



## Joseph A. Donovan

July 18, 1942 - August 13, 2021

Delmar-Joseph A. Donovan, 79, entered Eternal Life Friday, August 13, 2021 at home. Born in Troy, he was the son of Joseph and Anna McGovern Donovan.

Mr. Donovan graduated from both LaSalle Institute in Troy and Holy Cross College. He was a longtime School Psychologist in the Schenectady Public School System. Joe enjoyed bridge, playing tennis often, movies, crossword puzzles, reading and discussions, and singing in the CCV Choir and the Town of Bethlehem Choir.

He was the husband of Marianne Cummings Donovan; father of Susan Donovan Aquino (Robert), Ellen Moore (Craig), Kathleen Donovan, Laura VanNess; grandfather of Rahshek Donovan, Requan Donovan, LorDell Everett, Demarion Everett, Kayleigh Aquino, Megan Aquino, Letti Donovan and Chase Donovan; great grandfather of Ah'Liyah Donovan and Requan Donovan Jr; brother of Ann Donovan White (Bill), Margaret Marker (Richard) and Timothy Donovan (Carol); several nieces, nephews and many friends survive.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Joseph's family Friday, August 20, 2021 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany, NY 12206.

Funeral services Saturday, August 21, 2021 at 9:30 am from the McVeigh Funeral Home, Albany, NY thence to St. Matthews Church, Voorheesville, NY at 10:30 am where his Funeral Mass will be celebrated.

Those wishing to remember Joseph A. Donovan in a special way may send a contribution to the charity of your choice.

To leave a message for the family please visit [www.McveighFuneralHome.com](http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **20**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.  
208 N Allen St  
Albany, NY 12206  
[info@mcveighfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@mcveighfuneralhome.com)

## Service

AUG **21**. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Matthew's Church  
25 Mountainview Street  
Voorheesville, NY

# Tribute Wall

CD

“ Dear Aunt Marianne, Susan, Ellen, Kathleen, Laura, spouses & kiddos,  
We wanted to let you know that we're thinking of you, and that we made a donation in memory of Uncle Joe to our church's food pantry. Our hope is that the families being served will receive a meal that includes dessert, since we know how much he loved sweets.

Love,  
Cathy & Diana



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**Cathy & Diana** - August 22, 2021 at 09:54 PM

JB

“ Dear Marianne and Family - I was honored to have had Joe in my life for so many years. Our Movie Group and Trivia Nights gave Alison and I such great times - just a fun, positive time we could count on every month and year. Joe had such great movie insights (especially when awake) and a huge factor in so many trivia wins (and near wins). But most importantly a good man - husband, father, friend. One of the GOAT for sure. So fortunate to share the life journey with Joe (and the Donovan Family). Joe

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**Joe Benoit** - August 20, 2021 at 05:46 PM

JC

“ Dear Marianne.....Pauline and I were deeply saddened when we learned of Joe's passing. What immediately came to mind was the time Joe and I got to know each other at Our Lady of Angels Seminary in Glenmont. After leaving the seminary, we continued our friendship which resulted in our many get togethers for dinner and picnics especially at Thatcher Park. Our children Dawn, David, Daniel and Damien were also saddened by the news and send their deepest sympathy for your loss. Pauline and I will be attending the funeral mass tomorrow. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. We look forward to getting together again in the not too distant future.

Jerry and Pauline Callahan

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**Jerry and Pauline Callahan** - August 20, 2021 at 03:53 PM



“ *My heartfelt condolences to the Donovan family and to all those whose lives were touched by this wonderful man. When I think of him I just picture smiles- his smiles and the smiles of those around him. His memory will keep those smiles coming always. He added happiness to the world, and that influence is everlasting.*

Andrea PB - August 20, 2021 at 12:27 PM

BL

“ *I send you my sincere condolences on the loss of your beloved husband/father/grandfather... Joe was a valued member of Bethlehem Senior Chorus and will be missed. He was always friendly, thoughtful, helpful, gentlemanly, and an all-around great guy. Plus, of course, he had a great tenor voice.*

*I send the e-mails for the chorus, so one day Joe sent me an email saying he would be absent (for me to forward to Claudia, our director). It started out "Hi Babe," instead of "Hi Bea." Later Joe, very embarrassed, discovered what he had written and sent me another email apologizing profusely and declaring that he henceforth intended to proofread carefully before sending messages. We had some good laughs over that incident.*

*May happy memories of times shared with Joe, plus your faith, as well as the support of family and friends, give you peace and comfort in your loss and grief.*

*Sincerely, Bea Legere*

Bea Legere - August 20, 2021 at 11:18 AM

JB

“ *I am extremely saddened to learn of Joe's passing. He has been a true friend since our days at Holy Cross and kept in contact through the years He would stop by if in the area. We would play some tennis at class reunions. His famous line comes to mind when I'm faced with a routine problem: "Don't sweat the small stuff". My deep sympathy to his family.*

*Jim Boehler  
Rochester, N.Y.*

Jim Boehler - August 20, 2021 at 08:46 AM

JS

*Lots of friends, few like him. In my many memories, and always in my heart.*

Judi Dean Sloan - August 22, 2021 at 09:09 AM



“ *Condolences to Joe's family - very sorry for the loss of your loved one.  
-Steve Unwin (great grandson of Jane Donovan)*

Steve Unwin - August 19, 2021 at 09:29 PM

MA

“ *Marianne - we extend our sincere sympathies to you and your family on the passing of Joe. May he rest in peace with the Lord and may you find comfort in your grief.  
Tony and Mary Amodeo*

Mary K Amodeo - August 19, 2021 at 08:20 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.*



August 19, 2021 at 04:53 PM

EB

“ *Very sorry we will no longer have Joe's voice and enthusiasm in the Bethlehem Senior Choir. He will be missed by many of us.  
Very sincerely,  
Eloise Briere*

Eloise Briere - August 19, 2021 at 01:00 PM

BN

“ *God bless Joe and his family.*

Brian Neugebauer - August 19, 2021 at 11:38 AM

JF

“ *I'm really glad that my mom and I got to see Joe and Marianne when we last visited Albany in 2018. He is such a kind and gentle soul. -- Jerry Floro (and Marilyn)*

Jerry Floro - August 19, 2021 at 07:59 AM

MC

“ *To Joe’s family:  
I sang next to Joe for a number of years in the CCV choir. He always had a smile and a kind way about him. I am so sorry your family has lost a spouse and father. We will miss his voice and his company.*  
*Maureen Conley*

Maureen Conley - August 18, 2021 at 11:07 PM

EK

“ *Joe and I were tennis buddies forever. We nicknamed him ‘orthoman’ because he wore several braces and guards when we played. I remember one time he complained of his ‘tennis’ arm hurting so much that he said he couldn’t play. Well we took care of that in a hurry. We invented ‘non dominant’ tennis where we used only the ‘non’ tennis arm to play with. Both of us ‘stunk’ at it, but we had great fun doing it. If there’s tennis up in heaven, you can bet Joe is playing there now. Miss you buddy.*  
*Ed Kravitz*

Ed Kravitz - August 18, 2021 at 06:54 PM



“ *Caring Condolences Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.*



August 18, 2021 at 06:18 PM

MK

“ *I had the pleasure of dinging in the choir with Joe. I will forever remember his smile. He will be missed by the choir. His beautiful tenor voice always made me smile. My sincere condolences to his family.*

*CCV member,  
Margie Kreiger*

Margie Kreiger - August 18, 2021 at 06:02 PM

FC

“ *Maryann and family,  
While Joe was in the declining days of his illness, I was taken ill and hospitalized for four days. Joe called Henry Hughes, a common friend and one of the ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out – a luncheon group that got together every Friday) to inquire about my condition. I was so impressed with his compassion, especially given what he was going through, that I wrote him the following email. He valued my response so much that I thought it should be added to his obituary.*

*Joe,  
I just got off the phone with Henry. He updated me on your prognosis. I can't believe you had the good grace to inquire about my well-being while facing your own far more serious tribulations. That underscored my conviction that you're not just one of the smartest and funniest human beings I've ever known, but also the kindest. You know that we ROMEOS are your biggest fans, so don't assume you're alone in the days ahead.*

*Please keep in touch.*

*Fred Como*

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**Fred Como** - August 18, 2021 at 10:14 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.*



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August 18, 2021 at 09:29 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.*



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August 18, 2021 at 09:24 AM

SW

“ I am so sorry to hear of Joe's passing away. I remember Joe's warm personality and his love of singing. He would always bring his "tape recorder" to practice and had a passion for music. He was a gentleman and we will miss him.  
Shelley Woodward

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Shelley Woodward - August 18, 2021 at 07:54 AM

KH

I am so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was such a wonderful, kind and friendly person. I will truly miss hear that beautiful tenor voice. CCV has lost another great one.

Karla Hadley

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Karla Hadley - August 18, 2021 at 08:50 AM

PM

“ Joe & I both began our careers as school psychologists with the Schenectady City School District in 1970 & worked together as colleagues for over 30 years....Joe & I remained in touch after our retirements & we periodically got together for breakfast or lunch with our mutual friend & fellow psychologist, Dan Raymo...it was an honor and privilege to have known Joe throughout the years as he was truly a kind, ethical & caring individual....we shared many laughs and stories over the years & I will dearly miss his smile, thoughtfulness & humble personality....my thoughts & prayers are with Marianne, his family & friends during this very difficult time...may your cherished memories of Joe sustain you & help you heal....may Joe's memory forever be a blessing...

Paul Michel

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Paul Michel - August 18, 2021 at 07:14 AM

PM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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Paul Michel - August 18, 2021 at 07:01 AM

JC

“ Though I did not know Joe very well, I was a colleague of his at several points in our careers in Schenectady. He always took the time to chat. He was such a positive person, always smiling, always upbeat. I am saddened by his passing. My deepest sympathies go out to his family. He was one of the “good guys”. The world was a better place with Joe in it.  
Judith Calvelli

Judith Calvelli - August 18, 2021 at 06:56 AM

GS

“ Marianne and family,

I am so sorry to learn of Joe's passing. What an appropriate photo of him - It captures the wonderful, happy, caring man he always was. There are so many happy memories of Michael and me visiting with the Donovan family. When Joe would visit Michael during his illness, he always brought smiles with his updates on the Donovan family and the reminiscences of happenings over their long years of friendship. Perhaps the universe will find a way to bring the two friends together again. Sending prayers for Joe and love to you all.

Gerri de Seve

geri de Seve - August 17, 2021 at 11:45 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.



August 17, 2021 at 09:35 PM

AS

“ My prayers and sincere sympathy to you all. Many happy memories of Joe. He shares Eternal Joy.

Alan Schick

Alan Schick - August 17, 2021 at 02:41 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.*



August 17, 2021 at 02:40 PM

JP

“ *I had the honor of directing Joe for many years with Capital Community Voices (CCV). He was always willing to step forward when an extra voice was needed for an ensemble or a solo. His good nature and kindness will stay with me forever and he will be dearly missed by his fellow singers. Sincere condolences to his family.*

*Julie Panke*

**Julie Panke** - August 17, 2021 at 10:06 AM

JT

“ *Dear Family, I met Joe as a member of CCV. He was always so pleasant and I always enjoyed talking with him. He will live on through your special memories.*

*Jo-Ann Tyler*

**Jo-Ann Tyler** - August 17, 2021 at 09:51 AM

KD

“ *Karen And Alan Druckman lit a candle in memory of Joseph A. Donovan*



**Karen and Alan Druckman** - August 17, 2021 at 08:34 AM

KD

*Marianne...  
Karen and I are so sorry. Accept our condolences 🙏*

**Karen and Alan Druckman** - August 17, 2021 at 08:36 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.*



August 16, 2021 at 04:54 PM

MD

“ *Laura,  
Hold tight of memories for comfort and please lean on your family and friends for strength, always remember the bond you and your dad have. You are in my thoughts and prayers and you know I am here. Sending hugs*



*Meg D*

**Meg D** - August 16, 2021 at 12:38 PM

LV

*Thank you*

**laura vanness** - August 16, 2021 at 05:48 PM

LV

“ *Daddy I will forever hold you close to my heart! I'm overly blessed to have had you for my dad...thank you for always being one of my biggest supporters and guiding me to do right. I miss you each and everyday but I'm glad to know the suffering and pain is over... please keep watch over all of us I love you , your daughter Laura❤️*

**laura vanness** - August 16, 2021 at 11:37 AM

BC

“ *Joe is the definition of a saint, always living for others and positively impacting his family. He gave freely of his time and was always interested in each person's life, their challenges and accomplishments.  
He will never be far away from Marianne, his most supportive lifetime partner and beloved wife! Death will not part them!  
Greatness!*

**B J Costello** - August 15, 2021 at 07:39 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph A. Donovan.*



August 15, 2021 at 07:35 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



**Walter Mahoski** - August 14, 2021 at 03:13 PM



*So blessed to have you for a brother, Joe! Nothing but beautiful memories. Ann*

**Ann** - August 14, 2021 at 06:06 PM

JO

Dear Uncle Joe,

*As I think about the wonderful life you have lived, I am eternally grateful to my mother for naming me after her, you, Grandma and Grandpa.*

*My earliest memory is of you brushing and curling my unruly blonde hair at Grandma's house.*

*After Susan was born, we all went to Wildwood. Kevin and I walked on the Boardwalk with you and Uncle Tim. Because of your height and handsome appearance, you were singled out at one of the kiosks to turn a somersault on the trampoline. You ably complied. We then went for neopolitan ice cream waffle sandwiches - you, a food connoisseur always.*

*When I had chicken pox you brought me a Kateri Tekawitha coloring book and visited with me, my raging fever and red pock marks eviscerated by your kindness.*

*When you got married, you and Aunt Mare had a grand wedding at the Golden Fox and all of us kids - the Markers and Whites and Cummings - sat at a round table covered in white linen, drinking Shirley Temples and watching you dance. That was the combined influence of Loretta Cummings and Anna McGovern Donovan. Grandpa arrived at the reception from Glenridge. All had a wonderful time.*

*There were the times with Susan and Ellen and Kathleen and Laura and David, and later Katie and Michael - all beautiful, delightful children. Christmas and Thanksgiving and birthdays at Grandma's and our house and Aunt Marge's and your house and Aunt Carol and Uncle Tim's. Always you were the enduring, gentle presence in the room.*

*You raised your children and grandchildren with wisdom and kindness and patience, though it was not always easy. You taught everyone that diversity matters and kindness matters and there is no color and everyone is the same in God's eyes.*

*To the very end, you lived your life to the fullest, holding a wedding on your front porch, entertaining friends and family with stories of your travels and your favorite books and visiting your favorite haunts with your friends.*

*You made all of our lives richer for having known you.*

*We love you very much.*

*We will hold you to your promise that we will ALL be watching the Gilded Age together next year!*

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**Joanne** - August 15, 2021 at 11:27 AM

MG

*I enjoyed working with Joe in the SCSD. He always had a smile and willingness to help in whatever way was needed. My condolences to his family and close friends. I know he will be missed.*

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**Michelle Aulita Gabriel** - August 15, 2021 at 01:27 PM

EF

*Thinking of you, praying for you, and holding you in my heart, Mar and family. May your loving memories of Joe and God's peace uplift you and comfort you. I smile now as i remember Joe with a pastry in hand, savoring each bite and loving life. I smile as I remember Joe eagerly discussing a myriad of topics with a smart and open mind. I smile as I remember us winning at trivia, mightily I might add ;), on Team JoeEva. And I smile as I remember Joe love on his family so tenderly. I'm so blessed that Joe Donovan was in my life, and I'm so blessed that Mar Donovan continues to be. Love you all, Eva*

*"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you." 2 Thess 3:16*

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**Eva Dean Folkert** - August 16, 2021 at 07:14 PM

IH

*Sincere condolences to Joe's bereaved family members from me and mine..I trust that they will be comforted as promised in The Beatitudes.*

*Ian Hodge CCV member.*

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**Ian Hodge** - August 20, 2021 at 02:55 PM

BB

*I only got to know Joe in recent years as a tennis opponent and partner at Sportime and Central Park. He was always a pleasure to have on the courts with his positive banter and regular encouragement for better tennis. We sure will miss him.*

*Bob Bailey*

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**Bob Bailey** - August 23, 2021 at 06:08 PM