



## Donald D. Bell

July 7, 1934 - January 1, 2026

Donald Daniel Bell, 91, passed away on Thursday, January 1, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on July 7, 1934 in South Philadelphia, Donald is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Mary Catherine; his adoring children, Theresa McEvoy (Kevin), Donald Bell (Kristen), Christine Moody (Joe), Mary Wiedenman (Tom), Ann Bell, Tricia Mancini (Len); his cherished grandchildren, Colin McEvoy, Madeleine Bell, Ed and Megan Moody, Nora and Siena Wiedenman, Ava and Luke DeMaio; his brother-in-law Patrick Edmonds, sister-in-law Kathleen Maguire, and many loving nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Nora and Thomas Bell, his sister, Joan Edmonds, his brother Thomas Bell, sister-in-law Kiki Bell, and brother-in-law William Maguire.

Don was a proud graduate of West Catholic High School for Boys, Class of 1952, and went on to graduate from Saint Joseph's University in 1956. He was a proud member of the Air Force Reserve and was activated for service during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Shortly after, he met the love of his life, Mary Catherine, and in true devoted Philadelphia sports fan style, took her to the Palestra on their first date. Their relationship embodied everything a beautiful marriage could. For over 60

years, Don and Mary loved and supported each other through good times and bad. Their commitment to one another was unparalleled, extending into the very last days of Don's life. United in their faith, Don and Mary raised six children in Drexel Hill, PA where they resided for over 50 years as faithful members of St. Charles Borromeo parish. Don served as a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, committed to caring for the needs of the less fortunate. Don's compassion, kindness, and generosity were only a few of the quintessential traits for which he was known.

Committed to serving others, Don devoted his life to Catholic education. For over 37 years, he taught at St. James High School in Chester until its closing in 1993 when he chose to teach at Archbishop Prendergast High School in Drexel Hill for the remainder of his career. The brotherhood of the St. James Bulldogs played an important role in Don's life. Former students and colleagues became some of Don's closest and dearest friends. Don loved attending as many alumni events as possible including Dogs on the Dunes. He was awarded the Distinguished Medal of Honor in 2009 at the St. James Wall of Honor ceremony, one of his proudest moments.

Of all things in life, Don's greatest pride and joy was his family. He enjoyed nothing more than spending time with his wife, Mary, and all of his children, in-laws, and grandchildren. His favorite moments involved celebrating holidays, enjoying the shore, savoring a good meal, dancing, laughing, and talking about all things Philly sports. His 90th birthday celebration was one of his favorite times when he was surrounded by loved ones.

Don was the essence of a devoted husband, father, and grandfather and will be deeply missed. He will be remembered for many things, but most notably for his humble nature, his quiet wisdom, his incredible wit, and his unconditional love.

Visitation: Wednesday 9:00 AM St. Charles Borromeo Church 3422 Dennison Ave. Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Mass of Christian Burial: Wednesday 11:00 AM St. Charles Borromeo Church

Interment: SS. Peter & Paul Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Don's memory to A Love for Life 117 N. Lincoln Avenue Newtown, PA 18940 in honor of Kevin and Nora Edmonds, Don's deceased nephew and niece.

# Cemetery Details

## SS. Peter & Paul Cemetery

1600 Sproul Road  
Springfield, PA 19064

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 7. 9:00 AM (ET)

St. Charles Borromeo Church  
3422 Dennison Avenue  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

## Funeral Mass

JAN 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Charles Borromeo Church  
3422 Dennison Avenue  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

# Tribute Wall

EH

“ *Mr. Bell was one of the BEST!!!! So sorry to hear of his passing. Had Mr. Bell for senior English, STJ class of '66, so enjoyed seeing him at alumni functions!!!*

Ed Hand - January 06 at 10:22 PM

JT

“ *Jen Borders & the Oracle Leadership Team purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Donald D. Bell.*



Jen Borders & the Oracle Leadership Team - January 05 at 04:23 PM

MJ

“ *Mary Katherine - and the entire Bell family! I was so sorry to hear about Don. Reading his obituary was amazing. It reaffirmed his long, fruitful life. I hope you all find peace knowing he was fulfilled as husband, father and grandfather. Praying for all of you. Mary Jefferson (Mary Linda Weber)*

Mary Jefferson - January 04 at 05:16 PM

RH

“ *Rose, Shanyn, Matt, Danielle, and Hannah purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Donald D. Bell.*



Rose, Shanyn, Matt, Danielle, and Hannah - January 04 at 02:09 PM

JM

“ On behalf of the St. James Catholic High School Alumni Association and his fellow Faculty members, I extend our deepest sympathies and prayers on your loss. On May 3, 2026, the Alumni Association will remember Don at their annual Memorial Mass at St. Madeline's Church in Ridley Park. May he rest in peace!  
I have great memories of the thirty-seven years we shared on the St. James Faculty. God blessed both of us.

John Mooney - January 04 at 10:35 AM

MN

“ A true gentleman, and clearly a man of Faith! Mike Nacrelli class of 1966 & Bernice.

Michael Nacrelli - January 04 at 08:37 AM

WS

“ With love, The Moody sisters. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald D. Bell.

With love, The Moody sisters. - January 03 at 06:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald D. Bell.



January 03 at 06:17 PM