



Thomas Medina

September 23, 1951 - July 2, 2025

Thomas Medina was found deceased by the Marion County Sheriff's Department, in his home (Ocala, FL), the morning of Wednesday, July 2, 2025 after a welfare check was expedited.

Thomas Medina was born Tomás Medina Colon on September 23, 1951 in Arecibo, Puerto Rico to Tomás Medina Castro (d. 1973) and Gladys Lydia Medina Colon (d. 2004). He was raised in Barceloneta, Puerto Rico, along side his younger sister Nilda Medina Ruiz (d. 2010) until circa 1960. He, his mother, and sister settled in El Barrio, a Spanish Harlem Neighborhood in New York City. Circa 1967, they also lived in another Italian and Puerto Rican community in Alphabet City in the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

Coming from humble beginnings, he trained in automobiles and was a racing enthusiast during his adolescence...and well into adulthood. He was one of the reigning champions of the game, "I win".

Circa 1971, he served in the U.S. Army as Motor Transportation Operator (where his name was changed to Thomas Medina). He spent a great deal of his enlistment in Alaska and about 18 months in Vietnam. He earned a National Defense Service Medal while enlisted. Upon returning home with an honorable discharge circa 1977, he was employed with Con Edison and then accepted an employment offer as a letter carrier with the United States Postal

Service, where he retired from about 37 years later.

Thomas Medina was a man of many hobbies and talents. Throughout various seasons of his life, he was also a professional photographer, fire arms enthusiast, fisherman, hunter, painter, Licensed General Contractor in New York, Certified Scuba Diver, and a motorcyclist who became a Harley Davidson loyalist.

He lived a very full 73 years, and spared no expense doing so. Sometimes he was a blessing. Sometimes he was a lesson. Sometimes he was both. Nonetheless, he will be remembered by those who crossed his path on their journeys.

He is survived by his daughter, Lisandra Medina and her children: Silas Waller, Janelle Zoey Cruz-Anthony, and Jolie Isabelle Cruz; his niece Evelyn Ruiz and her daughter Sabrina Baez; his final life partner June Nixon and their granddaughter Harlie LaShea Fiese; his former domestic partner, Frances Osorio; his former common law spouse, Rebecca Santiago Díaz, predeceased him in 2019. He is also survived by other relatives, chosen family, and a few true friends.

Tribute Wall

LM

“ *Our last photo*



L Medina - August 15, 2025 at 11:46 PM

LM

“ *Hello. I will be hosting a Celebration of Life Dinner, in my father's honor, tentatively the weekend of 9/27/2025 in Ocala, FL. Please reach out to me if you're interested in attending by replying to this post with your email address. Details should be finalized by 9/10. Thank you.*



L Medina - August 15, 2025 at 09:38 PM

SV

“ *In this time of sorrow, let us lift up prayers for the family who has lost a beloved member. May they find strength and solace in the memories shared and the love surrounding them. Together, we offer our support and compassion as we send our deepest and heartfelt condolences to his loved ones. You will be greatly missed Thomas.*

Sammy & Leticia Viera - August 03, 2025 at 11:54 AM

CR

“ My wonderful Thomas. Who was always there when I called. My family and I adored you. You have been a part of my life since I was a little girl. I remember how handsome and smart you always were. May you rest in peace. Until we meet again 🙏



Carmen L Reyes - August 03, 2025 at 09:27 AM

AF

“ To my dear loving brother and friend, Tommy! It was forty years ago when I became a member of the postal service and almost immediately we met and bonded and have stayed intouch ever since. I looked up to you like a big brother, intact two weeks before you departed us i felt this compulsion to call you. We spoke for about an half hour, only because I was at work it didn't last longer.During our conversation i began telling how much I admired and loved you and you reciprocated. We shared so many memorable moments. I remember when were racing in mid town while working and crazy as it was, we were racing in a postal vehicle. I remember many of days after work you driving me home going 100 miles an hour and me vowing to never ride with you again.You always drove like you had to be the first car leading the traffic.I also recall when you got me to go with you in a postal van to Yonkers and pick up a transmission and than drive to your house only to get back to work and have the manager ask us how the he'll did we put 52 miles on the van. The boat rides and fishing, you even took me to the fire range, you tried to teach me archery.I can go on and on. Man I'm gonna miss our conversations, your hardy crazy laugh and everything about you. You were one of a kind and a man of many talents.No more suffering my brother, you rest now because you've most certainly earned your wings! I will always feel your presence because you will remain in my heart ❤️

Alexander Ford - August 01, 2025 at 06:04 PM

MM

“ My name is Mario and I used to transport Mr. Medina to and from his medical appointments from time to time and being both Puertoricans and from Arecibo we clicked really quick. He was very nice to talk to and a very bright man and always was willing and able to give me advice, he will be dearly missed. My sympathy and deepest condolences to the family and pray God to give you all strength in this time of grief, God bless.

Mario Melero - August 01, 2025 at 02:46 PM

DS

Dean Santiago, I am Rebecca Santiago Diazs' Youngest brother whom was Tommy Medinas common law wife. I grew up around Tommy Medina during the 80s and was influenced by his hobby and his stories from Vietnam Alaska and life in General. Tommy was a pleasant individual with much good advice for the younger generations that came in close proximity. He was a very proud service man not only to the Armed forces but to his endeavors with the US postal service. I too later became a Marine during the cold War Era , An Aerospace Ground Support Technician with The Air National Guard for 10 years post 911 and further more A Postal Distribution Clerk with the United States Postal Service from 199 till present. If I had someone to thank for positively influence on these career decisions it would be Tommy and my Brother Henry Santiago respectively. My respect and condolences to my niece Lisanda Medina Santiago and her children in these trying years and may the Holy spirit accompany her all the day's of her life. God speed The Santiago family Chaplain Ordained SSGT AF RET.
Dean Santiago Diaz

Dean Santiago - August 12, 2025 at 10:38 PM

LC

“ Lenora Calanni lit a candle in memory of Thomas Medina



Lenora Calanni - July 29, 2025 at 12:37 AM

LC

“ We lived right next door to Tommy while he was our neighbor on the Lower Eastside and he was always a bright light and a breath of fresh air when he knocked on the door. His beautiful smile and loud laugh was always welcome in our apartment besides our conversations. And even when he lived elsewhere he came back to visit his sister and Mom and of course he would knock on our door to say hello to me and my Mom too. I hope all those neighbors who have left us are knocking on each other's doors in heaven now. Rest In Peace- THOMAS- my prayers 🙏 are with you, With heartfelt sincerity, Cookie nextdoor as I was referred to 🤔, I could hear his laugh now.

Lenora Calanni - July 29, 2025 at 12:36 AM

DE

“ Tommy as we knew him was an undercover life coach . His never ending sense of humor was contagious in a good way. He motivated many future mechanics and family members who came close to him. His service to his country and the Postal Service was also characteristics I followed and later became a US Marine an Aerospace Ground support Technician with the DOD and finally a Postal distribution clerk. A work ethic of never quitting no matter the injuries that we bore from service to our nation our families and in my case Chaplaincy to my God and church. He was a charm for those who really knew him and he gave sound advice both in career direction and making the most of opportunities afforded to veterans. He will surely be missed by myself and I am sure by others in distant family branches. He motivated me to self improvement. Drag racing was his greatest passion. God "speed" (Tommy)rolling thunder under your gas pedal foot, and a giggle into eternity my big brother friend and fellow Veteran. Your little brother Dean.

Dean - July 28, 2025 at 11:41 AM