



## Robert F. O'Donnell

November 18, 1919 - July 25, 2021

Rye, NH - We have lost another of the Greatest Generation. Robert F. O'Donnell, 101, of Rye, passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 25, 2021 at Webster at Rye where he had been living since becoming ill. Born in Portland, ME, on November 18, 1919, he was the son of Philip and Mary (Casey) O'Donnell. He attended Portland High School, graduating in 1937.

During World War II, he rose to the rank of Chief Petty Officer in Naval Intelligence, serving in the Boston Naval District and overseas in England. He returned to service in the Navy during the Korean War and was stationed at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

Mr. O'Donnell retired from Amoco Oil Company in 1981 after 40 years of service. He worked in Claremont, NH, for Cal Oakes and then as an Amoco auditor covering New England, upstate NY and NJ. Later in his career, he lived in Garden City, NY and worked as an analyst for Amoco's NY office.

After retirement, he returned to NH and resided in Rye with his wife Catherine H. (Romard) O'Donnell. For 38 years, he enjoyed spending afternoons and evenings on his back porch overlooking a serene 1-acre property, which he mowed himself until age 95. At age 99, he moved to an assisted living apartment at Webster at Rye. Mr. O'Donnell was a communicant of St. Theresa Church, Rye Beach, NH.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 54 years, his five brothers, and several nieces and nephews. He is survived by his four children and two sons-in-law: Maureen O'Donnell and husband James Lilley of Upton, MA; Terry O'Donnell of Spokane, WA; Cathy (O'Donnell) Fomous and husband John Fomous of Arlington, VA and Margaret O'Donnell of Keene, NH, as well as several nieces. All who knew him will miss his story-telling and smiling Irish eyes.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 am on Thursday, July 29, 2021 at the St. Theresa Church, 815 Central Road, Rye Beach. Burial will follow in Central Cemetery, Rye. The Mass will be live-streamed for those that can not attend in person. Click St. Theresa Live-Stream (<https://www.sainttheresachurchrye.org/live-streaming>) to watch. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Rannie Webster Foundation (<https://www.websteratrye.com/donate-volunteer/make-a-gift/>) 795 Washington Rd., Rye, NH, 03870 .

# Cemetery Details

## Central Cemetery

20 Central Road  
Rye, NH

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

JUL **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Theresa Church  
815 Central Rd  
(603) 964-6440  
Rye Beach, NH 03871

# Tribute Wall

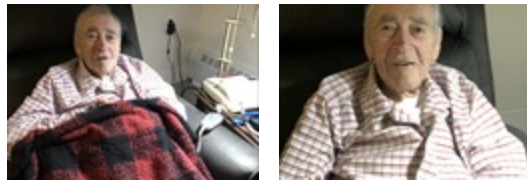


“ *Robert F. O'Donnell*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



**michele** - August 05, 2021 at 01:27 AM



*I was sad to see he had passed but happy he made it to 101 💕💕 Boy did he love life and treated everyone with his great smile. I was thrilled every time I was working and got to talk with him and his surprise to hear my voice! He was a gift on this earth. RIP ~ hope you have some great card games in heaven ❤️*

**michele** - August 05, 2021 at 01:34 AM



“ *I was saddened to read of Bob's passing. I have many pleasant memories of his "Bridge" playing expertise! Don Chamberland*

**Don Chamberland** - August 03, 2021 at 05:49 AM

SB

“ Although I never met Robert O'Donnell, I felt I knew him through the stories his daughter, my friend Maureen shared with me over the years. He was a wonderful and treasured father to her and she loved being in his company. He was smart, funny and loving.  
Susan Bass

Susan Bass - July 31, 2021 at 07:19 AM

CE

“ My son really enjoyed taking care of him and thought the world of him he surely will be missed condolences from my son jace to your family may he gain his golden wings



Corri Eaton - July 30, 2021 at 04:24 PM

GA

“ My special Crohn's Buddy. We're all going to miss you, Bob. I bet you're already telling your stories to the angels! Lucky angels.

Gail and Jim Allard - July 29, 2021 at 04:47 PM

GR

“ Condolences from Joe and Geraldine in Ireland to Maureen, Cathy, Peg and Terry.  
Wish we could be with you today, we are there in spirit. Mass for your Dad has been offered here in Ireland. Father Pat in his Mass said "may the angels be out to greet him"

Geraldine Ryan - July 29, 2021 at 06:53 AM

MA

“ 6 files added to the album Bobby memories



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**MaryAlice** - July 27, 2021 at 10:54 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Robert F. O'Donnell.



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July 26, 2021 at 05:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Robert F. O'Donnell.



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July 26, 2021 at 05:18 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Robert F. O'Donnell.



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July 26, 2021 at 05:14 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Robert F. O'Donnell.



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July 26, 2021 at 04:24 PM