



Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS

January 25, 1929 - July 7, 2022

Lawrence Tama, M.D., FACS passed away on July 7, 2022 in Towanda, PA where he was born on January 25, 1929 to Antonio S. Tama and Carmela Vignola Tama. Dr. Tama attended Towanda public schools and graduated in the Top Ten from Towanda High School in 1946. A life-long scholar, he graduated in three years as the Top Pre-med Student from the University of Scranton in 1949, which earned him guaranteed admittance to The University of Pennsylvania Medical School. In 1953 he earned his M.D. with high honors and returned to the area briefly to intern at Robert Packer Hospital, finishing in 1954. He was well acquainted with Dr. Donald Guthrie who founded the clinical facilities in 1910 and whom Dr. Tama often escorted to various medical meetings.

He was accepted for a Residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota but before he was due to begin, he was called to active duty in the U.S. Army as a First Lieutenant: Korean Conflict, 10th Mountain Division. He was stationed in Texas, Alabama, and Georgia before being sent to Germany as a Flight Surgeon earning the rank of Captain. Fortunately, the Mayo Clinic agreed to save him a place as a Resident when he completed his military obligations.

Dr. Tama returned to the U.S. in 1957 and headed to Rochester to begin his four year Surgical Residency. It was there he met the Head Operating Nurse,

Gwendolyn Ann Noreen from Hutchinson, Minnesota. They were married August 8, 1959 at St. Anastasia Catholic Church, Hutchinson, Minnesota. Dr. and Mrs. Tama remained in Rochester until his residency was completed. Not being allowed to leave until noon on January 1, 1961 they then began the long trip to Towanda where they settled down and raised five children.

Dr. Tama practiced for 48 years as the Chief of Surgery at Towanda Memorial Hospital. His many patients were always a top priority as was the success of Memorial Hospital which he helped become a vibrant addition to the Bradford County Community. In honor of his dedication, following his retirement he was named an honorary trustee of Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Tama was predeceased by his parents, his sister Margaret Tama, his brother Dr. Albert R. Tama, his son-in-law, Bruce Amato, and several cousins. He is survived by his wife, Gwendolyn Noreen Tama; children Gregory A. and wife Theresa T. Tama of Alpharetta, GA; Noreen M. Tama of Alexandria, VA; Kevin Lawrence and wife Amy Tama of Towanda; Angela Tama Zang and husband Peter of Towanda; Anthony K. Tama and wife Colleen D. Krenzer of London, UK; and grandchildren, Nicole Tama Cobb (Jason), Joseph A. Bellegarde, Lauren R. Bellegarde, Andersson T. Amato, Alexandra L. Tama, Luke A.B. Tama, Elizabeth M. Zang and William Lawrence Zang; along with two great grandchildren, Grace Cobb and Jacob Cobb.

Visiting hours will be 6 - 8 pm on Wednesday July, 13th, at the Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home, 217 York Avenue, Towanda and a Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Saints Peter and Paul Church, Third Street, Towanda, on Thursday, July 14th, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. where Dr. Tama was a lifelong parishioner. Interment will follow in Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery, North Towanda, PA with full military honors accorded. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to St. Agnes School, 102 Third St. Towanda, PA 18848. Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting www.bowenfuneralh

omes.com.

Cemetery Details

S.S. Peter & Paul Cemetery

30 James Street
Towanda, PA 18848

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 13. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home
217 York Ave.
Towanda, PA 18848
(570) 265-2272
info@bowenfuneralhomes.com

Service

JUL 14. 10:30 AM (ET)

S.S. Peter & Paul Roman Catholic Church
106 Third Street
Towanda, PA 18848

Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS*

October 22, 2023 at 08:10 PM



“ *Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS*

October 08, 2023 at 10:34 PM



“ *Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS*

October 06, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS*

October 06, 2023 at 03:29 AM



“ *Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS*

October 05, 2023 at 02:02 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss.*

Norma Lee - July 21, 2022 at 10:57 AM

ML

“ *Marlene Lewis*



Marlene Lewis - July 15, 2022 at 06:36 AM

ML

“ *I'm a simple house painter.
Dr. Tama gave me opportunities and believed in me when my
business was brand new here.
He always shared stories of his life and had a great sense of humor.
I very much loved and respected him and appreciate everything he
did for me. Thought and prayers to his family.
Thank you Dr. Tama*

Mark Lampman - July 15, 2022 at 05:18 AM

KR

“ *With deepest sympathy to Mrs. Tama and the whole Tama family on
the passing of Dr. Tama. He was truly a wonderful man and it was a
great honor to have met him and hear his many stories. The world
has lost a truly special person. With warm regards, Kathy Ratajczak.*

Kathleen A Ratajczak - July 14, 2022 at 11:27 AM

SK

“ *Sharon Kelly lit a candle in memory of
Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS*



Sharon Kelly - July 13, 2022 at 06:42 PM

LS

“ My sincere sympathy to Mrs. Tama and your family. I have known and worked with Dr. Tama (Larry) for over 20 years. He was such a smart man and also just a genuine good guy, a true pleasure to work with. I have also realized over the years the importance of his family to him. Larry Sheeler

Larry Sheeler - July 13, 2022 at 01:28 PM



“ Sending my love to Dr Tamas family. He was my mom, Emilie Kerricks favorite doctor to work with. He was always available if she needed him for us. He helped me out in many things I needed medically. He was a very special person in our family. Kathleen Evanchalk (Kerrick)

Kathy Evanchalk - July 12, 2022 at 11:32 AM

CC

“ Dr. Tama was my surgeon 35 yrs. ago. I'm now 95. My husband, Bob, was Pres. of hospital board in late '70s. My sincere sympathy to Mrs. Tama and family. Connie Cowling, New Bern, NC

Connie Cowling - July 11, 2022 at 06:13 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS.



July 11, 2022 at 05:26 PM

SG

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Tama. I pray Gods arm around you all and His healing upon each and every one. Sally Good

Sally Good - July 11, 2022 at 04:18 PM

KH

“ Our deepest sympathy in the loss of your father.

Karen L Hall - July 11, 2022 at 12:10 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS.



July 10, 2022 at 04:23 PM

HK

“ My deepest sympathy to the family for the great loss you are feeling. Your father delivered me 58 yrs ago on Nov 29 1963 and saved my life as I was the first to use the incubators at the Memorial that nite. May he rest in the everlasting life and may god wrap his arms around you and your lofe ones.

Hope Goode Kline - July 10, 2022 at 12:37 PM

VS

“ Please accept our deepest sympathy.

VFW Post 1536, Sayre - July 10, 2022 at 11:21 AM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Lawrence Tama M.D., FACS.*



July 09, 2022 at 09:22 PM



“ *thoughts and prayers to the family on your loss*

marleta bailey - July 09, 2022 at 09:40 AM



“ *My sincere and heartfelt condolences to the entire Tama family. RIP DR. Tama and may God embrace entire family during this difficult time.*

Love and Peace Eileen Beck - July 09, 2022 at 08:43 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Dr. Tama's family. May God Bless!*
Bob & Mary Getz

Bob & Mary Getz - July 09, 2022 at 08:05 AM



“ *My deepest condolences to all of the family in your loss.*



Claire Holton-Lizon - July 09, 2022 at 08:03 AM