



ORIENT: LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE
SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

Lexington, Massachusetts, June 6, 2018

TO ALL FREEMASONS OF THE ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
OF THE OBEDIENCE OF THIS SUPREME COUNCIL

PEERS AND BRETHREN:

ILL. : DONALD DAVIS THOMAS, 33°

Active Emeritus Member for this Supreme Council for the state of Delaware, died on Tuesday, May 22, 2018.

III.: Donald Davis Thomas, 33°, was born on June 3, 1931, in Rochester, NY, the youngest of five children of Leslie G. and Francis Thomas. He was educated in the public school systems of New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. He attended the University of Pennsylvania where he earned a master of science degree in mechanical engineering. He also taught at the school of engineering there for three years.

Following his time at the university he entered the aerospace industry, participating in numerous space programs. He retired from the Elkton Division of Thiokol Corporation after 36 years.

In September 1954, he was united in marriage to Pamela Brewell, who survives together with their children, Tracy and Chris, as well as grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Donald and Pamela were active members of the Newark Community. They attended the Newark United Methodist Church, and he served as head usher for more than 35 years, as well as on several committees. He was active in Boy Scout Troop No. 255, in Newark.

Our Illustrious Brother had a distinguished career in Freemasonry:

SYMBOLIC: Raised a Master Mason in Hiram Lodge No. 25, of Newark, Delaware on June 7, 1965. He was Worshipful Master in 1978. Brother Thomas was the Charter Junior Warden of the Delaware Lodge of Research and served as its Master from 1977-79.

GRAND LODGE: Senior Grand Deacon, 2002-03; Deputy Grand Master, 2003-04, and Grand Master, 2004-05. He edited and published a book called *Reflections on Delaware's Masonic Lodges*, during the 175th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. In addition, he wrote more than 200 papers and five plays on Freemasonry. On October 6, 1999, he was awarded the Gunning Bedford Jr. Award.

CAPITULAR: Exalted in Delta Chapter No. 6 R.A.M. in Newport, Delaware, on March 24, 1969. He was Excellent High Priest in 1973. Grand High Priest of Grand Chapter R.A.M of Delaware. In 1986 he received the F. Irving Crowe Award. In 2008, he received the General Grand Chapter Silver Distinguished Service Award.

CRYPTIC: Greeted in Gunning Bedford Council No. 1 R.&S.M., Wilmington, Delaware on September 24, 1969. He was Illustrious Master in 1983.

CHIVALRIC: Knighted in St. John's Commandery No. 1, Knight Templar, Wilmington, Delaware, on November 13, 1969. He was Eminent Commander in 1975. Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Delaware in 1993.

SCOTTISH RITE: Completed the degrees of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Wilmington on April 30, 1966. He was Thrice Potent Master of Wilmington Lodge of Perfection, 1978. Commander in Chief, Wilmington Consistory, 1990

SUPREME COUNCIL: On September 26, 1979, he was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council at Chicago. He was crowned an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 2000, at Pittsburgh, PA. Brother Thomas was Deputy for the state of Delaware from 2002-03. On September 29, 2006, he became an Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council.

He served on the following committee:

Information Systems Committee 2000-2012
(Later called the Technology Committee)

He was a member of the following Masonic bodies:

Nur Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. in New Castle, Delaware.
First State York Rite College No. 45, Preeminently Distinguished Governor in 1993.
Delaware College Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, Chief Adept (IX Degree) from 1995-2003.
Delaware Council, Knight Masons. Excellent Chief in 1986.
Keystone Council No. 113, Allied Masonic Degrees. He was Sovereign Master in 1982.
Delaware Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Puissant Sovereign in 1988.
Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Prior and Recorder.
Holy Order of High Priesthood of the State of Delaware, Most Excellent President for nearly 20 years.
Royal Order of Scotland.
Honorary Member, Bethel No. 3, I.O.J.D.
Educational Lodge No. 1002, Minneapolis, MN.
The Philalathes Society.
Newark Past Masters Association.
Robert S. Gallagher Chapter, DeMolay, Served as Dad.
Noah or Two-by-Two Lodge No. 15, Royal Ark Mariners, Commander in 1990.
Jesse Green Priory No. 70 Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Eminent Prior in 1994.

Delaware Chapter, Knights Preceptor, Recorder at time of passing.
Services will be held at a later date.

It is hereby directed that this Balustre be communicated to each Body of the Rite, and be suitably mentioned at the first meeting after its receipt.

May our Heavenly Father have him in His Holy Keeping.

 D. A. G. [Signature], 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

Attest:

 Thomas R. [Signature], 33°
Grand Secretary General