



William F. "O'Bie" O'Brien

July 22, 1928 - November 25, 2011

Loudonville-William F. O'Brien, known to his beloved family and friends affectionately as "O'Bie", died Friday, November 25, 2011 at Albany Medical Center Hospital. Born in Albany, he was the son of the late Dean Francis J. O'Brien and Hildegarde Hohl O'Brien and brother of James O'Brien, who died in infancy.

O'Bie was a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy, Siena College and Columbia University, where he earned his Doctorate in Education. Bill spent 33 years in Education. He worked for the Altamont High School, Rensselaer City School District, and Hudson Valley Community College. Sports were a big part of Bill's life, and he enjoyed great success coaching Baseball, Basketball, Bowling, Golf and Tennis. He was a former professional baseball scout for the Philadelphia Phillies Major League Baseball Team. O'Bie enjoyed Italian Opera, the Brooklyn Dodgers, and playing golf. One of his great memories in sports was scoring a Hole-In-One on the 11th hole at Mill Road Acres. Bill was a longtime member of St. Francis de Sales Church, now known as Christ Our Light Catholic Church, where he volunteered often over the years, and where he and his wife Josephine helped start the Family Religious Education Program.

He was the beloved husband for 42 years of Josephine Savoca O'Brien; dear brother-in-law of Carmela M. Savoca; he is survived by his wife's cousins,

Carmen Genovese, Antoinette Tomlin, Phillip Genovese, Christina Mejias, and Thomas Genovese; cousin of the Flacke, Virgil, and Briggs families.

Funeral services Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 9:45 am from the McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany thence to Christ Our Light Catholic Church, Loudonville at 10:30 am where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated.

Relatives and friends are invited and may call Monday, November 28, 2011 4:00 to 7:00 pm in the funeral home.

Interment St. Agnes Cemetery, Menands.

To leave the family a special message on their guest book, obtain a prayer card or directions, or share a photo or E-card with them, please visit www.McVeighFuneralHome.com

Previous Events

Service

NOV **29**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Christ Our Light Catholic Church
1 Maria Drive
Loudonville, NY

Tribute Wall



“ *William F. "O'Bie" O'Brien*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *Dear Mrs. O'Brien, I was saddened to learn of Obie's passing. He was my English teacher at Altamont High School in the early 1950s and a good friend of the Ryan family.*

I last saw him in 1975 when, true to his thoughtful nature, he stopped by our home following my mother's funeral. All of the family appreciaed that expression of compassion and good will.

It is sad to see him gone, but good and necessary to recognize that he lived a long life of service to his community and the many people who enjoyed his warm and enthusiastic friendship.

My family and I wish you well in this moment of pain and difficulty.

Sincerely, John Ryan##imported-begin##John Ryan##imported-end##

November 29, 2011 at 05:59 PM



“ It's been many years since I had any contact. I was a fellow teacher at Altamont High School and later at Guilderland HS I recently re-read the article about Obie that, I think his student, Jack Jenner wrote about him in the HS literary magazine in the 1960's. He was a great teacher and affected so many lives for the better. My sincere condolences to his friends and family.

Gladys O'Brien##imported-begin##Gladys Kniskern
O'Brien##imported-end##

November 29, 2011 at 08:06 AM



“ Dear Josie and family: I regret being unable to attend Obie's wake, but wanted to express my sincere sadness in hearing of his passing. He was one of the kindest, friendliest and compassionate men I have known. His passion for the races was only exceeded by his kindness toward his fellow man. He will be sorely missed. Matt Graves##imported-begin##Matt Graves##imported-end##

November 28, 2011 at 10:32 PM



“ Dear Josie, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. O'Bie was a wonderful, kind man. I am glad that he had so many good years with you. All of us Ryans appreciated his interesting classes. He was a breathe of fresh air in the Altamont school system. We learned so much from him and enjoyed his classes. He will be missed by many. My prayers are with you, Josie.

Love, Pat (Ryan) Thompson##imported-begin##Patricia Ryan
Thompson##imported-end##

November 28, 2011 at 07:41 PM



“ Hundreds and hundreds of VRHS students benefited from Obie's guidance and friendship. I was fortunate to be one of them. No matter what the situation - academic or personal - Obie gave straight answers, correct information, solid advice, and good counsel. I hope he knew how much of a positive influence he was in the lives of so many people. Jim Cochran VRHS ClaVUD2ss of 1966##imported-begin##Jim Cochran##imported-end##

November 28, 2011 at 02:46 PM



“ We heard the news from my mother late Saturday. Obie was without a doubt one of the kindest, most uplifting souls I have ever had the pleasure to know. I have no doubt that he enriched the lives of everyone he came into contact with. We will miss him greatly and keep him in our prayers.##imported-begin##Rich Shea##imported-end##

November 28, 2011 at 02:25 PM



“ 'Uncle' Bill was a very sweet man who always had a smile and words of encouragement for me, not to forget the many surreptitiously transferred ten and twenty dollar bills. My heart goes out to Josie, they were always joined at the hip and happily socializing at every family event. Obie was one of a kind, he will be greatly missed. My love to Josie...##imported-begin##Aaron Flacke##imported-end##

November 28, 2011 at 09:12 AM



“ I have such great childhood memories of O'Bie growing up. It was always fun to come over and visit with O'bie and Josie. My only regret is that I did not bring my children over to meet him. He was such a kind and polite person. Whenever I think of O'Bie I will always have a smile on my face.##imported-begin##Todd McAuley##imported-end##

November 28, 2011 at 08:37 AM



“ To one of the greatest persons I have met in my life. Thank you for believing in a 17 year old boy. Your faith in him made all the difference. He will always carry a piece of "Obie" in his heart. Rest in peace.##imported-begin##joseph anastasio##imported-end##

November 27, 2011 at 08:51 PM