



Brian O'Kane

December 6, 1960 - July 12, 2017

Albany-Brian O'Kane died suddenly from health issues on July 12, 2017. He was born on December 6, 1960 in Queens, NY, but for most of his adult life he called Albany home.

Brian was employed as a taxi driver. He was a good cab driver not because he knew the streets well, but because he truly cared about the people he transported. Very often he would find himself having to cover the fare for those who were unable to pay. Whenever his customers entered his cab, he would offer them an encouraging word or a joke.

Brian had the gift of relating with everyone he encountered, the poor in spirit. Around his neck, he wore a crucifix reminding him that Christ too shares in our crosses and carries them with us. His relationship with Christ compelled him to seek out the suffering. He routinely visited Barnwell nursing home in Valatie, always bringing simple gifts for the residents.

Brian faithfully attended Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church and was a friend to many parishioners and the clergy.

He will be remembered for his charm, humor, wit, honesty, but most of all for his genuineness and charity. Those of us who knew him consider ourselves very blessed.

He is survived by his brothers, Eddie, Dennis and sister Kristen.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Blessed Sacrament Church, on Wednesday July 19th at 1:30 PM.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Blessed Sacrament Church, 607 Central Ave. Albany, NY 12206. May he Rest In Peace.

To leave a message for the family, please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Previous Events

Service

JUL 19. 1:30 PM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Church
607 Central Ave (Father John Bradley Way)
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Brian O'Kane*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *I know Brian only thru his loving brother dennis...and send love and prayer for his soul and for his beloved brother dennis and family who I do not know....but know thru love always doc*

richard aulicino - July 19, 2017 at 05:18 AM



“ *B-OK, as he liked to be called, was a big sweetheart. It's funny, I was recently watching the video of my wedding and saw him bouncing along in the church background. I miss him already. He had a rare openess and lightheartedness in conversing with people despite his own daily struggles.*

I don't think he ever let me pay the couple times he coincidentally ended up being my taxi driver. I don't think those kinds of things mattered to him as much. He was truly one of a kind. I wish I had a tiedyed shirt to wear on Wednesday.

Erica Mc - July 18, 2017 at 08:08 PM

DO

DKOK , Brians brother Dennis. The stone that the builder rejected became the corner stone. He loved to joke and embarrass me in front of our friends. When he told them he had to pay for dinner with me on his 🎂 . birthday. He never forgot to tease me. We both knew the truth it cost me double next time L.O.L. Brian had a passion for good food and ate in finest resturants in the world. Brian was a wealthy man in his younger days but became rich in death. He had servants who cared for him but never forgot to treat them as his family. He was so loyal that he was trusted will carring around millions of dollars all over the world. He cared for his mother and provided for her so she would never have to work. And my mother used to give the money away to the poor. Before they ate their dinner they would litterly would put a hundred or two in the busboys hand and tell to keep his mouth shut. So no one would try to take it away. God forbid if Brian ever found out different. If you know what i mean L.O.L. Brian wasnt shy about expressing his feelings. If you catch my drift. 😊 True story. Brian used to eat at bravo johnnys in Manhattan with my mother. There was only one table. Bill cosby had to 🙋 wait on line. Because they loved Brian. He actually gave my mother millions of dollars and she gave it to the least of our brothers and sisters. Thats how he learned to give. She set the bar high for him. And he followed suit. He gave it all away until he had nothing left to give . My deepest love to father Brian who became the father Brian always longed for in his life after our mother passed away. If father Brian ever became the Pope Brian would want to be his servant. He always used to brag to me about him. And know i no why. God bless you father Brian. He is with you always until the end of time.

Dennis Okane - July 21, 2017 at 01:09 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Brian O'Kane.



July 18, 2017 at 01:43 PM

JE

“ Jean lit a candle in memory of Brian O'Kane



Jean - July 18, 2017 at 07:22 AM

LW

*We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the Okane family. We are sure Brian was dearly loved by all and will be greatly missed.
Sincerely, Lois and Philip Wagner*

lois and philip wagner - July 18, 2017 at 04:42 PM

CC

To the O'Kane family, please accept my deepest sympathy in Brian's passing.

I knew Brian quite well thru Blessed Sacrament over the past few years. He was a beautiful person with a heart of gold who demonstrated how accepting and non-judgemental----- we all should be.

*I know the Lord has opened his arms to receive him and draw him close to his Sacred Heart.
Rest in peace Brian. We will miss you.*

Colleen Cain

Colleen Cain - July 18, 2017 at 08:55 PM



“ Brian was a funny guy, he dressed funny, he acted funny, but somehow he stole the hearts of two little girls who the entire parish loves. I want to share a small encounter I had with him some months ago, I was pulling out of McDonalds on Central Avenue in the pouring rain and there he was walking up the street to his home on Arcadia Ave, and offered him a ride he wasn't going to take it but something in me told me this was no accident (God works in strange ways) I took him to the hotel he was staying in at the time and he was surprised that I knew this without him telling me. I'll tell you how I knew a lot of people in the parish knew of Brian but never took the time to really know who he was and why at times he acted so strangely. Please family don,t take offense he did act strangely never taking a seat in any pew dancing around not staying still and yet there was something about him so endearing you just wanted for him to be happy and I did I wished him well when I no longer saw him at mass I enquired and was told he missed the priest who was kind to him till the day he died. That priest of course was Fr Brian Slezak another act of God of this Im perfectly sure. Father im told mentored him and im told, gave him the will to live. Im hoping he will serve the mass on Wednesday I will be there (if the creek don't rise)and I will be happy to meet the family and tell them he surely is in heaven that all any of us can hope for. For in dying we are born again Fly high Brian as I know you will all those heavy chains around your neck are now replaced with the fragrance of the most beautiful flowers from God's garden.

Judi van Vorse - July 17, 2017 at 11:49 PM



I want to add that I met the family today at the Orchard and they were and are very supportive of Brian. i spoke personally with Aunt Irene, and im guessing she is the matriarch of the family. As I mentioned above God works his wonders in many ways . I was more than happy to see Father Brian Slezak officiated at this mass and if your reading this father, you were very special to Brian as you are to many of us.

Judi van Vorse - July 19, 2017 at 10:39 PM