



Richard G. Hehir

February 28, 1929 - December 14, 2016

Loudonville-Richard G.Hehir, Ed.D of Loudonville passed away peacefully on December 14, 2016 at the age of 87.Born in Buffalo, NY he was the son of the late John and Mildred Schuster Hehir and the loving husband of Joan Williams Hehir. Richard graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute (A Christian Brothers H.S. in Buffalo) ,earned a Bachelors degree from Canisius College and his Masters degree in Education at the University of Buffalo specializing in the education of deaf and hearing impaired children. He later earned his Doctorate in Education Administration at the University at Albany in 1971.

In January of 1951, Richard enlisted in the United States Air Force and was accepted in Officer Candidate School after completing his basic training. He earned distinguished graduate status from the Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force where he served as an intelligence officer until the conclusion of the Korean War in 1953. Upon his return to Buffalo after the War, Dr. Hehir began his teaching career at St. Mary school for the Deaf, where he also coach 3 varsity athletic teams. Two of his deaf athletes competed in the Deaf Olympics in Finland in the early 1960s; another one of his athletes also won the city of Buffalo's Turkey Trot Marathon. Dr. Hehir continue teaching at St. Mary's until accepting a position with the New York State Education Department in Albany in 1962. He started in the Division of Handicapped Children, in 1970 he became Chief of the Bureau for Physically Handicapped Children for the State of NY and in 1977

he became Director. Later he transferred to the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation until his retirement in 1988. While at the NYS Education Department, Dr. Hehir was an adjunct professor at the College of Saint Rose where he taught courses on federal and state laws relating to the education of children with disabilities.

Richard was a communicant of St. Pius X Parish for 54 years. He served on the first Parish Council and was actively involved in the Parish School Board, Eucharistic Minister and Lector. He volunteered as a Chaplin Aide at Albany Memorial Hospital.

In his retirement, Richard and Joan enjoyed traveling, visits to Ireland and vacations with family and friends. They especially enjoyed camping when their children were young and later times at Stowe, Vermont. The Town of Colonie Golf Course was a place of particular enjoyment for Richard with his golfing buddies. He also enjoyed early morning swims at the Rudy A. Cicotti Center and various athletic activities involving his grandchildren of whom he was so proud.

Dr. Hehir is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Joan and their children Denise (Matthew)Fitzgerald, Kevin (Michelle)Hehir ,Mary Therese McNamara, Deirdre (Peter) Desmond and his beloved grandchildren Bridget, Michael and Sean Fitzgerald, Michael Scott Hehir, Meghan and Conor Desmond; a sister, Joan Stafford of Foxboro, Mass and two nieces, Laurie McDonald and Maureen Eimers. He was predeceased by his eldest son, Micheal John Hehir, son in law, Alan McNamara and brother in law, Robert Stafford.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Kingsway Community in Schenectady for their outstanding care, compassion and their enjoyment of Richard's sense of humor. The family also wishes to thank Father James Walsh for his never ending kindness.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Richard's family Sunday, December 18, 2016 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at St. Pius X Church, Loudonville (Please enter the church through the Chapel Entrance).

Funeral services will be Monday, December 19, 2016 at 10:00 am at St. Pius X Church, Loudonville where a Funeral Mass will be celebrated.

The Rite of Interment will immediately follow the Mass at Our Lady of Angels Cemetery.

To leave a special message for the family, light a candle, view Richard's Life Tribute Video, obtain directions or see other helpful services please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Those wishing to remember Richard in a special way may send a contribution to St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN. 38105

Cemetery Details

Our Lady of Angels Cemetery

1389 Central Ave
Albany, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 18. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

St. Pius X Church
23 Crumitie Road
Loudonville, NY

Service

DEC 19. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Pius X Church
23 Crumitie Road
Loudonville, NY

Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard G. Hehir*



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - December 16, 2016 at 04:36 PM



“ *Richard G. Hehir*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to you and your family during this difficult time, may the words at Isaiah 25:8 bring you comfort "He will swallow up death forever, And the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces"*

Montana - December 29, 2016 at 11:29 PM



“ *Kevin- Please accept my deepest condolences on the passing of your father. May you find peace in the memories of your fathers life that will last forever. I am keeping you and your entire family in my thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.*

Tom McGraw

Tom McGraw - December 19, 2016 at 08:27 AM

NJ

“ Dear Mrs. Hehir, Denise and family,

I am very sorry to hear of Mr. Hehir's passing. I have many fond memories of his fun loving spirit and kindness towards me growing up in Loudonville. He always had us kids laughing, and we always felt so welcomed in the Hehir home.

Mr. Hehir was a lucky man to have such a supportive and loving family. I send my prayers for you all that the memory of so many wonderful years together will help you at this difficult time.

Love, Nancie Jordan Jacobson

Nancie Jacobson - December 18, 2016 at 08:38 AM

DF

Thank you Nancy. My Dad was the rock and heart of our family. We miss him more than I can say.

Denise Hehir Fitzgerald - December 19, 2016 at 06:20 PM

RH

“ Dear Joan, Kevin, Mary Therese, Deidre & family,

I was so saddened to hear of Dick's passing. He left a legacy of humor and love of family.

I pray the Holy Spirit's comfort and strength at this difficult time.

Love,

Rin Hillard

Rin Hillard - December 17, 2016 at 12:48 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Richard G. Hehir.*



December 17, 2016 at 09:35 AM



“ *Denise... You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers at this most difficult time. Please accept our heartfelt condolences.*
Love, Renee & Bob Bourdeau



Renee Bourdeau - December 17, 2016 at 07:14 AM



Thank you for all your support these last few days

Denise - December 17, 2016 at 02:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard G. Hehir.*



December 16, 2016 at 08:27 PM

MH

“ I know they say nothing last forever and I still truly can't grasp the fact that your gone but I truly am so great duo to have you as my Grandfather and have the honor to carry on your name. Everything I do is to make you proud rest easy Da I can't wait to see you again. Like my father did before me I will carry your name with pride.



Michael Hehir - December 16, 2016 at 03:54 PM

BF

“ I love you Da, you have made such an impact on my life and the lives of everyone you met. I already miss you terribly, but know that you are never gone and will always be with us. Love you always, Bridge



Bridget Fitzgerald - December 16, 2016 at 03:02 PM

MF

“ I love you DA! Life will never be the same without you! Rest In Peace love your favorite grandson Michael Patrick Fitzgerald



Michael Fitzgerald - December 16, 2016 at 02:48 PM