



James H. Tully Jr.

June 10, 2018

Albany-James H. Tully, Jr., 87, of Albany, NY, passed away on June 10, 2018. He was one of the top state finance officials during the New York City fiscal crisis and Chairman of Hugh L. Carey's successful campaign for Governor of New York in 1974.

Jim's May, 2017 retirement from the New York State Tax Appeals Tribunal, where he served as a Commissioner and was a former President, marked the end of a long and impactful career of public service.

From 1975 through 1982, Jim was Commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, the agency that assumed collection of New York City taxes in response to the mid-1970s fiscal crisis. Following an important legal victory during his tenure, NY Daily News columnist Beth Fallon wrote: "James Tully, smallish, merry-eyed and that much-maligned entity, a political appointee, can take some credit. In a world that loves not the tax commissioner, he should get it."

Jim was born in Brooklyn, NY on May 19, 1931. He served in the New York State Assembly representing Park Slope, Brooklyn and was a delegate to the 1967 State Constitutional Convention.

Jim's commitment to public service continued during periods of private legal

practice, during which he provided counsel to the New York State Comptroller's Office and the Port of Albany. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of Little Flower Children's Services of New York, founding President of the Council of Voluntary Child Care Agencies of NY and co-founder of the Helen Owen Carey Child Development Center in Brooklyn.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 59 years, Eileen Conway Tully, daughters Anne Murphy (Mark) of East Greenbush, NY, Dr. Lauren Tully (Thomas Schiel) of Sabinal, Texas, Susan Tully Abdo (Nicholas) and Kathleen Cronin (Joseph) of Glenmont, NY, and son James Tully (Consuelo Murtagh) of Mountain Lakes, NJ, as well as ten grandchildren. He also is survived by sister Dr. Marie Louse Johnson (Kenneth MD) and brothers Martin Tully (Jeannine) of High Falls, NY, William Tully (late Judith) of Chester, NJ, and Dr. Robert Tully (Anne) of Salisbury Mills, NY.

A graduate of Georgetown University, he was adjunct Professor of Taxation at Albany Law School (1978-1982) and served as a First Lieutenant in the US Army infantry (1953-1955).

Jim loved his wife, his family, his country and his Lord and Savior. All who knew him experienced Jim's intellect, his wit and humor, his gift for storytelling and his kind and generous heart. And, of course, his endless support for the Mets.

Relatives and friends are invited to visitation at the Church of St. Vincent De Paul 900 Madison Ave, Albany, New York 12208, on Wednesday, June 13 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Thursday, June 14 at St. Vincent De Paul Church in Albany at 10:30 am.

Interment will be at St. Agnes Cemetery, Menands.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Catholic Charities, 40 North Main Ave, Albany NY 12208, the Inner City Scholarship Fund of NY, 1011 First Ave, NY, NY 10022, or Jewish Family Services, 877 Madison Ave, Albany, NY 12208, in memory of those who perished in the Holocaust.

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

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Previous Events

Service

JUN 14. 10:30 AM (ET)

Church of St. Vincent De Paul Church
900 Madison Ave.
Albany, NY 12208

Tribute Wall



“ *James H. Tully Jr.*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *I was so sorry to hear of Commissioner Tully's passing. I wish I could have been with you and your family today but committments did not permit it. I enjoyed the time I worked with the Commissioner in the Tax Department. Your family will be in my prayers.*

Patt y Roberts

Patty Roberts - June 13, 2018 at 07:04 PM



“ *A wonderful gentleman in the truest sense of that word. It was a pleasure to have practised law with him and know him as a friend. My deepest sympathies to his family. He will be greatly missed.*

Robert E. Biggerstaff

Robert E Biggerstaff - June 13, 2018 at 03:39 PM



“ *So sad to learn of the passing of The Commissioner. We were friends at 90 State and also at the Fort while working out in the gym, most recently just a couple of weeks ago. . I believe Jim could do more sit ups than anyone else! The Commissioner was always kind and supportive to me. My prayers are with you.*

Peter Crummey - June 13, 2018 at 02:14 PM

KM

“ *Anne, Mark and the Tully Family*

We are so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. He was a wonderful man who made the lives of everyone around him better and happier

Kevin Murphy, Jan Cleveland, Kathleen and Micheal Murphy

Kevin Murphy - June 13, 2018 at 01:54 AM

CB

“ *Dear Eileen and family,*

I am so very sorry for your loss. As Jim's law student in Tax Policy in the early 80's at Albany Law School, through his years representing taxpayers in private practice before me, and then as a Commissioner in my agency and former Tax Appeals Tribunal President, my path crossed Jim's many times for decades. He was a gifted tax professional who cared about all taxpayers, about what was right and a champion of humanity. His attitude made him a consummate public servant. He was of the highest integrity, a gentleman, a gentle man and a scholar. His storytelling with dancing eyes was dazzling, and his humor infectious. He is simply an unforgettable force in one's life and we are all better for having known and learned from him. He will truly be missed and I send my sincerest condolences. May you find peace in your happy memories and with the knowledge that he was respected, admired and cared for by a much larger family.

Cathy Bennett

Division of Tax Appeals

Catherine M Bennett - June 12, 2018 at 01:22 PM

RN

“ *Eileen and family,
Jim and I were so sorry to hear of your loss. We are currently out of the country, but please know that our thoughts are with you. It was an honor to serve with him at the end of his incredible career. There was so much to learn from him, but most of all I will never forget the strength, courage and wisdom he showed in the face of the challenges of the last several years. Wishing all of you some type of peace in these moments brought on by all of the happy memories. We will all miss those stories.
Roberta Moseley Nero and Jim Nero*

Roberta Nero - June 12, 2018 at 11:26 AM

JM

“ *Very sorry for your loss, a great man with the common touch. Enjoyed and appreciated his wisdom and wit but most of all, the direct unfiltered honesty that flowed from his lips would leave me laughing for days!
Ar dheis De' go raibh a anam uasal.*

*John McColgan
Kingston, NY*

john mccolgan - June 12, 2018 at 07:49 AM

AM

“ *I knew Mr Tully from the Albany YMCA. He was a wonderful man and he always had a good word for everyone. May he rest in peace.*

Al Maikels - June 11, 2018 at 07:26 PM