



# Richard Francis O'Connor

JUN 26, 1930 - NOV 23, 2020



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## **Richard Francis O'Connor**

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**R**ichard Francis O'Connor, age 90, of St. Clair passed away November 23, 2020. He was born June 26, 1930. He was married 70 years to his loving wife Jean. Father of 8 outstanding children, 19 brilliant grandchildren and 20 beautiful great grandchildren. Richard "Dick" served our country proudly in the armed forces during the Korean War. He loved to travel and was in his element in the outdoors, fishing, hunting, downhill skiing, bicycling and golf were some of his many passions. Dick was fortunate to retire from his business, Markline Oil Company at an early age and was able to enjoy his life with his family, friends, and dancing with his bride any chance he could. He always made himself available to help a friend in need. He mentored many in life and was a giving loving man who we are all going to miss deeply.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Ann Marie. Survived by his wife, Jean; children, Joyce (Bill), Timothy (Katherine), Kathleen (David), Michael (Tanya), Monica (Randy), Kelley (Tracy) and Kevin (Jill).

Private family services will be conducted with a memorial service planned for the future.

Arrangements by Young Funeral Home, China Twp. To leave a message of comfort visit [www.youngcolonial.com](http://www.youngcolonial.com)



## Events

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### Cemetery Details

 Cremation



## Tribute Wall

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MH

**Margaret Hall** posted:

Jean, I'm so very sorry to read of Dick's passing. I hope you are well. Margaret

December 1 at 8:38 AM

SG

**Sue O'connor Guilbault** posted:

Dearest Uncle Dick. He and my dad worked together for Guardian Fuel Oil before they changed it over to Mark line. I was having a discussion about tires with him at the Troy station one day. He told me that if I didn't have tread on my tires that there would be no way I could get up the hill on Adams Road by Meadow brook. I would just drive straight into the hill. He said it with such a straight face I wanted to believe him. To this day I always think of him as I drive up any hills. Another big memory I had was when I was 8 or 9 and I heard my mom ask dad if Aunt Jean had that baby yet? Dad calmly replied yeah, I think a few days ago. Mom groaned and as I found out when I grew older dad and Uncle Dick were always in trouble because they would forget to let the wives know when a new baby came along. Jean and Donna were too busy with toddlers and babies to call each other so they had to rely on "the boys" to keep them up to date. With Dick's 7 and our 9 that was a lot of info they kept forgetting to pass along. One last memory for now was Uncle Dick and our cousin Elizabeth dancing a tango at a family wedding. He even took a rose off a table and danced with it in his teeth. They were marvelous together and as in all things Uncle Dick did it was with his great laugh and sparkle in his eyes. One great gift he passed on to his children was that great laugh. They all have it. He will live on in our memories as we listen to the laughter of our RFO cousins. My love to you all and to dear Aunt Jean. Love ❤️ Suzie

November 30 at 4:01 PM

NC

**Nancy O'connor** posted:

Oh Uncle Dick. I will miss you, your stories, your zest for life, travel, skiing, bicycle with a motor, your "cell" phone prank and so many other jokes you played and told. Thanks for dancing with me at Jen's wedding because it felt like dancing with my Dad. Heaven gained another golfer. I hope you're having a good time with those who have gone before you ❤️

November 30 at 3:48 PM

JB

**Jen Detroyer Bowden** December 1 at 2:59 AM

Very well said Nancy. So glad you two shared that special memory at our wedding. ❤️



## Tribute Wall

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JC

**Jimmy O'connor** posted:

Uncle Dick, He was a very special mentor to me. I had the luxury to work under his direction from age 13 to 21. My teen years. I remember one time when he thought it would be good for us to paint all the gas station canopies with the airless paint sprayer. WHITE- important to remember this detail. I painted Troy, then 9 mile & Central...on to Warren and Evergreen. He came down to do a station visit and saw me up on the scaffolding just painting away... He decided to park his Chrysler New Yorker (did I mention it was tuxedo black!) behind the station. Well a little breeze and viola! my over spray painted tiny little polka dots on his beautiful black Chrysler New Yorker in the back of the station. Now Uncle Dick has a special way of getting alarmed in difficult situations--imagine a sumo wrestler preparing to attack---bent knees--hands out--determined look---and bouncing back and forth shifting his weight from foot to foot. YEP that is just what he did. He yelled up---JIMMY my car has paint all over it....and sped off to the car wash down the street. He came back and was bummed--we were using an oil base paint. The good news is he found a body shop to rub it out and it looked great again! (praise God)Another time I was in the loft of the warehouse of the office--I was putting up the 8 foot power groove florescent bulbs in the rafters over my head 15 feet above the warehouse floor...and well I didn't have the box of 8 bulbs sealed on the end...needless to say they slid out one by one in succession--exploding on the concrete floor---here comes Uncle Dick running on to the scene as he heard all the explosions from inside the office YEP he assumed the sumo wrestler stance once again. He sized it up and said...you better get that cleaned up and went back inside. I can say honestly he was a pure joy to work with- he forgave me for all my teen age screw ups---yes even when I rear ended a car with the stake truck on Telegraph rd. I will miss him dearly.....but will never forget him!May God bless him for the purgatory I put him through and may he rest in Peace as a good and faithful servant!Jimmy O'Connor ( Nephew)

November 30 at 9:59 AM

AC

**Adam O'Connor** posted:

Uncle Dick was the quintessential O'Connor. A jovial and captivating storyteller, he was able to make everyone feel included, special and important. His presence at gatherings always made me happy, and I could always count on his warmth and a wonderful story or two about getting into good trouble.

November 30 at 12:50 PM



## Tribute Wall

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SF

**Sonja Furtah** posted:

I can't say enough about what a wonderful man Dick was! Always a smile, always a joke, ALWAYS laughing!! I loved all his stories of family, adventures and travel. Never did get to see that motor on his bicycle! I will always cherish his friendship. ~Sonja

November 30 at 9:59 AM



**David Hopp** December 3 at 9:31 AM

What a Great Irishman our good friend Dick was. I remember discussing Trinity a great book about Ireland by Leon Uris and the passage " May he be dead a year before the Devil hears of it" we both laughed as we shared a we bit of Jameson. He told the best stories, loved life, his family and friends. We are all better people for knowing and loving Dick.Love to the entire O'Connor clan.....Karen and Dave Hopp



**Shirley Potter** December 1 at 4:57 PM

My hugs and kisses to all of the RFO family members. You know what a wonderful person Uncle Dick was and how he made you laugh and feel like you were the most important person in the world. His memories will live on and hopefully we can all carry his spirit with us in our daily lives. All of us reading these memories had our own connection with Uncle Dick. May his joie de vie carry you through the tough times.Love, Shirley Frances Potter



**Marion Schwehofer** November 30 at 2:54 PM

Dick was such a wonderful man. He always had such an uplifting personality and made you feel like he had been your friend forever. Our condolences to Jean and the family.Marion and Chuck Schwehofer



**Ed** November 30 at 12:20 PM

Spent many a high school day with Kevin and the O'Connor clan. So many that Mr. O. asked me once (maybe multiple times) "Did I adopt you and nobody told me?" Big heart and generous man. Qualities to aspire to. R.I.P. Ed Wilkowski



**Dave Scheel** November 30 at 11:51 AM

I got to know Dick over the last 10 years on the Washington Life Center Golf Group. A great story teller who was very fun to be around. He was so proud of his wife and family. He lived life to the fullest for 90 years.Our prayers go out to the O'Connor Family.Dave Scheel



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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