



Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly

September 13, 1944 - October 15, 2018

Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly, age 74, of Manteno passed away Monday, October 15, 2018 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee. He was born September 13, 1944 in Kankakee, the son of Henry Marshall II & Jeanette Agnes (Kamp) O'Reilly. He married Patricia Meyer on October 10, 1970. Irish served as a public servant on many boards, including, Manteno Education Foundation, Manteno Village Trustee, Kankakee Valley Park District, Bishop McNamara High School Board of Education, Kankakee Salkeld Chiefs, Rotary Club of Manteno, and St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Council. He was a founding member of the MYSA Soccer Association and the Manteno Save the Golf Course Committee. Irish was named Manteno Historical Society Citizen Of the Year.

After graduation from Illinois State University, Irish was drafted as a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox. He was inducted into the ABCA Hall of Fame in 2008, the Illinois State University Hall of Fame in 1983, the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1988, the Bishop McNamara High School Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2000, Bishop McNamara Hammes Hall of Honor, and the Lewis University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016. Lewis University also honored O'Reilly by retiring No. 14 jersey in 2014 and he was honored with the ABCA/Wilson Lefty Gomez Award at the 2018 ABCA Convention in Indianapolis.

Irish lived by his legacy of "God", "Family", "Education", and Baseball and all other activities in that order.

Surviving are his wife, Patricia O'Reilly of Manteno; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Tricia & Adam Dotson, Jennifer O'Reilly, and Karissa & Dan Fletcher; six grandchildren, Cambria Dotson, Midori Dotson, Aidan Dotson, Aubriana Fletcher, Danika Fletcher, and Izabella Fletcher; one sister and brother-in-law, Mary Ann & Bill Anderson; one brother Dennis O'Reilly; many nieces and nephews; and many great-nieces and great-nephews. Irish is preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Janet O'Reilly; one brother Henry O'Reilly III; and his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Calvin & Doris Meyer.

Visitation will be held from 3- 8 p.m. Thursday, October 18, 2018 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Manteno. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday, October 19, 2018 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Manteno. Cremation rites will be accorded following the services.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church Education Fund, MYBSL Softball Program, or the Manteno Rotary Scholarship Fund.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **18**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Manteno - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
291 N. Main St.
Manteno, IL 60950
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Funeral Service

OCT **19**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Church
207 S. Main St.
Manteno, IL 60950
(815) 468-3403
<http://www.stjosephmanteno.com>

Tribute Wall

SB

“ You don't know me, but I am sorry about your loss of Irish! I, along with my entire family, Metz Irish when he played ball with the IWU Bobcats in Bloomington, Il. My family went to EVERY game...home and away! We loved them all. They were a HUGE part of my life! Then I saw Irish one other time, when he was in Bloomington for recruiting, or something...that was in the summer of 2017, maybe. I'm sure baseball will miss him!

Sandy Bumpus - August 10, 2019 at 02:51 PM

AC

“ Had the pleasure of working with Irish in the LU alumni/development office for many years. He was an all around good guy. Condolences on his passing.

Ann Cherry - October 29, 2018 at 02:37 PM

CB

“ Christina Schroeder Brown lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly



Christina Schroeder Brown - October 22, 2018 at 12:13 AM

MS

“ It was an honor for me to have worked with Irish at Lewis for several years. He was a tremendous baseball coach, but a better man.

Mickey Smith

Mickey Smith - October 19, 2018 at 03:53 PM

RN

*My prayers for family and friends
Irish was Good for college baseball
Manybwilm miss you
Thank you for your serventhood Ron Nischwitz*

ron Nischwitz - October 23, 2018 at 02:47 PM

GC

“ *Sending my condolences to Irish O'Reilly family.
Irish was one of the finest men I've met thru coaching.
No one worked harder to advance college baseball !He will be
missed.*

*Bo Collins
SIUE Baseball Coach*

Garrett Collins - October 19, 2018 at 01:05 PM

MR

“ *So sorry to hear about Irish. Sending condolences to all. We will
miss him at therapy...*

Mary Rouleau - October 19, 2018 at 09:24 AM

CS

“ *Sending our sympathies to the O'Reilly family on your loss. Keeping
you all in our prayers.
Wayne and Cheryl Segneri*

Cheryl Segneri - October 19, 2018 at 12:23 AM

BM

“ *Brandon Mazzuca lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly*



Brandon Mazzuca - October 18, 2018 at 10:28 PM

JG

“ *Judy Grimes lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly*



Judy Grimes - October 18, 2018 at 02:34 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Irish Passing, Your family is in our hearts and prayers.*

Michelle Tompkins - October 18, 2018 at 01:09 PM

JG

“ *Joe Giacchino lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly*



Joe Giacchino - October 18, 2018 at 10:21 AM

DM

“ *My deepest sympathies to Pat and the children.*
David L Hegg, MD

David L Hegg, MD - October 18, 2018 at 09:38 AM

“ I'm certain I'm one of THOUSANDS that can say coach changed my life for the better. He gave me an opportunity to earn a degree and play the game we both loved. He demanded your very best all the time and always found ways to stretch you beyond what you thought you could do. His unwavering faith was constant and displayed every day regardless of where we were. 8:00 am Mass in Hawaii, 80 fish filets, 40 fries, and 40 drinks at McDonalds during lent, and of course our prayer before games.

Life lessons from Coach: 5:30 am really isn't that early. "most of you will never be in this good of shape again the rest of your life." "if you don't have time to do it right you'll have time to do it again."

True story: First Monday back from Christmas break 1985 (Freshman year) after our 5:30 am practice coach told me to be in his office before my 8:00 class. When I walked in he was sitting at his desk holding my report card up and said, "what is this?" Scared to death I said it was my report card. He said no it isn't. This is two C's, two B's, and one A. This is the report card of a freshman who has skipped classes for no reason and enjoyed being away from home for the first time. He then went on to make it very clear that I was capable of so much more and if he ever saw a report card like that again he would pull scholarships which would force me out of school and baseball. I never had an unexcused absence again or another C and graduated in four years. A few years later at my wedding outside the church I finally asked him if he was really going to pull the scholarships and he said, "yes if I had to, but I knew after that I wouldn't have to."

I am so thankful God brought Coach O'Reilly into my life at just the right time. I pray that his family finds peace and comfort in knowing that he is with our Savior forever and his legacy lives on in each of us.

Blessings,

Fred Sugg (Lewis Baseball 1985-1988)

Fred Sugg - October 18, 2018 at 08:54 AM

JS

“ *Jim Shrove lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly*



Jim Shrove - October 18, 2018 at 07:56 AM

JS

Irish was kind man who always wanted to help our youth at Indian Oaks and I greatly appreciated his words of wisdom and friendship.

Jim Shrove - October 18, 2018 at 08:01 AM

CF

“ *Irish was my first cousin. I have many fond memories of Irish. He was always at the family gatherings growing up. Then, in high school, he was the dean of students at my high school. I felt pretty proud of him. At a family reunion, when my son was just learning to play baseball. Irish took him off to the side and gave him some very helpful tips about the batting and the game. He didn't have to do that. But that was just Irish. Kind, soft-spoken with a very big heart. Although we really didn't keep in touch over the years, I will miss him. I am saddened by the fact I will not be able to attend any of the services. I will be there in spirit. God Bless*



Chris Felter - October 17, 2018 at 07:13 PM

RP

“ *Sad and shocked to read of Irish's passing--I'll remember him fondly, not only as a fellow St. Pat's and Illinois State grad, but also as a friend who personally showed us around the Lewis University campus to help our late son Andy find student housing. Sympathies to the O'Reilly family.*

Dick Palzer

Richard Palzer - October 17, 2018 at 05:57 PM

KA

“ *Irish always had a smile! What a wonderful person who will be truly missed. Heaven is singing because they received a beautiful person. My prayers are with the family. God Bless you Irish.*



Kath - October 17, 2018 at 05:01 PM

BT

“ *Irish had a way of getting the best out of you as a player and a person. Be it by word or action Irish was a man that let you know without question what the expectation was. He demanded excellence and the effort to be your best. All of his former players are today better for having been a part of his teams. God Bless you and your family. Irish you will be missed!*

Bob Tumpane

Bob Tumpane - October 17, 2018 at 04:33 PM

HP

*May almighty God's perpetual light shine upon Irish forever and ever!
May the Angel's of heaven, Irish's new found friends enjoy his chats
about his family, his friends, his love of learning, sports and the
enjoyment that it gave him to try to help young people be the best they
could be, what ever their endeavor!*

*May God bless Irish as we convey our sympathies and prayers to
Jennifer, mother and sisters.*

Karen & Herb Priebe

Amanda & Matt Dionne

Herbert F Priebe - October 17, 2018 at 11:45 PM

DK

“ *Dewey Kilbrid lit a candle in memory of Henry
"Irish" Marshall O'Reilly*



Dewey Kilbrid - October 17, 2018 at 03:53 PM

DK

*My deepest sympathies to the family of Irish. He certainly was a legend
in his life. May he rest in peace.*

Dewey Kilbride - October 17, 2018 at 03:54 PM

AD

“ *AJ & Kim Dixon lit a candle in memory of
Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly*



AJ & Kim Dixon - October 17, 2018 at 03:42 PM

RR

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Irish. He was a great friend to Paul and our family. He was always humble, kind and a wonderful example to the students at Lewis. I know he will be missed dearly. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
Rita Ruddy and family

Rita Ruddy - October 17, 2018 at 03:38 PM

BH

“ Bryan & Joelene Hays lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly



Bryan & Joelene Hays - October 17, 2018 at 03:36 PM

TC

“ I have known Irish since we were 6 years old. We went through grade and high school together, and I always thought of him as being indestructible. Whether it was trying to tackle him on the football field, hitting a pitch from him on a baseball diamond, or just engaging him in conversation; Irish was a friend of mine. I will miss him !

Terry Casino - October 17, 2018 at 03:07 PM

CD

“ Chuck And Nancy Dixon lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly



Chuck and Nancy Dixon - October 17, 2018 at 02:25 PM



“ *Kenneth Carruthers lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly*



Kenneth Carruthers - October 17, 2018 at 02:15 PM



“ *Competed against (Providence and Bishop Mac HS), played against (College, IBC), Coached with (Lewis), played with as teammates (K3 Chiefs). The impact he made was everlasting. God Blessings ad RIP Irish. Crow (Ken Carruthers, Chicago)*

Kenneth Carruthers - October 17, 2018 at 02:13 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies to the entire O' Reilly family. I had the honor and privilege of knowing and working with Irish for over 30 years here at Lewis.*

He was one of the most dedicated and hard working individuals I have ever been around. He was passionate about Lewis, Baseball, and especially passionate about the student/athletes he coached for so many years here at Lewis. He cared about them as baseball players; but he cared more about them as young men and how they carried themselves off the field.

The Lewis Flyer family has lost a true legend and Hall of Famer with the passing of Irish.

Pat, Tricia, Jennifer, Karissa, and the entire extended O' Reilly family, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Joe Falese

Joseph Falese - October 17, 2018 at 02:07 PM

KM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Irish's passing, my deepest condolences to the entire O'Reilly family.

Kemp Muñiz - October 17, 2018 at 01:17 PM


Pauline
Todd
Taylor

“ So sad to hear of this loss, I worked for Irish at Manteno Golf Club for 2 years, I loved working there and Irish was a fair and balanced boss to work for. R.I.P. Condolences to the family.

Pauline Todd Taylor - October 17, 2018 at 12:11 PM

TK

“ I worked with Irish at Lewis University for several years while he was Director of Admissions. He was always friendly, helpful and had a great sense of humor. My deepest condolences to the entire O'Reilly family.

Tammy Kuse

Tammy Kuse - October 17, 2018 at 11:13 AM

CS

“ Carla Scheppler lit a candle in memory of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly



Carla Scheppler - October 17, 2018 at 10:37 AM

SN

“ Condolences to Coach O'Reilly's family. When you went to Lewis to work a game for Irish one thing was sure, you better work hard. Coach made his coaches, players, umpires and the other team bring their A game every day. He had everyone's respect. Eternal memory Coach.

Sam Nicholos - October 17, 2018 at 02:00 AM



“ So sorry for the loss of Coach! I remember him announcing my basketball games and energizing the Flyer Fanatics! He even found out I played baseball and wanted me to do for him for 4 years. Great guy! He will be missed. God Bless his family. Rest in peace Coach Irish. May your memory be eternal. RIP :(

Milosh Pujo - October 16, 2018 at 11:08 PM

CB

“ While a sophomore on the baseball team at Lewis University, we had a game against Kankakee where Irish was the coach. Our lead-off man, Joe, was swinging his bat near home plate timing the pitcher and Irish had his pitcher throw a fastball at Joe's head. He missed but Joe got Irish's message. Our coach, who was in a full leg cast, was so mad that he broke his crutch on the dugout. Irish was ready for any further displays of dislike. All other hitters made sure they took practice swings in the on deck circle.

*cliff bailey
Lewis Baseball
1973-1977*

Condolences to the family.

cliff bailey - October 16, 2018 at 11:07 PM

CM

“ Rest in peace dear classmate. All your pain is now gone. Deepest sympathy to your family.

Cathie (Sederstrand) Miedema



cathie miedema - October 16, 2018 at 11:04 PM

JB

“ I am so sorry to here this I knew him from school days and he was a wonderful person Prayers to his family and with God's help to get through this hard time

Jeanne Benjamin



Jeanne Benjamin - October 16, 2018 at 10:57 PM

JK

“ Irish was a great guy. I was fortunate to work with him at Lewis University. Condolences to his family.

Jim Koenig - October 16, 2018 at 10:24 PM

KM

“ My deepest sympathy to all of you! Kim McCormick

Kim McCormick - October 16, 2018 at 08:48 PM

MN

“ My prayers to your family. As a student at Lewis U, I so wanted to play ball for Irish. I wasn't a great player and after 3 years of trying out for the team, he finally said that I needed to re-focus. Wise advice. A few years later, I actually visited Irish and Pat's home in Manteno while out for a walk with my girlfriend who lived just blocks away at the time. As the Holy Spirit would have it, I was ordained a priest in 2001 for the Archdiocese of Chicago. I sincerely thank "Coach" for his wisdom and friendship in my years at Lewis. Rest in peace, Coach. I'll never forget you.
Rev. Michael Novick

Michae Novick - October 16, 2018 at 08:30 PM

PJ

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Irish. My sympathy to Patti and the whole family. May God comfort you in your time of sorrow.

Pam Johnson - October 16, 2018 at 08:29 PM



“ Footprints Tribute Blanket was purchased for the family of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly.



October 16, 2018 at 07:09 PM

GD

“ On behalf of the DiMatteo family I wish to express our deepest sympathies to Pat & the entire O'Reilly family. Irish took me in as his assistant baseball coach at Lewis back in 1982. Before that time, Irish & I were "friendly rivals" on the baseball field. I have always had great respect for him prior to working with him. But once I began working alongside with Irish, then I began to realize how special he was! Loved his family first & foremost; his strong belief in God, and his baseball teams. Irish was very loyal to his friends as I noticed he always tried to protect me by watching my back. Irish was tremendously competitive, always superstitious, and possessed a great sense of humor.

Here's a funny story about Irish: Once on a baseball team road trip back in the early 80's, Irish took his entire coaching staff to a restaurant/bar down near St. Louis. Once we got out of the van, Irish insisted that all of us remove our Lewis University baseball jackets before going into the bar. He didn't want the patrons to know where we were from. As soon as we locked the vehicle and started walking (jacket less) towards the bar entrance, Irish looked back and noticed we had driven the LEWIS UNIVERSITY van with its logo clearly shown on both sides of the doors. All we could do was laugh...

R.I.P. Irish! You will be missed by all of us lucky to have known you.

George and Deb DiMatteo

George DiMatteo - October 16, 2018 at 06:59 PM

GD

“ George & Deb DiMatteo purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Our Family Chain Is Broken" for the family of Henry "Irish" Marshall O'Reilly.



George & Deb DiMatteo - October 16, 2018 at 06:36 PM

MA

“ Coach O'Reilly recruited me as a Junior in HS. He came over to the house and my mother had made spaghetti. My parents and I were so comfortable with Coach O'Reilly that I signed my scholarship soon after. He is probably the best Baseball Coach I ever had. RIP Coach!

Mark Altobella

Matk Altobella - October 16, 2018 at 06:23 PM