



Allen J. Brennan

June 12, 1935 - April 22, 2019

Allen J. Brennan

Music Educator

Mr. Allen J. Brennan, 83, died on April 22, 2019, at Penn Hospice at Chester County in West Chester, PA.

Born in Philadelphia, Mr. Brennan was a graduate of West Catholic High School for boys in 1953. He later earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in piano performance and a Master of Arts degree in music education from the University of Pennsylvania. He began his first job in New Jersey teaching elementary music traveling among 9 schools and teaching private piano lessons at The Yardumean Music School. He subsequently taught vocal music for the Springfield School District (Delaware County) for over 30 years directing the choirs at both E.T. Richardson Middle School and Springfield High School. Over this time, he continued to teach private piano lessons to both children and adults. After his retirement, Mr. Brennan went on to teach music at Penn Charter High School for another 5 years. He pursued numerous other musical endeavors over his life including serving as a music arranger for the Woodland String Band of Philadelphia. He was a resident of Springfield since 1972.

Mr. Brennan was a dedicated church musician serving as the choir director at St. Kevin Church in Springfield and later at St. Robert Church in Chester alongside his wife, Helen, who played the organ. More recently, he served as the pianist/organist at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Clifton Heights. As

an active parishioner of St. Kevin's, he served in numerous capacities over the years most notably as a Eucharistic Minister.

He enjoyed woodworking, being a "handyman", and was an avid Philadelphia sports fan. He was deeply devoted to family.

He is survived by his two sons, Joseph, husband of Judy Brennan of Hainesport, NJ, Dr. Brian, husband of Dr. Sarah Spratt Brennan of Arlington, MA, a daughter, Dr. Kathleen Agren, fiancé to Charles Tofsted, of Morton, PA, one brother, Joseph Brennan of Kennett Square, four sisters, Suzanne Ladek (Thomas) of Aurora, CO, Mary Horvath (Robert) of Cherry Hill, NJ, Julie MacGregor (William) of Parkerford, PA, and Regina Mallon (Charles) of Downingtown, PA. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Helen C. Brennan in 2018, a daughter, Mary Claire Huesken, and a brother, James Brennan.

Relatives and friends are invited to his viewing on Thursday, April 25, from 6 to 9 PM at the Kovacs Funeral Home, Inc., 530 W. Woodland Ave., Springfield, PA 19064. They are also invited to his viewing on Friday, April 26, from 10 to 10:45 AM at St. Kevin Church, 200 W. Sproul Road, Springfield, PA 19064 followed by his funeral Mass at 11:00 AM.

Interment will be in SS Peter & Paul Cemetery, Springfield, PA.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Lupus Foundation, www.lupus.org/tristate .

Tribute Wall



“ *Allen J. Brennan*

October 22, 2023 at 05:57 PM



“ *I will never forget him!! He got me into the Swarthmore players club as John from Peter Pan! He was always smiling everyday when I would see him in chorus!! I have very fond mementoes of those days!! RIP Mr. Brennan you will be missed dearly!!*

May 27, 2020 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the Brennan Family,
My sincere condolences - Mr. Brennan was an extraordinary teacher and a true gentleman. Always kind and considerate with a great sense of humor. I was a student of his many, many years ago. He was respected and admired.
Trisha Prodoehl*

April 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *My sincerest condolences to Joe, Brian, and Kathy and the Brennan family for your loss. I am saddened but happy to have had the opportunity to be a member of the faculty at ETR to teach and learn from Al. Joe, Kathy, and Brian please know that all of my ETR students are still "my kids" and I firmly believe that Al subscribed to a saying that states "may the life I lead be the lesson I teach." In my thoughts and prayers. Al Carocci*

April 25, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ I didn't know Mr. Brennan, but I know that he raised a wonderful daughter. My condolences to Kathy and to all of her family. Prayers for all of you. Hugs to Kathy.

Sincerely,
Annemarie B. Jay, Ph.D.

April 25, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ Following closely on the heels of my Springfield High School classmate, Denise ; Al Brennan was one of my all-time favorite teachers Coming from a family of public school teachers, and becoming a medical educator myself, I know that there are always a handful of teachers who help shape a young or willing mind... people who take that extra step to teach something they are passionate about, and bring that into their classroom.

My favorite room in the high school was the choir room. I spent so many hours there: in class, evening practice, or even rehearsing for school musical production. And as a shy performer, Mr. Brennan was always so patient and kind. Ironically, I have been think of Mr. Brennan a lot this month as I rehearsed to sing a duet for a dear friend's mother's memorial service. It took me decades, but I was able to finally sing for a group with no fear, holding nothing back as I helpd celebrate a woman's life. It was also the same song I sang at my late husband's memorial service last April. Music and being able to sing again helped heal me during this difficult year, and I will ALWAYS be grateful for Mr. Brennan for helping to crack open the shell of a shy vocalist, for that gift has been with me since my last days in that choir room where I can still see Mr. Brennan at the piano or directing after nearly 35 years.

My deepest condolences to surviving family and friends who are grieving the loss of this kind soul.

-Amy Lyn Lesher Goodwin

April 25, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Allen J. Brennan

Blue Caribbean - April 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so thankful for Mr. Brennan... for making music so much fun!
Fond memories of Highschool Choir and Chorus 😊

April 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Allen J. Brennan

Sentiments of Serenity Spray - April 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Joe, Brian and Kathy, Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. What a wonderful person . As a "country cousin" from upstate PA I got to spend so many summer visits with Uncle Allan, your grandfather, and family. I used to love listening to your dad practicing the piano. It was always a peaceful time for me. He is at peace now with your mom and all those he loved who have preceded him to that peaceful place. The music continues..... May all the stories you share with all your family(and there will be many) and tears, bring comfort and peace. Your Upstate Cousin, Jeanie(Messaros)

April 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Allen J. Brennan

Sentiments of Serenity Spray - April 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ He always had fun teasing me because we shared the same last name . But what I remember most is him introducing us to different artists singing the same song . He used " ticket to ride " by both the Carpenters and Beatles . To this day I remember him when I hear that song . Rip Mr . Brennan , you made a difference ❤️

April 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ Allen J. Brennan

Florist Choice Bouquet - April 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Joe, Brian and Kathy, please know how sorry we are. Your dad will be missed. You have been through so much but realize he's at peace and is with your mom, sister and his beloved granddaughter.
Please know you're in our thoughts and prayers. The sound of heavenly music just got a little louder.
Love, Neil and Arlene Dougherty

April 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM