



## Thomas David Strickler

November 11, 1922 - March 22, 2012

Thomas David Strickler, 89, of Wooster, formerly of Berea Kentucky, died Thursday, March 22, 2012.

Memorial services will be held on May 27th, 2012 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County, 3186 Burbank Rd., Wooster, Ohio at 3:00 p.m. Custer-Glenn Funeral Home & Cremation Services in Wooster is privileged with serving the family. Words of comfort may be shared with the family at: [www.custerglenn.com](http://www.custerglenn.com).

He was born on November 11, 1922 in Ferozepur, Punjab, India to the late Herbert Johnson Strickler and Martha Stewart Strickler. He was a graduate of the Woodstock School, Mussoorie, India; College of Wooster in 1947 and Yale University in 1952 where he earned his PhD. He served in the U. S. Army Training Program, Lehigh University from 1943-1944; the Pacific Campaign and the Liberation of Philippines in 1945 and also Yokosuka, Japan in 1945. Growing up in India, the son of Presbyterian Missionaries he enjoyed hunting in northern India as a teenager; as an adult he enjoyed traveling in the U.S. and abroad; astronomy, including traveling to observe solar eclipses; bicycling, he once rode with a friend around Lake Erie during his college years, tennis and photography. He was an instructor and member of the research Staff at Yale University Accelerator Laboratory 1952-1953. Physics Professor and Department Chair, Berea College, Berea Kentucky 1953-1988. National Science Foundation and Fulbright lectureships in India, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Zambia. He also worked with the Health Physics Division

at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the summers between 1954 and 1964, and during a sabbatical year of 1965-1966. Since moving to Wooster in 1989 he has attended the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by first wife Mildred Martin Strickler, stepmother Anne Smith Strickler, siblings Susanna Strickler Smith and Stewart Strickler. He is survived by wife Margaret (Margo) Warner Curl; children Dennis Strickler (Candice) of TN, Dr. Howard Strickler (Susan) of AL, Frances Drake (John) of TN, Susan Strickler-Polstra (Thijs Polstra) of the Netherlands and stepson James Curl and fiance' Catherine Chicoine of Akron. Grandchildren Sarah Strickler (Cory Surrat), Tommy Strickler (Ellen Strickler), Hunter Strickler (Lauren Strickler), Martin Strickler, Susanna Drake (Michael Butler), Emma Drake (Hillary Drake), Paul Drake (Lenore Braford), Anja Polstra and Benjamin Polstra. Great-Grandchildren, Alston Butler, Inman Butler, Inga Drake and Haleigh Strickler.

Memorial contributions may be given to Berea College (CPO 2216, Berea, KY. 40404) or the Friends of Woodstock School (PO Box 749780, Los Angeles, CA. 90074-9780).

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY 27. 3:00 PM (ET)

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County  
3186 Burbank Rd.  
Wooster, OH

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Tina and Chandi, What an inspiration you two are for us! We just started to train Freestyle and we simply LOVE it! Roy, my pure bred Border Collie, is already 9.5 years old (he is also a rescue dog!) but he enjoys every new move he learns. Ofcourse I wont push him to do things that he is not able to do physically, but there are still a lot of fun things to do! We just had a weeks workshop by Brigitte van Gestel here in Holland and that was really cool!! I really enjoy the videos of you and Chandi, they are good learning material for me. What pleases me the most though is that you both seem to have so much FUN together, you are simply in love with each other . it shows! Thank you for all your routines, and the inspiration!! friendly greetings from Ramona and Roy from Holland###imported-begin###Zubair###imported-end###

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May 16, 2012 at 07:33 AM



“ We did not know Tom well, but we do know his outstanding children and some of his grandchildren. He was a fine role model and through them he will live on.###imported-begin###Margot and Bob Spore###imported-end###

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April 30, 2012 at 08:54 AM



“ Pat Davis contacted me about Tom.. Even though I hadn't seen him for years I have such fond memories of him from my growing up . He was a very special cousin to me.###imported-begin###Roberta Strickler Heter. (Bert)###imported-end###

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April 03, 2012 at 12:23 PM



“ Tom was our teacher at Berea College in the early 1960s, and David's colleague after he joined the faculty in 1970. We appreciated knowing him, and have fond memories of our acquaintance.##imported-begin##David and Becky Nelson##imported-end##

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March 26, 2012 at 07:14 PM



“ To: The Strickler family  
I enjoyed meeting and getting to know Tom at Brenn-Field. You have my deepest symphathy as you deal with his loss.##imported-begin##Shirley Reber##imported-end##

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March 26, 2012 at 05:03 PM



“ I am so saddened by Tom's death. He was a big part of my life-- certainly an intellectual father. I valued him as a teacher, mentor, colleague, and friend.

*I very much enjoyed his teaching style, which was a goodly part of his learning style. He never lost the childish wonder when confronted with the mysteries of nature. He was always trying to understand those mysteries. And, he had a wonderful, low-key, way of communicating his understanding and always with a little twinkle in his eye.*

*I have special memories of his warm and loving families. Mildred is very much missed as well. Debbie and I extend our sincerest regards to Margot and to all of your children.##imported-begin##Smith T. Powell##imported-end##*

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March 26, 2012 at 03:15 PM



“ *I am the current Division Chair for Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Nursing and Physics at Berea College. I had the pleasure to interact with Tom several times in the 1990's when he visited Berea College. On behalf of the current faculty and staff in our Division, we want to extend to you our deepest sympathy - Tom was, by all accounts, an extraordinary person. - Ron Rosen*##imported-begin##*Ron Rosen*##imported-end##

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March 26, 2012 at 09:50 AM