



John C. O'Donovan

June 17, 1930 - March 3, 2023

Deacon John C. O'Donovan 92, of Hamden died March 3, 2023. He was the beloved husband of Kathleen Scott O'Donovan. John was predeceased by brothers Patrick and Joseph O'Donovan. Mr. O'Donovan was born in Kinsale, County Cork, Ireland on June 17, 1930, son of the late Timothy and Juliann O'Driscoll O'Donovan. John left Ireland in 1947 and worked and studied in England before coming to the United States in 1953. He was drafted into the military that same year and served with the U.S. Army in Korea. Mr.

O'Donovan then worked for the former SNET for 34 years. John became a Deacon for the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1993. He served Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish in Hamden since that time. Deacon John was an active and respected member of the Irish American Community Center. He chaired many cultural, educational and charitable programs. He received the distinguished Friendship Award in 1970 from the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He was a past Grand Marshal of the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade. He was a member of the Pioneers of the Sacred Heart, the Holy Name Society and was actively involved in the Social Ministries Programs at our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Thursday at 11 a.m. in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. Friends are asked to go directly to church. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4 - 7 p.m. in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. In lieu of flowers contributions to The Irish American Community Center Sports Program, 9 Venice Pl. East Haven, CT.

06512. To view full obituary or leave an online condolence please visit www.skbrothers.com

Cemetery Details

St. Mary Cemetery

3102 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT

Previous Events

Calling hours

MAR 8. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church
2819 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT

Funeral service

MAR 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Mt Carmel
2819 Whitney Ave
Hamden, CT 06518-2544
(203) 248-0141

Tribute Wall

CO

“ My deepest condolences to Mrs. Kathleen and family. Mr. John was a great person he was so sweet, Broke my heart finding out now that he has passed away. When Mr. John And Mrs. kathleen would come into my pharmacy I would tell them they were the sweetest cutest little couple ever. "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord!" God-bless you all. -Cora



Cora - April 27, 2023 at 06:43 AM

SJ

“ I sat down today to write a "thinking of you" note to John and Kathleen. It was fortuitous that instead of looking at my address book I looked up their address online and saw John's obituary. My heart is truly broken. When I moved to the neighborhood, I had such lovely conversations with John. One common one was the status of our lawns! John and Kathleen had me over for Thanksgiving dinner my last year as a neighbor before I moved to Oregon. I still have the last note John included in their Christmas card. Who knew that it would be the last one? Kathleen, I cannot express my sadness and my heart goes out to you. John was such a lovely person. I will miss his accent and his expressive eyebrows! He always made me smile.

Shirley A. Jackson - April 14, 2023 at 02:51 PM

MF

“ Dear Kathleen, words cannot express our sorrow on the loss of your beloved John.

We send our heartfelt sympathy to you, to Stephen, Tim, John and Terri and the wider O`Donovan and Scott families and all who mourn John. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

John was an extraordinary man in every sense. He lived a long and exemplary life, made all the better with you by his side to support him. We will all miss him greatly and we will never forget this wonderful man.

We will treasure the memories of our visit with you in Ballinacurra last April when you were both in great form as always. How you regaled us with the story of how you met John and captured his heart and saying that "John is the nicest man one could ever meet"... so true. You were a great couple and happiness radiated from both of you.

John, I have known you all my life and I will miss you; our exchange of letters and the phone calls over the years. You were always so interested in news from your home town.

Kinsale and especially Ballinacurra held a very special place in your heart and you kept in touch by making frequent trips home.

Now, after a life well lived, much of it in the service of others, you have taken your final journey.

The Lord will surely have the greatest of welcomes for you, his good and faithful servant.

Rest in peace dear friend in your heavenly home.

It was both an honour and a privilege to have known you.

Margaret Geary Forde and Dan.

Margaret Geary Forde - March 12, 2023 at 07:35 AM

SM

“ Sincere condolences to Kathleen on the sad passing of your beloved John
It brought us great sadness to hear of his passing. May he rest in Peace. We will always have fond memories of our visits to you both. will always remember your kindness to us. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Mary and Sean Martyn. Ballinasloe. Co Galway. Ireland

Sean Martyn - March 09, 2023 at 09:09 PM

BC

“ Deepest sympathy to Kathleen & the O Donovan families. Thinking of you at this sad time. We have wonderful memories of John, always there to help everyone and his great dedication to the Irish Club & Pioneers.
John, may you now enjoy the glory of heaven that you so greatly deserve, Rest In Peace,
Birdie (Dwyer) Cox, Leitrim

Bridie Cox - March 09, 2023 at 11:53 AM

EM

“ Deepest sympathy to Kathleen and the ODonovan and Scott families on the sad passing of John. What a gentle man. I have fond memories of John and how he was a father figure to so many of us that travelled from Ireland to New Haven.
Kathleen, you were so lucky to have John in your life. He undoubtedly is a bright star shining down on us all from heaven.
Rest in peace John
Eileen (Dwyer) McWeeney, Leitrim


Eileen McWeeney - March 09, 2023 at 11:47 AM

KL

“ To Kathleen our deepest condolences on the loss of John. We are all blessed to have had him in our lives. Everyone who met him was definitely a better person for it. He lived the gospel- day in and day out and taught us all to be better people. May his gentle soul rest in peace and we will be thinking and praying for you. All our love, angels and Thomas O'Malley and John, Karen and Molly Lynagh
xxxx.

KAREN LYNAGH - March 09, 2023 at 06:12 AM

MM

Deepest sympathy to Kathleen and all the Irish community on the sudden loss of your Best Husband, Pal, Confident . He will be sadly missed by so many . He is in the arms of Angels may he rest in Peace. Marguerite Maher nee Scollan, Co.Meath Ireland 

Marguerite Maher - March 09, 2023 at 10:28 AM

DC

“ Dear Kathleen, we are so sorry for your loss. John was such a kind man and we have lovely memories of your visits to Kerry. Our sincere sympathies to the Scott and O Donovan families. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam -
May his gentle soul rest in peace at God's right hand.
Maureen King and Family Co Kerry Ireland

Deirdre Casey - March 08, 2023 at 11:52 PM

CM

“ Our deepest sympathy to Kathleen, the O'Donovan and Scott families on the passing of John. He was a wonderful friend to us throughout the years. We have many fond memories of our time spent with him. He was a man of great faith and put everyone in front of himself. Whether it was a wedding, funeral, baby christening, John was the man that everyone called upon and was always there when needed. He will be tremendously missed, and no one can replace him. You are all in our thoughts and prayers at this very difficult time. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

Love, Jimmy, Clare, Eileen, Jimmy, Ryan & Charlie Murrhy

Clare Murrhy - March 08, 2023 at 08:53 AM

TO

“ My deepest sympathy to you Kathleen on the passing of John. I fondly remember both of your support to my uncle Pat, in New Haven and for the kindness support and advice to me in the last years of Uncle Pat's life. May the angels lead you home John and comfort you Kathleen on your loss. Ar dheis De a anam uasail.
Teddy O'Driscoll,
Skibbereen, Co. Cork. Ireland.

Teddy O'Driscoll - March 08, 2023 at 07:44 AM

NL

“ Kathleen- John was the epitome of an Irish gentleman. He was always there when my Mom or we where hospitalized to give us his blessings. At Mom's funeral he provided the most caring eulogy that I often re-read in tears. We wish you comfort on his loss and peace to him eternally. Nettie & Ron Gowac

Nettie Lees - March 08, 2023 at 07:42 AM

CP

“ Cecilia Palacio lit a candle in memory of John C. O'Donovan



Cecilia Palacio - March 07, 2023 at 11:30 PM

MM

“ RIP John O'D. Our family had the privilege to know him three ways. We lived a few blocks away off Whitney, the Irish Club and Our Lady of Mt Carmel! What a kind gentleman he was and Kathleen right by his side.

Margaret Murphy - March 07, 2023 at 11:24 PM

NO

“ Kathleen, my sincere condolences. John was one of a kind, a special man who was respected and liked by all who knew him. He was an icon in our Irish community and held a special place in our hearts. A friend of many, especially my dad. May he rest in peace and God bless you and hold you in his light at this difficult time.
Nora O'Keefe

Nora O'Keefe - March 07, 2023 at 10:41 PM

ML

From SNET to New Haven Irish Club, I always enjoyed John's sometimes impish personality. John's one of the finest gentlemen I've ever known.
God Bless, Mary Ellen Luby

Mary Ellen Luby - March 18, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John C. O'Donovan.*



March 07, 2023 at 03:11 PM



“ *I was so sorry to hear of the passing of Deacon O'Donovan. I spoke with Deacon often when calling him to do services for us at Iovanne Funeral Home. He was such a kind man. To his family, please accept my sincere condolences. -Lisa DeCicco, Office Manager @ Iovanne FH*

Lisa - March 07, 2023 at 12:36 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of John C. O'Donovan.*



March 07, 2023 at 09:09 AM



“ *John was my greatest teacher of service to God and the community. He is the epitome of a good Christian. I will surely miss his presence at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. God Speed BOSS*



Cecilia Palacio - March 06, 2023 at 11:24 PM

NF

“ Dear Mrs. O’ Donovan,
We are extending our heartfelt sympathy at
this extremely difficult time. Such a
gentleman. Our prayers and thoughts are with
you.
With deepest condolences,
Nancy and John Ferraro
Members of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish



Nancy Ferraro - March 06, 2023 at 11:14 PM

DD

“ Always welcoming always loving. He took the place of my Irish
Grandfather that died before I was born. RIP John. I know that the
good Lord is holding you in the palm of his hand in Heaven. ❤️.
Donna Dumelin

Donna Dumelin - March 06, 2023 at 07:38 PM

JK

“ John, we loved you in life, we’ll miss you in death. Ar dheis De go
raibh a anam dhlis, solas na flaithis do

Joan Kennedy - March 06, 2023 at 05:42 PM

JL

“ WORDS CAN NOT EXPRESS THE LOST OF JOHN WILL BE IN
THE LIVES OF THOSE HE TOUCHED. I WILL ALWAYS
TREASUER THE TIMES I SPENT WITH JOHN OR TALKED WITH
HIM. HE WAS SO KIND AND MADE YOU FEEL SO SPECIAL. I
WILL MISS HIM. I HOPE WHEN MY TIME COMES, HE WILL BE
THE ONE WHO GREETES ME. GOD BLESS JOHN. KATHLEEN, I
AM SO SORRY.

JOANNE LAMBERT - March 06, 2023 at 05:34 PM

SB

“ One of the finest gentlemen I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. His dedication to the Club, its members, and anyone in need was unmatched. John was a great measure of a man - one who put others before his own needs. Our best to you John and our condolences to Kathleen, friends and family.

Scott & Karen Barnett - March 06, 2023 at 05:27 PM

BC

“ Our sincere condolences Kathleen. Rip John. You were very special in the lives of so many people. When we didn't have transportation to the dances in the 1960's, John was always there. RIP John.
Betsy & Brendan Cox

Betsy Cox - March 06, 2023 at 04:17 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of John C. O'Donovan.



March 06, 2023 at 01:18 PM