Thomas Ray Nicely, 76, departed this world September 11, 2019 as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident.

Tom, the son of Clarence and Opal Legg Nicely, was born February 6, 1943, and spent his youth in his beloved Logan County, West Virginia. He attended the West Virginia University, earning degrees in mathematics and physics, and completed a PhD in applied mathematics from the University of Virginia. He was professor of mathematics at Lynchburg College, now the University of Lynchburg, for over forty years and was known professionally for research in the field of number theory. In 1994 his discovery of a flaw in Intel Computer’s Pentium processing chip brought him unexpected international prominence.

Tom loved to teach and learn. He also loved sports and developed a football themed board game called Paydirt for Sports Illustrated which was a precursor to fantasy football. He was a passionate competitor in horseshoes, pool and table tennis and an excellent photographer.

He is survived by his wife, Heidi Koring, and his niece and nephews, Linda Hass and Clarence Lee and Roger Tabor as well as by his first wife, Linda Carol Nicely and best friend, Randy Sowell.