



## Leo O. Beggan

July 1, 1935 - April 15, 2020

Leo Oliver Beggan, loving husband of Josephine Beggan, entered into the Kingdom of Heaven on April 15, 2020.

Leo Beggan was born on July 1, 1935 in Scotstown, County Monaghan in Ireland. He was the youngest son of Patrick and Susan Beggan. Leo came to the United States in 1959 after living for a short period of time in England. He met Josephine Sheridan, the love of his life not long after arriving and they were married in 1962 settling in Brooklyn near three of Josephine's sisters and their families. Together they raised five children.

For much of his working career, Leo was a building superintendent in the Bronx. He worked tirelessly, often six day weeks, which enabled all five of his children to attend Catholic grammar and high schools. Leo took joy in seeing his children experience educational opportunities he never had himself.

Leo was handy, able to fix almost anything and always lending his skills to his children and neighbors, expecting nothing in return. He had a unique sense of humor, a combination of corny and innocence with a great delivery. We will miss his jokes and laugh.

He was devoted to his Catholic faith. Leo and Josephine prayed, attended mass and were daily communicants at the Church of the Holy Child in Staten Island.

Leo maintained his faithfulness, devotion to his family and humor even as his eyesight worsened in recent years. True to himself, he didn't complain, continued his prayers, now memorized not read, and still found joy in each day. His joy and love were always there at family celebrations, and most noticeable anytime he looked at his beloved wife, Jo. Saint Peter was sure to see this joy as he welcomed him into the Kingdom.

Leo is survived by his loving wife Josephine. His children and their spouses, Sean and Marie Beggan, Kathleen and Don Campbell, Denise and Bob Esposito, Susan and Jimmy Philbin and James and Erin Beggan. He is also survived by his thirteen grandchildren, whom he loved dearly and took delight in, Donnie, Bobby, Brendan, Chris, Danielle,

Connor, Kaitlin, Owen, Michael, Emmett, Kathryn, Emma and Jane. He will also be remembered by countless other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life mass for Leo will follow at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at [www.stjude.org/donate](http://www.stjude.org/donate) <<http://www.stjude.org/donate>>. Please check the Dedicate my donation box.

# Cemetery

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## **Resurrection Cemetery**

361 Sharrot Avenue

Staten Island, NY, 10309

# Comments

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“ Dear Uncle Leo,  
So sorry to hear of your passing. I am going to miss you. I loved calling you and Aunt Josephine and getting all the news. I remember all the trips you guys made to Jersey over the years we always looked forward to seeing you guys and had a great time. You were always so positive and a great person to be around. Another Angel has earned his wings  
Love, Joan Marie

Joan DellaPenna - April 29, 2020 at 05:22 PM

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“ I was introduced to the Beggan family as far back as 1971! I remember it's patriarch, Leo Beggan as a very faithful and devoted man to his family. He was hard working, kind, caring and a loving man. His devotion to our Catholic faith and to his family was never ending! He was simply a great man, no need to ask for anything more! May God grant you eternal peace in heaven.

Bill Trapani

William Trapani - April 28, 2020 at 09:35 PM

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“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Mary Cronin - April 23, 2020 at 08:38 PM

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“ To Uncle Leo

I have so many wonderful memories of you at all the family holidays and celebrations we shared on East 16th St. Where Faith, Family and Love was always center stage. I will miss you and cherish the times you made me smile and laugh. May you Rest in Peace.

Love, Maureen Foley

Maureen Foley - April 23, 2020 at 08:03 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



James Beggan - April 23, 2020 at 03:57 PM

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“ To my best friend, my hero, my father,  
Although we didn't get to say goodbye, I know the love you had for all of us is a lasting legacy. You were the best example of how to be a man, father and husband and how to live in faith. I am lucky I got to call you my Dad.  
May you rest in peace.  
Love always your son , James

James Beggan - April 23, 2020 at 03:53 PM

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“ Dear Grandpa,

I will forever cherish the time that I was lucky enough to spend with you. Some of my fondest childhood memories were when you and Grandma would come over to babysit and tell us stories and play games. You were always quick with a joke my personal favorite being the “Fruit Punch” joke. Your love for your family showed in everything that you did from the infamous six pack of Hersey chocolate bars that you could not leave without taking to the love that you showed your wife, my Grandma. I will never forget how whenever we would take a family photo you would always try to take the photo beaming with pride at Grandma and whisper to her something along the line of “We made this”. You will be missed and remembered by everyone who was lucky enough to know you.

**Connor Beggan** - April 23, 2020 at 03:04 PM

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“ Dear Grandpa,

I will miss your constant jokes and the light you brought to every family get together. One of my favorite memories growing up was when we would build the LEGO towers and remove the ceiling tiles in the basement to make the towers even higher. You never failed to ask not just me but all of the grand kids about how school is going and in my case if I had been working on any plays recently. I love you and I will miss you dearly.

**Danielle Beggan** - April 23, 2020 at 11:07 AM

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“ Dear Beggan Family: Please accept our most sincere condolences on the passing of your beloved Leo. He was a kind, decent man - always generous with his time and guidance - and was just about the most devoted husband, father and grandfather I've ever known. I will never forget my dozens of visits to his home in Brooklyn, where he made it clear that I was always welcome and treated me like a member of his own family - whether it was a meal, a place to stay over, or just pleasant, meaningful conversation about friends and family. May Our Lord Jesus welcome you to heaven with open arms, to the tune of "The Streets of New York" . Eternal rest grant to Leo, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he Rest In Peace, Amen . With love and gratitude, Joseph Accetta, Sr. - for the Accetta Family.



Joseph Accetta - April 23, 2020 at 09:47 AM

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“ We were very fortunate to have him in our lives. He treated me as a son. I will always have memories of baseball games, BBQ's and New Years Eve parties with him. He made you feel at home. The breakfasts after Christmas eve midnight mass at St Brendan's will forever be memorable. He showed us how to be a good man. I love you Dad.

Kevin O'Neill

Kevin O'Neill - April 23, 2020 at 07:12 AM

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“ Aunt Josephine and family, We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Uncle Leo. He will always be remembered as being so kind, patient and considerate of others. There are so many wonderful memories of Uncle Leo but the one that always brings me back to when we were young was the cookies that he brought to us from the local bakery in Brooklyn. Prayers and love to you. Love Joseph, Karin, Kristina, Clare, Elizabeth and William.

Joseph Beggan - April 22, 2020 at 09:07 PM

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“ Grandpa,  
You were always the most cheerful in any situation and always ready with a witty comment. You could always find the joy in things and for that I'm thankful to have known you. Every Sunday we visited you and went for brunch after church you could get the whole room smiling with just a few words. I know you got the warmest welcome into Heaven and I'm proud to be your grandson. Thank you grandpa.  
Love, Emmett

**Emmett** - April 22, 2020 at 01:59 PM

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“ Grandpa,  
You were the most devoted person I knew, to God and to your family. I'll forever think of you when that kind of devotion is needed of me. You were a true comedian; effortlessly funny, always perfect timing and delivery. I'll miss you when no one else has the right joke for the moment. It's been easy to admire you and I'll always be proud to be your grandson.  
Love, Chris

**Chris Esposito** - April 21, 2020 at 12:48 PM

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“ To Aunt Josephine and all the Beggan family, our deepest sympathys on your sad loss. We will keep you in our prayers at this sad time.  
From Martin and Caoimhe Sheridan and family , Cullane.

**Martin Sheridan** - April 20, 2020 at 06:12 PM

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“ Grandpa,

A man that found the blessings in every moment of life, and led it with true humility. No matter the circumstance, Grandpa was quick enough to put one at ease with a wifful joke. We would sit at the table and have some lunch over tea while he would tell us an old childhood story. And as every humorous punchline approached, as we knew it would, I'd gradually grow a smile so wide I couldn't help but erupt in belly laughter. He had the ability to take you out of your element, and relish in the delight of being in his company. And although his sight was hindered, he was able to see each and everyone of us through the glow of his giant beaming heart. I will forever remember my grandpa to be the most selfless, hardworking, and kind-hearted man I know.

Love, Emma



**Emma Esposito** - April 20, 2020 at 04:52 PM

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## “ LEO THE GREAT

-It was too late for a goodbye,  
The time had passed swiftly,  
We may never know why.  
In a chair, behind a door of glass,  
We worried you alone,  
Rather you were attending High Mass.  
We thought you were trapped  
Behind a dismal wall.  
God was just having you wait for the ultimate call.  
As we fought angered sadness, shamefully too nice,  
Knowing this last stop was a Treacherous vice.  
We defined your solitude as abandoned and unbearable,  
when all along you were chosen for God's table.  
Your arms were bruised, being held so tight,  
All because God's hands held you to the Light.  
The son, The Father, The Grandfather,  
Transcended to Heaven.  
This saintly man was Leo Beggan.  
-Bob Esposito Sr.

A GOOD GOOD MAN!

Bob Esposito - April 20, 2020 at 04:22 PM

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## “ My Sweet Dad

I miss you so much and my heart is broken. I was really blessed to have you as a Dad and to be able to spend so much time together. You had such an easy going personality and were quick with a joke. You were a light in a sometimes dark world. My first memory from childhood was of the two of us in the pre dawn hours eating breakfast then you tucking me in next to Mom with a kiss before you left for work. I remember you sleeping in a chair when I was six in the hospital getting my appendix out. You always loved me so much. I know that your love of our Lord and of our family was your driving force. You were so faithful and I know that God is good and you are in your rightful place. I would give anything to have one more day with you. I am glad you are at peace my beautiful perfect Dad.  
Love always  
Kathleen

Kathleen Campbell - April 20, 2020 at 04:05 PM

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“ Grandpa. Always with a smile; never lacking in spirit. He loved all, no matter what, and his persistently positive attitude never failed to fill me with joy. He is the definition of a kind, loving, generous man that I am proud to call my grandfather. He loved to make his family laugh, and his innocence and demeanor made his jokes all the more hilarious. Even with his worsening eyesight, he somehow always knew who was talking to him instantly. Even on the phone, all it took was a "Hi, Grandpa!" and he would immediately know it was me. He was the life of family Christmas parties, and his connection to each family member was unique. He always knew how to make Grandma laugh, and he raised an amazing family that he was fully devoted to. Grandpa, you will always remind me of what's important in life, and may the love you shared with us live on forever. -Owen



Owen Esposito - April 20, 2020 at 03:21 PM

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“ Dad,  
What an absolute privilege to call you that! The family is blessed to have you as their patriarch but at the same time devastated by your passing. Thank You for allowing me into your life and thank you for your example.

Tá mé croíbhriste  
Donnie

Donald Campbell - April 20, 2020 at 12:38 PM

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“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Denise Esposito - April 20, 2020 at 12:00 PM

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“ Leo/Dad,

In life, people don't say how they feel about someone because it is awkward or not manly. But like the Kris Kristofferson lyrics in Me and Bobby McGee, "I would trade all of my tomorrows for one more yesterday" so I can tell you I love you and how much you mean to me. Thank you for showing me how to be a great husband and father, and I will miss you every minute of every day. Please pray for me next to our Lord, and keep watch over our family.

Your Loving Son-In-Law,

Jimmy



Jim Philbin - April 20, 2020 at 11:49 AM

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“ Dearest Dad,

Thank you so much for working so hard to provide us with the greatest life. A common theme for all of us and all who knew you will be your sense of humor and natural delivery, but your devotion to God and your profound love for Mom and all of your children outweighed even that. I feel so blessed to have you as my father and to have shared so many great memories with you. Gone too soon :'-(

We will always miss you, but we know that you have reached your rightful place and will be watching over us.

Love you, always-  
Denise  
xo



Denise Esposito - April 20, 2020 at 11:33 AM

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“ When I think of Grandpa, I think of the sweetest man who loved his people well. When we were young Grandpa was our favorite babysitter. Grandpa always enjoyed taking us on car rides, teaching us new games, and sharing a joke with the corniest punchline and wink at Grandma. Grandpa was the one who taught me all the ping pong tricks like how to serve the ball low over the net and how to play the corners to make your opponent run. I will forever remember the way he would spin the ball before a serve or pat his bottom with the ping pong paddle accompanied with "bet your bottom" and then hold up a dollar which resulted in laughing fits. When I think of Grandpa, I also think of "love" as a verb. Grandpa loved God and his family more than anything. Whenever I approached him, he greeted me as he always did with "oh hello Kait" and then his whole face would light up the same way it did when he talked to any of his grandchildren. Grandpa showed up for others and was the sweet, gentle patriarch of our family. Whether you knew him as Leo, a husband, father, brother, uncle, cousin, friend, or Grandpa, he was able to make you feel comforted and appreciated with a smile and joke. When I was young, I once overheard Grandpa say to Grandma, "oh look what we made here." My siblings told me they took have heard him echo that sentiment. At our last family party I looked at Grandpa from across the room and I noticed the same proud look on his face beaming at his family.

Oh Grandpa, I am going to miss you tremendously. Thank you for showing me how to love. I know you are beaming your light down on us. I am so proud to be your granddaughter. - Kait

**Kaitlin Beggan** - April 20, 2020 at 11:19 AM

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“ I wish I could have given you more but I hope this small gesture can be significant. You'll always be with me, Grandpa.



**Bobby Esposito** - April 20, 2020 at 11:07 AM

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“ Ann M. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Leo O. Beggan.



**Ann M.** - April 20, 2020 at 10:54 AM

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“ Grandpa,

I will miss you so much. I want to follow your example in your devotion to our Lord. Please tell Jesus to look after our family and bring us to the fullness of Faith, Hope, and Charity. I love you forever.

Love,  
Your grandson Donnie

**Donnie Campbell** - April 19, 2020 at 08:02 PM

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“ To Aunt Josephine, cousins Sean, Kathleen, Denise, Susan and James and all the Beggan Family we are so sorry to hear of Uncle Leo's passing. We will always have fond memories of Leo's visits to Ireland through the years. He was a kind, caring and funny man and always brought a smile to our faces. You will all be in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time. May his gentle soul rest in peace Love to you all from Rosanna, Anne Marie and Rita in Ireland

**Rita Cleary** - April 19, 2020 at 08:29 AM

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“ To Aunt Josephine, cousins Sean, Kathleen, Denise, Susan & James and all your families. I am so sorry & saddened to hear of the passing of Uncle Leo. I always knew him to be a “great” guy! But as I read through all the beautiful messages I see he was more than just a “great” guy but great & loving family man, man of great faith and witty. Our deepest condolences to you all from all us Beggan’s in Perth West Australia. Yours Thomas, Mary, Laura, Emily, Jessica & Ronan Beggan



Thomas Beggan - April 19, 2020 at 01:27 AM

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“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Marie Beggan - April 18, 2020 at 10:19 PM

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“ Leo you led by example. You were filled with faith, joy, humor and love. All the great memories you have left us. Poker games, great ham dinners, family parties and vacations, but most of all how you made each of us feel like the most important person in the room. Our hearts are broken. Life without you will never be the same but knowing you are at peace and praying for all of us from heaven consoles us.  
xxxoo

Marie Beggan - April 18, 2020 at 10:08 PM

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“ I consider myself blessed and lucky to have had Leo Beggan as my father-in-law. He was a charmer from day one and I will miss his sense of humor and jokes the most. He loved his family and his God with everything he was. His sense of pride at being Josephine's husband made theirs a marriage to aspire to even after 58 years! I smile when I see the same sense of humor in James, and I will miss hearing their daily conversations about life and Lotto! Leo, you were a gentleman of the highest order. May you luxuriate and rest in the Divine Presence.

**Erin Beggan** - April 18, 2020 at 08:14 PM

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“ Rest In Peace to my wonderful grandfather. Your quick witted jokes and devout faith in God will carry us all through these times.

Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hands.



**Brendan Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 06:35 PM

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“ If I could have one lifetime wish  
A dream that would come true,  
I'd pray to God with all my heart,  
For yesterday & You

In life I loved you dearly  
In death I love you still.  
In my heart you hold a place  
No one else can fill.

You left behind my broken heart  
And happy memories too...  
But I never wanted memories Dad  
I only wanted You.

I love you so very much

**Susan Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 06:33 PM

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“ I will forever cherish the times I shared with my Grandpa. I will never forget sitting at the kitchen table and having a cup of tea across from him while he listened to me talk about school. I will never forget standing next to him (while he was beating me, of course) in LRC at our Christmas party. I will never forget how his faith moved me to grow closer to God- and that is something I am thankful for every day. I will miss and love you always Grandpa.

**Kathryn Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 06:25 PM

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“ Grandpa, you will forever be remembered as the most selfless, caring, and faithful man I have ever met. We love and miss you already.



**Michael Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 06:20 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Kathryn Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 06:08 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Sue Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 06:03 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Brendan Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 06:03 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Marie Beggan** - April 18, 2020 at 05:43 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Marie Beggan** - April 18, 2020 at 05:40 PM

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“ To my Beggan family, i am heartbroken over uncle Leo's passing. He was such a ray of sunshine in all our lives. i keep running all the funny stories through my mind. what a special human being to be that lighthearted and fun to be around. i will miss him beyond words. my heart goes out to you all.  
patricia

**patricia** - April 18, 2020 at 05:39 PM

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“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



**Sue Philbin** - April 18, 2020 at 05:29 PM

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“ To Aunt Josephine and family, I was so sorry to hear of Leo's passing on the 15th and extend sincere condolences to you all. I have only a handful of memories of Leo growing up, but the thing I always remember when he visited was his sense of humour, he was great craic as we would say over here. He would always have a fun story or joke. He was a very kind and welcoming man and I remember visiting you in 2000 when I was in New York for the summer on a student visa, you all were so kind and I remember Leo being very welcoming and loved hearing stories from Ireland. My parents were deeply saddened at the news of Leos passing and have fond memories to share about Leo. I know he will be missed dearly by you all so I send our condolences from Pdraig Sheridan and family in Gort, Ireland.

**Pdraig Sheridan** - April 18, 2020 at 02:24 PM

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“ So sorry to hear of uncle Leo's passing,my sincere sympathy to Joeshine &family ,we are thinking of ye all at this very sad time,Leo was a true gentleman ,we will keep him an family in our prayers

**Sue Mullen** - April 18, 2020 at 02:10 PM

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“ Dear Josephine I am so sorry. You will all be in our prayers. God Bless for strength and peace. Love and Peace Marie (HC gift shop)

**marie** - April 18, 2020 at 01:33 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Marie Beggan - April 18, 2020 at 01:14 PM

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“ With his beautiful bride



Erin Beggan - April 18, 2020 at 01:11 PM



“ i love this photo!

patricia - April 18, 2020 at 05:55 PM

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“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Erin Beggan - April 18, 2020 at 01:00 PM

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“ We will miss our loving Father with all of our hearts. Dad's gentle demeanor, wonderful sense of humor and faithful devotion to his faith and family were shining lights for all of us. There is no doubt that these lights will continue to shine in all of us and help light our way to overcome our grief.

**Sean Beggan** - April 18, 2020 at 12:56 PM



“ Dear Aunt Josephine and family we are all so sorry to hear of Uncle Leo's passing. May God rest his gentle soul, you are in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time, and in the thoughts and prayers of our parents, your brother Pat and wife Kathleen, we will all cherish memories of kind Uncle Leo forever. xx from niece Patricia + Gerry + family in Ireland.

**Patricia McDonagh** - April 18, 2020 at 02:16 PM



“ Dear Aunt Josephine and family,  
We are all so heart broken and will miss Uncle Leo very much. He was a very kind and generous man. I have to admit I did give him a little run around when he first started dating Aunt Josephine. He worked very hard for his family yet was always willing to lend a hand. He helped each of Aunt Josephine's sisters move in and fix up their houses which later became homes. Saturday night card games; breakfast after midnight mass Christmas Eve; Backyard family BBQ's; and sitting on the porch on East 16th Street. Lots of jokes, laughs and smiles. He was always kind and generous to me and gave us lots of love and support. There is no doubt that he is now in heaven and we are all blessed to have him as a Guardian Angel watching over us.

Love you very much Uncle Leo,  
Mary Elizabeth, Jim and family

**Mary Cronin** - April 23, 2020 at 08:09 PM