



## Richard Patrick O'Neill

June 10, 1929 - March 8, 2018

Richard P. O'Neill, 88, of Jefferson City, passed away Thursday, March 8, 2018, in Olathe, Kansas. He was born June 10, 1929, in Lawrence, Kansas, the son of the late James and Florence (Cline) O'Neill.

He was a graduate of University High School and the University of Kansas (KU), Lawrence, KS. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict where he was honorably discharged. He was employed by IBM as a Systems Engineer, where he enjoyed a 35 year career, retiring in 1991 in Jefferson City, MO.

Rich was married in 1955 to his college girlfriend, Helen Kessler of Birmingham, AL, who died in an automobile accident in 1979. Rich then married Mary Ann (Schell) Nilges of St. Thomas, MO.

Rich loved sports. He coached kids baseball and basketball. He was an avid Jefferson City Jays football fan and K.U. basketball fan. He was a die-hard Kansas Jayhawk. Rich especially loved trout fishing, which he learned from Mary Ann. Together, he and Mary Ann built a home near Russellville, MO, where they enjoyed the outdoors, gardening, landscaping, fishing in their lake and watching the wild life.

Rich was an active member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Russellville, MO, where he was instrumental in planning the building of the church and the parish house. He previously served on the Parish Council, Finance Committee, Future Planning Committee and Chairman of the Fall Festival at St. Michael's.

Rich is survived by his wife: Mary Ann; two sons: Mark O'Neill (wife Bobbie) of Nashville, TN; Scott O'Neill (wife Lori) of Overland Park, KS; one step-son: Dale Nilges (wife Nancy) of Jefferson City, MO; three step-daughters: Rhonda LeCuru, Marlene Buckner (husband Joe), Kathy Dunwiddie (husband Russ) all of Jefferson City, MO; six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Rich was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers: Jim, Bob and Eugene O'Neill; and one sister: Kathleen Walker.

Family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 12, 2018, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Russellville. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 12, 2018, at St. Michael's Catholic Church, with Fr. Rob Fields officiating. Interment with full military honors will follow in Resurrection Cemetery in Jefferson City. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the St. Michael's Catholic Church Improvement Fund in Russellville, MO.

Arrangements are under the direction of Houser-Millard Funeral Directors, 2613 West Main Street; Jefferson City, MO 65109. (573) 636-3838. Condolences may be left for the family online at [www.millardfamilychapels.com](http://www.millardfamilychapels.com)

# Cemetery

**Resurrection Catholic Cemetery**  
3015 West Truman Boulevard  
Jefferson City, MO, 65109

# Events

<b>MAR 12</b>	<b>Visitation</b>	09:30AM - 11:00AM
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	St. Michael's Catholic Church	
	5214 Hatler St., Russellville, MO, US, 65074	

<b>MAR 12</b>	<b>Mass of Christian Burial</b>	11:00AM
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	St. Michael's Catholic Church	
	5214 Hatler St., Russellville, MO, US, 65074	

# Comments

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“ My deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers to you Maryann, Dale, Rhonda, Marlene and Kathy. Hope time heals the heart and memories fill the heart.

Lynn Buschjost-Frey - March 24, 2018 at 12:24 PM

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“ Rich O'Neill, aka the Pink Pussycat. Great guy, with a wonderful, quiet sense of humor. Very much enjoyed working with him in Jeff City. Most memorable of his humorous lines was in response to my question as to why he did not retire; his answer -- "I'd rather be half retired on full pay than fully retired on half pay". Doesn't get a lot better than that.  
My condolences to his family and friends.  
Mike McNulty

Mike McNulty - March 17, 2018 at 06:30 AM

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“ Mary Ann and family,

I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Sincerely,

Lorri Seidel

Lorri Seidel - March 13, 2018 at 09:50 PM

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“ So sorry to hear this, Pink was one of the really "good" guys. I always enjoyed his IBM softball team management style. We had a lot of fun.

Ben & Yvonne Kutz

Ben F Kutz - March 12, 2018 at 12:03 PM

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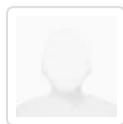
“ Dear Mary Ann,  
Roger & I want to let you know how sorry we are regarding Rich passing away. We have always admired him for his friendliness & a all around great guy.  
Both of you were wonderful to know back in the days of IBM & beyond.

Our thoughts & prayers go out to you & family.

Our love,  
Roger & Linda Samson

**Linda Samson** - March 12, 2018 at 11:11 AM

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“ Mary Ann and family.  
May I extend my deepest sympathy.  
I was priviledged to get to know Rich when he was a IBM SE of Office of  
Administration's The State Data Center of which I was an employee.  
May God wrap his loving and supportive arms around each of you.  
Debra Hausmann



**Debra Hausmann** - March 12, 2018 at 12:57 AM

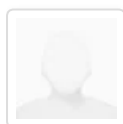
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“ Richard was the last O'Neill cousin descended from James O'Neill and Rose Ann  
Murphy of St. Thomas, Minnesota. Our thoughts and prayers are with this family.  
  
From Patrick O'Neill, grandson of Dennis B O'Neill and son of Eugene "Jim" O'Neill  
(first cousin to Richard) in Burke, Virginia

**Patrick O'Neill** - March 11, 2018 at 02:48 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard Patrick O'Neill.



March 11, 2018 at 02:32 PM

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“ Mary Ann & family, the Billy Plassmeyer family sends our deepest condolences. We will miss his wit, those crazy jokes, and his laugh. God's speed. May the eternal light og God shine forever upon him.



**Carol Arnold** - March 11, 2018 at 11:19 AM



“ Mary Ann and family, I am so so sorry for your loss. You have my deepest sympathy. Praying for peace and comfort during this difficult time. Joyce Medlock (MaryKay sister in Marjorie's Mountain Movers Unit)

**Joyce Medlock** - March 11, 2018 at 10:17 PM

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“ We will miss Rich and his wit. Our sympathy to Mary Ann and family. Rich was absolutely correct, there is not a bad spot at our house to enjoy a beer and the peace and tranquillity at the lake. Job well done. God's speed. Terry & Kristi Klamet

**Terry Klamet** - March 10, 2018 at 09:42 AM

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“ MaryAnn, I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers. Lorri Seidel

**Lorri Seidel** - March 10, 2018 at 08:46 AM

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“ Sharon Bax lit a candle in memory of Richard Patrick O'Neill



**Sharon Bax** - March 09, 2018 at 08:37 PM