



# In memory of Thomas Towle

From his friends and colleagues at  
3GPP

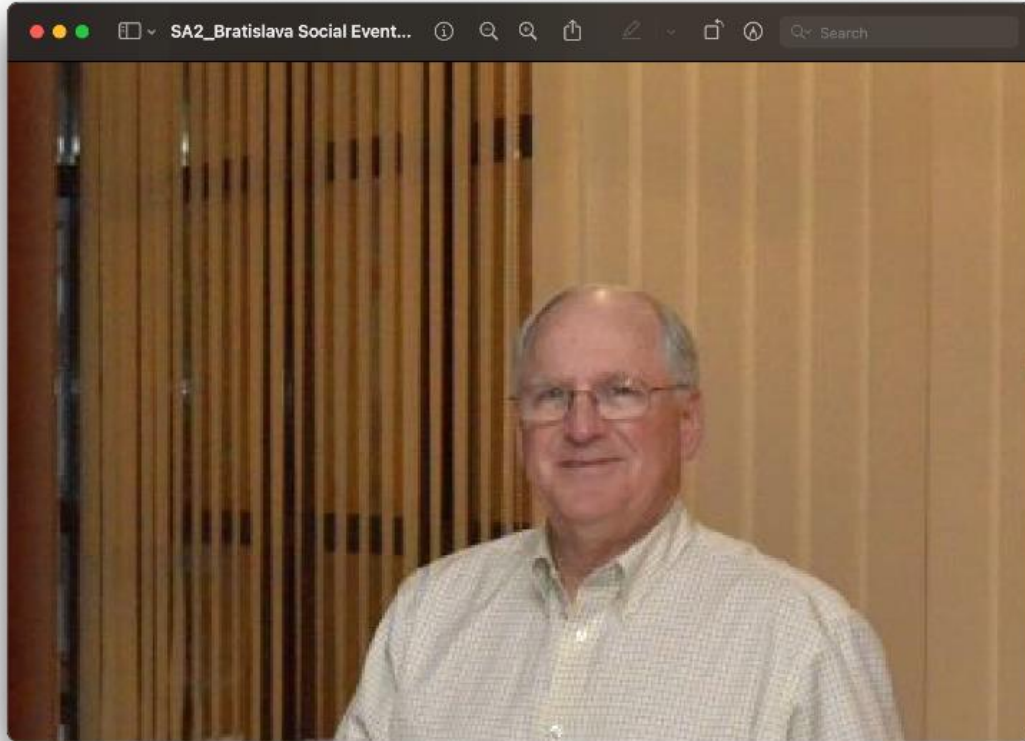
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## Tom's Obituary at Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/naperville-sun/name/thomas-towle-obituary?id=44022828>

“Thomas Trayer Towle, age 77 of Naperville, IL formerly of Park Forest, IL passed away Thursday, February 9, 2023 at Edward Hospital of Naperville, surrounded by his family. He was born January 27, 1946, in Moline, IL to his loving late parents, Harold and Elsie Towle. Also preceded by parents-in-law Mr. and Mrs. William Demme. Beloved husband of Gail F. Towle, nee Demme, wedded on September 7, 1968. Amazing Dad to Kate (Peter) Lichter of Naperville and Mike (Megan) Towle of Palatine, IL. Loving Grandpa of Tom (Jackie), Jake (fiancée Hunter), Molly, Brett, and Elle, Maggie, Delanie, and Tommy. Loving great-grandpa of Kam and Hailey. Dearest brother of Karen (Arthur) Hunsaker, Ron (Sharon) Towle, Mary (Terry) Dluzen, and Richard Towle. Fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. Tom graduated from Marian Catholic High School, Homewood, IL, class of 1964. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from University of Illinois, Chicago. Tom was enlisted into the Navy and spent 4 years proudly serving during the Vietnam War. Following his service, he started working for Bell Laboratories which later became Lucent Technology. Tom was an avid golfer, enjoyed fishing, playing guitar, being an under gardener, and most certainly spending time with his grandchildren. “



It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of Tom Towle, our cherished ex-colleague in 3GPP SA WG2. Every person who has worked with him or interacted with him characterized him as a colleague with few simple words: “True Gentleman”, “Mentor”, “Role Model”, “Teacher”, “Warm”. And some of us will remember him for his patience, kindness, fun loving character, jumping into all the activities and encouraging us to let our “hair down” after work.



Tom's distinguished career spanned many well-known standardization bodies across decades of exemplary work, ending with working at 3GPP2 and then lastly at 3GPP during the years spanning 2000 to 2012.



When he joined 3GPP as part of then Lucent delegation, he was one of the most experienced engineers in the group. He helped shepherd through the work of IMS, where he became the first sub working group chair for IMS. He worked tirelessly to see through the completion of the specifications for IMS. Many of us who were novice in the standards work and specifically in 3GPP learnt a lot from Tom and felt privileged that we had the opportunity to work and learn from him, he was the ultimate professional, very patient and hard worker but at the same time his wisdom and calm nature gave us opportunity to learn and have the courage to speak up and fight for what we wanted.



So, we were the privileged group where Tom decided to hang up his gear and enjoy rest of the great



Passions of his that some of us were lucky enough to hear about: **his loving family and Golf!**

As we say goodbye to Tom, we remember him fondly and while it is such a sad occasion, remembering him brings smiles to our faces, as his smiling face, joking voice, dancing moves, singing, performing karaoke, playing soccer, beach volleyball, swimming and many other scenes flash through reminding us all how fortunate we are to come across such wonderful person and be able to work with them.

Remembering Tom, let us all appreciate the time we had with him and remember his generosity, kindness, love of life and fun and enjoy every moment while working hard. So, let's join us to celebrate his life and his love for life and the joyful memories we share with him.

Rest in Peace dear Tom, we will remember you fondly and we will miss you.



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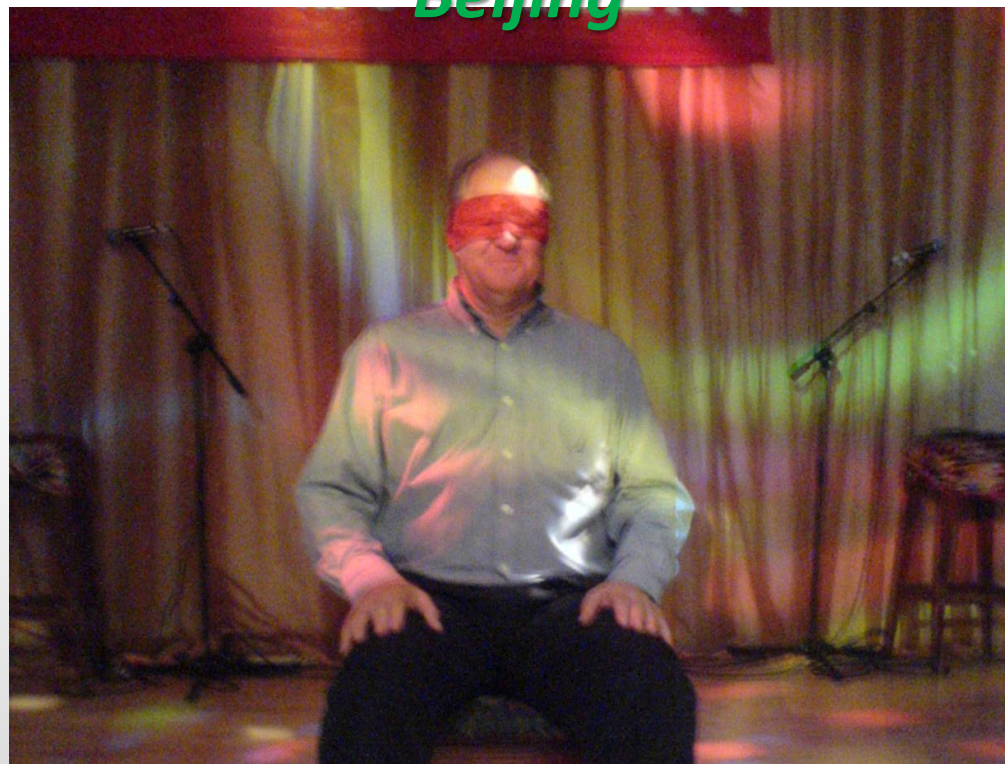


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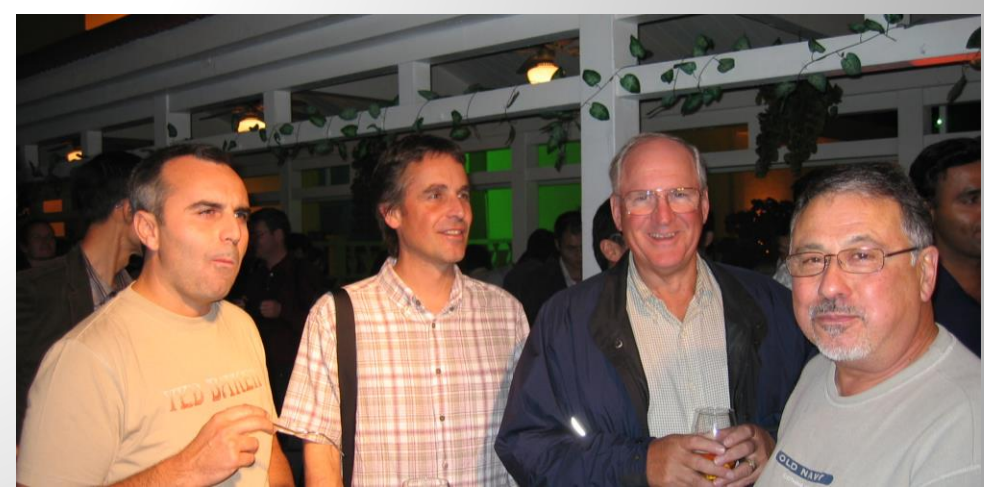




Beijing















*Dinner to unwind & forget the day*







*Brunstad*  
*Are you folks really going to do this???*











**Brunstad, it's time to warm up**







Golf Buddies







Tom's 3GPP2 Buddies





***Thank You for the beautiful memories, Tom***



***Rest in Peace***