

THE STAR-LEDGER

Denis Patrick Duffy

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Delbarton teacher and assistant headmaster, 65 Denis Patrick Duffy of Bedminster died suddenly on Dec. 30, 2008, while vacationing in St. Croix. He was 65. The family will receive friends on Friday, Jan. 9, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Bailey Funeral Home, 8 Hilltop Rd., Mendham. A Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Abbey at Delbarton. Interment will be private. Born in Venezuela, Denis came to New Jersey in 1954 to study at St. Mary's Abbey. He lived at Delbarton from 1954 until 1987. In 1989, he married Helen Louise Christian and moved to Bedminster. Denis received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Benedictine College in 1965. He received his master's degree in theology in 1969 and his master's in counseling in 1983, both from Seton Hall University. Denis was a teacher at Delbarton from 1967 until 1987 and served as the assistant headmaster. Denis worked as a Spanish Teacher at Franklin High School and also taught at Raritan Valley Community College from 2003 until 2008. He was a member of the Mendham Golf and Tennis Club and the Bay Head Yacht Club. He was also a member of the Rockland Yacht Club and Rockport Boat Club, both in Owl's Head Maine. Survivors include his wife, Helen Louise Duffy of Bedminster, and her six children, John Christian (Mary) of Flanders,

Meredith Whaley (Fred) of Bedminster, Paul Christian (Lora) of Richmond, Va., Maureen Sciortino (James) of Long Valley, Michael Christian (Jennifer) of San Francisco, Calif., and Bryan Christian (Allison) of Tewksbury Township; one sister, Maureen Akin, and her children, Meghan Wegleitner and Joseph Skalek. He is also survived by 15 grandchildren and his golden retriever, Shea. For those desiring, donations to the Denis P. Duffy Scholarship Fund at Delbarton School, in his memory, would be appreciated.

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

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MEMORIES & CONDOLENCES

Guest Book sponsored by The Duffy Family

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18 entries

January 1, 2020

There is not a day goes by that I dont think of you. I know you are very close....You were with me this past year as I walked with Meghan on her

cancer journey. It is great that we now have a headstone for you in Cat Spring! You are known and loved immensely by your great nephews, two of whom carry one of your names. You are remembered! You are loved! See you one of these days...Your hermanita

Maureen Akin

Family

June 24, 2010

Dear Denis I have so many memories of you. I remember my mother making us stay quiet so you could watch "Gunsmoke " . The time you & your mother stayed with us in Ireland. Those hours long talks with you & John. The life changing decisions we made in 1985 & many more which will stay with me. You were a good cousin to me. Thank you.

Ann Murphy

May 20, 2009

May 20, 2009

Denis

I just learned of your death today. I am deeply saddened about losing such a good friend and a wonderful person.

Even though time and distance separated us, I always felt a special bond with you. Your human kindness, sympathy and generosity were wonderful gifts.

The years we spent together in the monastery were eventful and formative years in our lives Thank you for all your kindness and support during those years. I owe you a deep debt of gratitude.

Thank you also for officiating at our wedding. My marriage to Maryanne

has been wonderful and blessed with three fantastic children. That was the last time I saw you, at our wedding in 1976. I will always remember you as you were then joyous, gracious and kind to all you met.

I have thought of you often through the years. I loved you. You will be deeply missed.

Thomas Farrell

February 5, 2009

Denis, my friend, Easy words to merely say, but that friendship began when we were in the 3rd and 4th grades in Caripito, Venez, and the memories of our times together will never diminish. Recess at school, baseball and football afterwards, our tree houses, building rafts to ride the white water of the Caripe River, movies on Wed and Sun nights, Easter egg fights at Easter, your dad savings us from bats when he took us to a neighboring oil camp for a golf tournament; trips into the jungle to help ourselves to a stalk of sugar cane...an endless list of childhood adventures and mis-adventures. As we grew and came home from school in the summers, the friendship never missed a beat as your mother taught us bridge and kept us supplied with chocolate chip cookies (with Maureen's help!) How many rounds of golf did we play together? Since those days we haven't seen each other that much, but the friendship never dimmed. The week you visited me at Okla City and the many discussions we had will never be forgotten. My friend, you left very deep footprints in your journey through life, and your Caripito "gang" will re-tell your history and adventures until the day we join you. Your physical presence will be so missed, but your laughter, love and wisdom will always be heard. Weezie, I am so sorry for your loss, but grateful for your memories. Maureen, we will always be here for you. Terry Flaugher, Edmond, Oklahoma

Terry Flaugher

January 15, 2009

Denis, mi hermanito,

It has been two weeks and two days since you were called to your heavenly home. I will carry your memory with me all the rest of my life. There were so many words left unsaid, but I am glad we had that last conversation on Sunday night. We always closed with "I love you." I will rerun so many tapes through my mind of the many things we shared. I know you can look into my heart this very instant and see how heavy my sorrow is. Your service in NJ was so fitting! Love forever and beyond, tu hermanita Maureen XXX000

Maureen Duffy Akin

January 11, 2009

Dearest Mr. Duffy,

You were a great 9th grade Spanish teacher and friend. I will always remember the moments we shared laughing about the ironies of life. You will sincerely be missed.

Nadia Shaikh

January 11, 2009

Dear Louise ~

My heart breaks for you. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do for you.

Toni

Antonia Gollob

January 9, 2009

Denis,

I want to thank you for the short years we new each other in Caripito for all those golf games we played. It was the 5th hole that I got my first eagle playing with Denis, he turn and said to me "what the hell did you just do? Is that an eagle?" It was just one of the few times I was able to beat Denis. He was very intense and competative person I ever knew at that time.

There isn't anything that will change in what has happened but what he has done and accomplished in life no one can take that away. He leaves the this world a better place.

My deepest sympathy to his family.

God bless everyone.

Bob Kelley

January 9, 2009

I have a lot of memories of denis from the 70's and 80's. Also he married me and my wife back in 1982. Also he buried by father in law in 1985. He was a great man to know. From Joe and Joanne Shigo of cranford nj

joseph shigo

January 8, 2009

Just don't even know what so say or how to say it? So so sorry. He has been a life long friend of our family.....Denis was always there for us, a true friend when ever you needed him. God Bless Denis and the family he so loved. Last we saw him he showed us all the photo's of all the children. We could tell he was truly happy.

Love, Bettyanne and Bill Crane (formerly of Chester Twp, NJ and colleague at Delbarton)

Bettyanne and Bill Crane

January 8, 2009

My cousin Denis was a great soul who brought love and joy into the lives of all who knew him, and he was my friend. I miss him terribly, but I will always carry his Irish spirit with me.

Dear Denis,

If tears could build a stairway and memories were a lane, we would walk right up to heaven and bring you back again. No farewell words were spoken, no time to say goodbye. You were gone before we knew it, and only God knows why. Our hearts still ache in sadness and secret tears still flow. What it meant to lose you no one will ever know. But now we know you want us to mourn for you no more, to remember all the happy times - life still has much in store. Since you'll never be forgotten we pledge to you today, a cherished place within our heart is where you'll always stay

Your Loving Cousin,
Cathy

Catherine Laughna

January 8, 2009

He was a such fun guy that we named a our favorite pet Duffy after him! He will truly be missed by our family and will mourn his loss for years to come. He was a life long time friend of my mom Noel McCarthy Rossi and

family. Going thru a loss of my father this past year, i can understand the loss of a great man. We're so sorry for your loss.

Liza Rossi

January 7, 2009

My condolences to his family. I will miss that dry, Irish wit, Denis! Salut!

Dominic Pettinelli

January 7, 2009

You will always live in our hearts and prayers.

Fernando &Trudy Leyva Pizano

January 7, 2009

You were always an inspiration to me and I'll treasure the memories of you with my family. You always made us smile. We will miss you very much. God bless you and keep you.

Diane Jurecka Bailey

January 7, 2009

You were an exceptional man
and a nice guy, cousin Denis,
and gone too soon.

Andrew McNulty

January 7, 2009

Dear Mr. Duffy,

Daniel, John and I will miss you very much. Daniel will especially miss you telling your stories of your dog in Spanish! He enjoyed having you as a spanish teacher. God Bless you and keep you safe.

The Crowley Family

January 7, 2009

I will miss you so much..Thanks for being such a good friend to our family!

Janette Jurecka Guy**INVITE OTHERS TO ADD MEMORIES**

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