willemsen and Sandy (Robert) Bauernfind and by his Grandchildren: Arlo, Tristan, Natalie, Brooke, David, Megan, Adam, Amanda, Betsy, Sheila and Nathan and by his Sister: Pat (Dave) Baumgartner and by his loving Pets: Shiloh and Squirt and by countless friends.

Preceded in death by his former wives: Debbie Sage and Shirley Zinda  
Celebration of Life for Tadpole Tommy will be held on Saturday June 5th at Heart II in Arbor Vitae, WI starting at 7:00 PM

In lieu of flowers memorials in memory of Tommy Zinda to the American Cancer Society.

Share online condolences at [bolgerfuneral.com](http://bolgerfuneral.com)

**BOLGER FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES IS SERVING THE FAMILY.**

I am a fisherman for life.

I will always be a fisherman.  
It's not something I do,  
it is who I am.  
Fishing is not an escape.  
It is where I belong,  
where I am supposed to be.  
It is not a place,  
but a lifelong journey.  
It is a passage my father showed me,  
and that I will show to others.  
When you understand all of this,  
you will know me,  
and we will fish together.

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ Will miss you Tommy; we shared a lot and you gave me some of the best times of my life. You will always be in my heart and head, always.

*Catch one for me!!*

*Love you brother.*

*Tail*

---

**Chuck "Chubtail" White** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

BM

“ I fished with Tommy for the past 10 years. My family and friends have fished with him over the years as well. He always made you feel like the best fisherman in the boat....even when he caught the fish! Since learning of his death I've had a hard time thinking about what a summer in northern Wisconsin will be like without meeting Tommy at 6 AM for a shot at great fishing. I learned a ton about fishing from Tommy but more than that I gained a friend! I'll miss you, Buddy....."Good Fishing!"

*Bob*

---

**Bob Meicher** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

PT

“ *Thomas Tommy Zinda*

---

**pat & tina** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

JC

“ My husband and I were fortunate enough to have been able to fish with Tommy for the past 3 summers. What a great man and fisherman! We always had alot of fun fishing with Tommy and enjoyed talking with him...he had a great sense of humor and we will think of him everytime we use any of his many fishing techniques that he taught us. We were so saddened and shocked to learn of his death. His family is in our thoughts and prayers.

---

**Jan and Carl** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

MP

“ We owned a home in Minocqua for many years on Lake Kewagasawga and of course, my husband Jerry, fished as did his sons when they visited. Jerry and Tommy became good friends over the years and we've kept in touch through holiday notes and cards for sometime. As Jerry's wife, 'tho not fisherwoman, I liked Tommy as I thought he was kind and fun and will always be a wonderful memory of our years in Minocqua. We send our condolences to all of you who loved this nice man. sincerely, Dillon Perlow

---

**Mrs. Jerry Perlow** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

DG

“ I was shocked and saddened to read, on Tommy's website, of his death. I was just in contact with him in April. I fished with Tommy since 1996. He treated me like a friend, rather than a client. Besides his vast fishing knowledge,he had interesting insight into other matters as well. I looked forward to reading his fishing reports. He always took time to answer my email fishing questions and inquire about my family. He was a great ambassador for Northwoods and Greers Ferry fishing. I will truly miss Tadpole..

---

**David "Goose" Gustafson** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

JH

“ I fished many times with Tommy and my friend Terry Ridenour in Wisconsin and the UP and was always made to feel that I was a life-long friend and soul mate of Tommy's. He had that ability to make you feel good about being in the great outdoors and sharing it with him. He noticed the little things; the birds nesting, the color of the water, the edges of the weeds (his favorite spot to fish walleyes) and the things you wanted to discuss. He was quite a philosophical person and had feelings and opinions that ran deep. What a great guy he was to be around. They aren't making many more that way. I miss you Tommy and trust that you have a special place in heaven, right on the edge of the weeds with plenty of bait. May Pat find peace in Tommy's absence. Pat I am so sorry for your loss. Tommy spoke of you often and always with great affection. Only time will help heal the hurting.

---

**Jim Haines** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

DS

“ In loving memory Dad. Hope you are catching the BIG ones in heaven!

---

**Donna Sigouin** - March 22, 2013 at 11:54 AM

CK

Couple of friends and I were talking and Tommy came up in our conversation which prompted my wife to look up his obituary and I feel compelled to comment. My 10 year old daughter and I talked to Tadpole about where to catch a few walleye's he gave us a spot on a map. Kate's first fish that evening ice fishing was a 8#7oz eye. He talked about her on his radio show that Saturday calling her this week's walleye queen what a memory for her and I that November day 1989. Tommy never gave me a spot to fish that didn't produce over the years. We miss him. "Rock em and knock 'em " in heaven brother.

---

**Chris Keller** - May 28, 2022 at 01:36 PM