



Thomas James Bergholz Sr.

January 31, 2026

Thomas James Bergholz, Sr.

The King of Firewood, Thomas James Bergholz, Sr., age 66, of Monroeville, New Jersey, passed away peacefully in his sleep on January 31st, 2026. A graduate of Kingsway High School & Gloucester Co. Vocational Diesel Technical School, or as they would say, “Kingsway’s very own Paul Bunyan—chops wood by the hour...carefree, heterogenous personality...” (See yearbook). Tom went on to create his legacy, following in his family’s footsteps with the creation of Bergholz’s Tree Services. The term Bergholz is from German origin meaning “mountain wood” or “mountain forest”. A symbol of true connection to the nature atmosphere, which Thomas loved. A self-employed lumberjack, loving the smell of fresh-cut wood, serenity in the Poconos, and a cool but fast dirt-bike or boat ride, Tom enjoyed life.

Tom enjoyed working and raising his children to understand the value of hard work and sacrifice. Not many 8-year-old boys can perfectly sharpen a chainsaw or move heavy equipment around, but Tom did. Even his daughter would come home from school and deliver heavy cords of firewood at age 16. It’s just what they knew, hard work. He made sure of it. From long work days to long family four-wheeler rides were the perfect endings to the day. Tom battled Multiple Sclerosis since the early 1990’s and has lived a stubborn life, which is no surprise to anyone who knew him, until his last day. When he

could no longer walk, he would drive his blue expedition around, dog in tow, and stop and see everyone and anyone; they always knew to walk out to him. When he could no longer drive, he took his electric scooter anyplace that had clear roads, with his charger, because his adventures were all day long. He thoroughly enjoyed disposable cameras, which became harder and harder to find, so he could take candid photos of his son's doing what they do best: playing his favorite Ms. PacMan. Tom even humbled the DMV workers who knew he could not get inside, but would attend to him from his vehicle.

His stories always included a long road trip someplace, in his 1978 Ford Pickup Truck he proudly bought brand new; old trains & collecting model trains; radio blaring his favorite Journey or Reo Speedwagon song; breaking his arm because a tree fell on it; restoring his prized 1969 Mach 1 Mustang; benching 500lbs in Hoglen's basement; clearing off parts of Route 55 and the numerous golf courses in South Jersey; his CR 450R dirtbike; never missing a loud Nascar race, or especially the Indy 500, which were all VHS taped.

Life was certainly not easy, but we knew, it could always be worse. Tom's favorite phrase, "those who have will lose, those who don't, can't," derived from Matthew 25:29. A phrase which suited him well to utilize the resources, gifts, talents and abilities you have and continue to actively invest in stewardship and responsibility. A gift that continues to carry on from one generation to the next. As Tom would say, "It's Time for Me to Fly".

Thomas is survived by his children: Thomas Jr., Daniel (Jessica), Gunar (Allie), & Carey (Michael); his Mother Charlotte Bergholz; his brother Walter (Theresa), sisters Marlene (Tim) and Lisa (Alan); and grandchildren, Lisa, Emily, Enzo, Luciana, Sawyer, Gunnar, and Eli. Thomas is predeceased by his father Walter Bergholz, Sr., and his brother Bruce Bergholz. He is survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, uncles and aunts.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, February 6th, 2026 at the Adams Funeral Home, 64 Broad Street, Woodstown, NJ 08098. The family will begin to greet those who wish to pay their respects starting at 3 PM with the service to follow at 5 PM. Burial is private and at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers the family has suggested that donations can be made to the Salem County Humane Society, PO Box 214, Carneys Point, NJ 08098.

adamsfuneralhome.org

Cemetery Details

Private Interment

Previous Events

The family will be available to greet:

FEB 6. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home (Woodstown)
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
(856) 769-2220

Celebration of Life

FEB 6. 5:00 PM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home (Woodstown)
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
(856) 769-2220

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Joann B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..

Joann B. - February 06 at 12:28 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..



February 05 at 06:34 PM

RF

“ Robbie, Jenna and family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..

Robbie, Jenna and family. - February 05 at 06:34 PM

TS

“ The Ramsey's and Sexton's purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..



The Ramsey's and Sexton's - February 04 at 04:59 PM

TS

“ The Ramsey’s and Sexton’s planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..

The Ramsey’s and Sexton’s - February 04 at 04:59 PM

LM

“ Love Mom purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..



Love Mom - February 04 at 04:44 PM

LM

“ Love Mom planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..

Love Mom - February 04 at 04:44 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..



February 04 at 03:02 PM

TF

“ *The Mayers Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..*



The Mayers Family - February 04 at 09:07 AM

AA

“ *I went to high school with Tom. He was very kind and a good friend that I will always remember. Tom's deep rooted connection to the outdoors and his truly American vocation are rare these days. God bless Tom and his proud family. Sincerely, Angelo Alberto*

Angelo Alberto - February 04 at 09:01 AM

TF

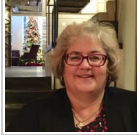
“ *I worked for tom splitting wood when I was 17. What a great man hard working and a man I highly respected*

TJ Freeman - February 03 at 02:54 PM

MB

“ *Michael B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..*

Michael B. - February 03 at 11:30 AM



“ Carol Molinari Monks lit a candle in memory of Thomas Bergholz



Carol Molinari Monks - February 03 at 09:53 AM



“ Kori Covely purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..



Kori Covely - February 03 at 09:03 AM



“ Kori Covely planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..

Kori Covely - February 03 at 09:03 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..



February 03 at 07:35 AM

FF

“ *Four Seasons Campground Staff & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..*

Four Seasons Campground Staff & Family - February 03 at 07:35 AM

BT

“ *Bryan T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..*

Bryan T. - February 03 at 04:51 AM

DB

“ Let me start by saying I am am so sorry to hear this to his sons Tommy Jr, Danny, Gunnar and daddy's little girl Carey for ur lost to his brother (Walter) sisters Lisa and Marlene I am Tommy's cousin Dennis Bergholz let me start by saying when we were kids we play on the swing set and hear Granny yelling come here at garden corner's or Bruce and Tom building a play house in the hay bales as we all got older we started working for our dads and uncles in the woods picking up wood in the woods then Tom went to vo-tech to learn diesel rebuilding one night he wanted to go out so he give me five dollars to do his homework I learned from that by reading that book why he went to Jack in the Box At times Tom tried to be hard but deep inside Tommy had a soft heart I remember the day he bought that blue 1978 Ford pick up which is still in the family Tommy was a very hard working in his day till he got MS but he had the will power that he didn't want to give up last I saw him he would tell me I am going to beat this cuz just watch Tommy blood was blue cause he loved Fords and Uncle June worked on them well this story could go on and on Tommy was my hero Tommy and Tim and Allen are the ones who told me move on and work hard Dennis I listen to them all now PS you will be missed by many and many may you RIP till we meet again and don't clean cut gods woods leave so for us cuz to all his friends you know who you are Tom me and Kelly will miss your calls and hour talks on the phone but your pain free now you did your now it's the end we will take over from here

Dennis Bergholz - February 02 at 06:51 PM

PM

“ Our sincerest condolences to Tom's family.
—Peggy and Fred VanMeter

Peggy Gentile-Van Meter - February 02 at 06:21 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..*



February 02 at 03:40 PM



“ *Pioneer Pipe Contractors planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas James Bergholz Sr..*

Pioneer Pipe Contractors - February 02 at 03:40 PM