

Terrance Joseph O'Donnell passed away at Piyami Place on June 27th at the age of 75 years. Besides his beloved wife Susan, he is survived by his daughter Tara (Darren) Van Zeggelaar, sons Michael (Cheralan) and Bradley as well as six wonderful grandchildren Connor, Isabella, Mikalan, Riley, Maizy and Olive, his sister Patricia (Jack) Whimster, sister in laws, Cheryl O'Donnell and Rose Gray. He was predeceased by his parents, Thelma and Fred, and his two brothers, Jim and Dennis.

Terry, or as most people know him, Mr. O'Donnell, was born in Taber and raised in Picture Butte. You would be hard pressed to find someone whose life wasn't impacted in some way by him; he was friend to many, but only a few were privileged enough to call him family. Terry's family began with his marriage to Sue 45 years ago. They developed a legacy of love, being an example of how partnership, patience, and compassion lead to a strong foundation. Some of the best memories are gathering for Sunday suppers, Holiday celebrations with way too much food, and his spontaneous unannounced visits.

He devoted 35 years of his life to teaching, and it was more than just a profession to him, it was how he lived his life. He spent almost his entire life in schools, whether he was going to school, teaching at the school or later in life as a trustee for the school board. He was very involved outside of the classroom as well. He would say, "You have to see the kid outside of the classroom to appreciate the kid in the classroom," and that is why he loved coaching so much. He simply had a passion for all sports, and enjoyed both coaching and playing. He golfed almost daily, and coached his children and the community in almost every sport. He was an active participant in his children's lives, and in his later years, loved going to watch his grandchildren play hockey, soccer, volleyball, baseball and basketball, often "coaching" from the stands. He was always a man who put everyone else first and always lead by example and would never ask you to do something that he wasn't willing to do himself.

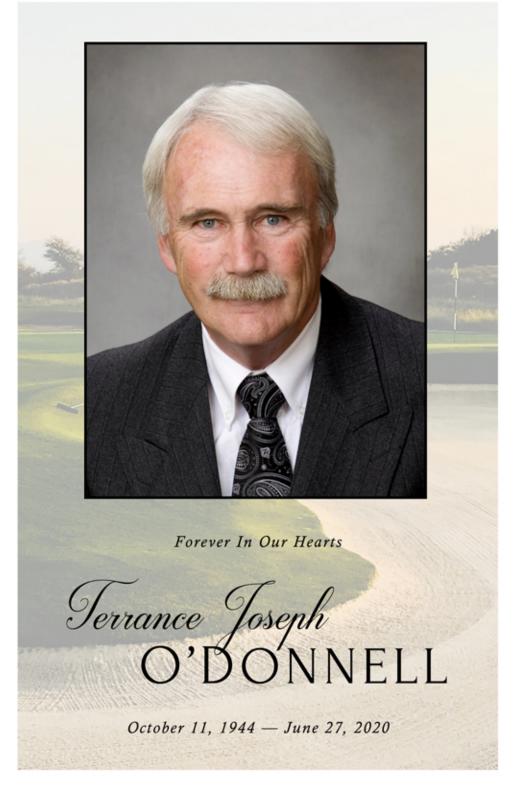
When he wasn't working, he loved spending his time in the yard moving his sprinklers around, mowing the yard, working in his garden or nurturing his animals. All of this kept him very busy, but he always made time for small talk. There was never a shortage of animals for Terry to look after. Tara inherited her dad's love of all things living, and from an early age kept her dad busy with fencing, feeding, and caring for horses, cows, goats, pigs or any other animal she could get her hands on. Terry handled it with grace when the goats were found standing on the hood of the car, eating his garden, or when he had to chase wayward animals down.

Terry loved to travel. He was able to go on quite a few trips during his life including a number of trips to Europe with PBHS, but we all think that his favorite adventures were with his Susie. Terry passed on his love of travel to Brad who, like his father, has tried his best to travel the world, and is quick to share his adventures with others.

Terry shared his love of a certain '77 Chevy with his oldest son, and his final moments were spent listening to a tribute Michael wrote. While his family will always remember the dad jokes, trips to sporting events, and everyday chores, this truck symbolizes far more than those things. It is a reflection of Terry's role as a proud and loving father, and his devotion to his family. As Mike finished his tribute with, "I still feel like I've got a piece of him in the garage. It may just be a little half ton, but it is hauling a lifetime of memories."

Terry's faith was the foundation for his life. He was a devoted Catholic, attending St. Catherine's Parish his entire life. After retiring from teaching, he continued to devote his life to education and his faith through his elected position as a trustee for the Holy Spirit School Board. He was a pillar of the community and served with the Knights of Columbus as a 3rd and 4th degree Knight.

He was recognized by his bushy mustache and loud voice, and was known for quick wit and leadership, but he will be remembered for his kindness and bright smile. He will be greatly missed.



Prayer Service held at St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Church Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Officiant - Father Ian Gagne

Music - Laurel VanVaerenbergh and Jim Robinson

First Reading - 2 Corinthians 1: 6-10

Psalm - Psalm 122

Second Reading - Revelation 21: 1-7

Gospel - John 14: 1-6

Eulogy - Bradley O'Donnell

Hymn - Be Not Afraid

Prayers

Final Commendation - Danny Boy sung by Krysaly Gidley

Funeral Mass celebrated at St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Church Friday, July 3, 2020 at 11:00 AM

Celebrant - Father Ian Gagne

Music - Laurel VanVaerenbergh and Jim Robinson

Danny Boy | Ave Maria | Be Not Afraid

First Reading - Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11a read by Shannon Collier

Psalm - Psalm 23

Second Reading - Romans 6: 3-4, 8-9 read by Lacey O'Donnell

Prayers of the Faithful - Trisha Whimster

Gospel - Matthew 5: 1-12a

## Pallbearers

Bradley O'Donnell — Michael O'Donnell — Darren Van Zeggelaar Cody O'Donnell — Jeff O'Donnell — Dustin O'Donnell

Honourary Pallbearers Connor O'Donnell — Riley Van Zeggelaar — Donald Whimster

## Reception

Following the Funeral Mass, relatives and friends are invited to the O'Donnell family residence for an outdoor gathering, located on the highway, 1 km west of town. The family requests that all guests adhere to safety protocols and respect COVID-19 restrictions

## Interment

A private interment in Mountain View Cemetery will take place at a later date