



Leo J. O'Dea

June 4, 1924 - September 19, 2020

Albany-Leo J. O'Dea, passed away, at home, on September 19, 2020. Leo was born in Albany, where he attended Blessed Sacrament Catholic School and Albany High School. Leo attended Siena College in Loudonville while also working full time providing for his family. Leo worked in the insurance field most of his adult life, first as a Fire Inspector, and eventually worked into becoming a highly regarded Insurance Agent. Leo retired after 25 years, as an Insurance Underwriter, for The Hartford Insurance Company.

During these years, Leo was married to the love of his life, Ethel (Betty) Murray O'Dea, and raised 3 children together. Leo was a very proud man, born into a strong Irish Catholic family with 9 children. The family all lived through the Great Depression. His father and 2 brothers were military men, who served during WW1 and WW2. Leo had a lifetime sadness, that he was unable to serve his country due to a childhood Polio disability. He worked tirelessly, over his lifetime, to prove that his disability would never hold him back from anything else. He was the general contractor building his first home. He achieved great success at golf, which he played well into his 90's. Even his failed eyesight, due to severe glaucoma, did not stop him from anything. Leo loved music, of all kinds. He taught himself to play the harmonica at a young age and played for family and friends often. It was the highlight of many events. He was the most determined guy you'd ever want to meet. Leo had friends from every generation, and his friends and family loved

his dry wit and love of life. He loved his family with a fierceness and loyalty that was admired by many.

Leo was predeceased by his wife Ethel (Betty) Murray O'Dea, 2nd wife and childhood friend, Teresa Mitchell O'Dea, eldest son Gregory M. O'Dea, his parents Leo Patrick O'Dea, and Julia Clarke O'Dea, as well as 2 brothers, Gerald and Edward O'Dea. 4 sisters, Mary (O'Dea) Aloisi, Eleanor (O'Dea) Pelgrin, Jean (O'Dea) Kaczmarek and Patricia (O'Dea) Stamus. Leo is survived by his son Bruce P. O'Dea, and daughter, Sharon (O'Dea) Leddick and her husband Bob. In addition, he has the most devoted and loving grandchildren; Darron Leddick and Meghan Leddick, his pride and joys. He is also survived by his sisters Madeline Rita (O'Dea) Aviza and Eileen (O'Dea) Roach, and brother in laws, Richard Kaczmarek and Willis (Bill) Roach. He is also survived by many, many nieces, nephews and extended family. Leo also had a special bond with Alexandra Casaw and Brandon Wright, whose love and support was undeniable.

A special thanks to all those who helped with Leo's care. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Leo's family Thursday, September 24, 2020 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany, NY 12206. Please only enter the funeral home from the rear parking lot doorway. Masks and Social Distancing are required; and 40 visitors at a time will be allowed in the funeral home.

Funeral services Friday, September 25, 2020 at 10:30 am at Blessed

Sacrament Church, 607 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12206 (Father John Bradley Way) where his Funeral Mass will be celebrated.

The Rite of Committal will be held at St. Agnes Cemetery, Menands, NY immediately following the Funeral Mass.

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

The family is asking those willing, to wear green to show your Irish Pride.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **24**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.
208 N Allen St
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com
<http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com>

Service

SEP **25**. 10:30 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ Leo J. O'Dea

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ Sharon, Bob and family. My deepest sympathy for the loss of your father. I'll miss Bob telling his Leo stories at work. Betty Hoffman

Betty Hoffman - September 27, 2020 at 03:37 PM



“ My condolences on the loss of your loved Dad & Grandfather, brother and friend. A lovely tribute to read and wish I had the opportunity to meet him. Trusting the love of family and friends will surround you and provide some comfort as you grieve him and celebrate his life. Michael Nelson (2nd Cousin), Toronto, Canada

Michael Nelson - September 26, 2020 at 02:06 PM



“ Sharon and family.
I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. My sincerest condolences. He was such a nice man. I'm glad my mother and I had the opportunity to meet you and Leo.

Loretta Fantroy - September 25, 2020 at 03:23 AM

EN

“ My father George Nisch and Leo were great friends. They had a lot in common especially their Irish heritage. I will always remember being at my ex-wife's father's funeral at McViegh standing with family and here comes Leo in line. He didn't know the family but he know I was there and came just to see me and give condolences. I will never forget the huge heart he had and his traditional style of pride and respect. I just googled his name today to see if I could contact him to let him know my father George passed away Tuesday and found his obituary. I guess my dad wanted to be with him as Leo was there for many throughout his life. I hope they are having a beer together! My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Leo was a great guy!- Eric Nisch

Eric Nisch - September 24, 2020 at 03:36 PM

DC

“ We are so sorry for you loss. Leo was such a gentle soul and will be sorely missed. It was such a privilege to have know him all these years and the memory of him will always bring a smile.

All our love and support,

Chris & Deb Carpenter

xxooxxoo

Deb Carpenter - September 24, 2020 at 08:40 AM

KH

“ Bruce and Sharon and family.
I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your dad. My sincerest sympathy. He was such a nice, kind man and would do anything to help if needed. He was always a gentleman. I haven't seen him in years but I have very fond memories of him.
Karol Aloisi Hughes

Karol L Hughes - September 23, 2020 at 09:48 PM

LR

“ Sharon and family. I'm so sorry for your loss. The loss of a parent is never easy. At least you got to bring him home so that he could spend his last days with the people that meant the most to him.

Lisa & Henry Relation

Lisa Relation - September 23, 2020 at 09:38 PM

KE

“ Meghan and family,

We send our deepest condolences to you. He was a special person who will be greatly missed.

- Kathleen Egan and Jim Hedderman

Kathleen Egan - September 22, 2020 at 09:08 AM

LA

“ Take comfort in knowing you got to spend his last days on earth with Uncle Leo, one of a kind. God bless you all at this difficult time.
Liz A.

Liz A - September 22, 2020 at 08:42 AM

JG

“ Judy Grimsley lit a candle in memory of Leo
J. O'Dea



Judy Grimsley - September 21, 2020 at 07:52 PM

EH

“ *Ellen M. Hedderman lit a candle in memory of
Leo J. O'Dea*



Ellen M. Hedderman - September 21, 2020 at 07:47 PM