



Thomas Patrick McKavitt Sr.

February 9, 1935 - August 27, 2018

Thomas P. McKavitt, Sr. passed away peacefully in his sleep on August 27, 2018 at his home in Haymarket, Virginia. Born in Atlanta, Georgia February 9, 1935, he was raised in Washington, DC by his adoptive parents, the late Hildegarde and Matthew McKavitt. He attended Sacred Heart Grade School where he was an altar boy and Master of Ceremonies at solemn high mass through the end of his college years. While in grade school he delivered newspapers for both The Washington Post and The Washington Evening Star. While in high school and college he worked for the FBI as a clerk in the Identification Division for seven summers. He was a graduate of Gonzaga College High School and The Catholic University of America where he received his BA Degree in Sociology. While in college he was Vice-President of the freshman class; Vice-President of Sigma Beta Kappa Fraternity; and lettered four years in varsity basketball. He attended Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island and was commissioned an Ensign in the Navy Reserves in 1958. He served one tour of duty in Pensacola, Florida holding several billets supporting the training of student naval aviators. While in the service he married his college sweetheart, Jacqueline Marie (nee Uber) of Saddle River, New Jersey.

Mr. McKavitt attained an MBA Degree (cum laude) from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and later received his accreditation as Senior Professional Human Resources (SPHR). Except for one year, he worked in the private industry sector from 1961 through 1997 holding corporate level, management positions in Human Resources and Labor Relations. He worked for several Fortune 500 Companies including The Singer Company; Warner Lambert Pharmaceutical; and The Dorsey Corporation. While at Singer, he developed and implemented one of the original Affirmative Action Plans used in industry, which was subsequently used as a model for all other Singer subsidiaries. During his professional career, he and his family lived in New Jersey; Asheville, NC; State College, PA; Atlanta, GA; and Fairfax County, VA.

As a Corporate Human Resources Executive, he was responsible for company locations across the United States, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Turkey and Egypt. He was the company's chief labor contract negotiator dealing with multiple unions including the

Teamsters, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Glass Bottle Blowers Association. He prepared and presented grievances to arbitration and successfully defeated over a dozen union organizational attempts and decertified one union. He developed and implemented some of the first 401(k), and Cafeteria/Flex Spending Account Plans for several companies. During his career, Mr. McKavitt served on committees of several professional societies including the American Management Association; The President's Committee on Hiring The Handicapped; The Society for Human Resources Management; and the Washington Personnel Association.

In 1977 he was the Chief Labor Relations Negotiator for MARTA, and negotiated the first rail contract for Atlanta's newly constructed subway system.

After retiring from the corporate world in 1997 as Corporate Vice-President of Human Resources, he started his own consulting firm, McKay & Associates, in Northern Virginia and served as President. He developed Human Resources policies and procedures for small start-up companies and recruited for companies across the United States until 2004.

In 2001 Mr. McKavitt and his wife, Jackie, moved to Ocala, Florida where he worked part-time in his consulting firm. He took up golf and, after fully retiring, spent his leisure time golfing; attending plays, operas, symphonies and band concerts; reading; solving crosswords, sudoku and other mathematical puzzles; and traveling with his wife throughout the US, Canada, Caribbean, Europe and the British Isles. He and his wife were avid supporters of the fine arts in Ocala and Northern Virginia. They returned to Northern Virginia in 2016.

Mr. McKavitt is survived by Jackie, his wife of 59 years; a son, Thomas P. McKavitt, Jr. (Cdr. USN, Ret) (Margaret) of Annapolis, MD; two daughters Kathleen A. Thiringer (Peter) of Vienna, VA, and Mary Ann H. East (Joe) of Centreville, VA; eight grandchildren T. Patrick McKavitt, III, (Capt, USMC) (Emily), Erin M. Mahony (Tom), Sean W. McKavitt (2Lt, USMC), Melissa M. Thiringer, Stephen J. Thiringer, W. Joseph Thiringer, Helen R. East, Catherine M. East and one great-grandchild, Charlotte J. McKavitt.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Gainesville, VA on September 3, 2018 at 10:30 AM. Inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date. A light lunch reception will follow mass in the parish hall.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The Sloan Kettering Cancer Center or The American Heart Association.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA 22211

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/>

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

SEP 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
8213 Linton Hall Rd
Gainesville, VA 20155-2997
(703) 753-6700

Tribute Wall

CB

“ Dearest Jackie, Dill and I were devastated when we read the sad news about Tom over the weekend. While I regret we may have not seen or talked for many years I felt he was a friend for life. I'll never forget the wonderful times we had at Catholic University. So many fond memories and laughs. He'll always be my friend!

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Love Dill and Claude Bernier

Claude Bernier - September 03, 2018 at 12:34 PM

ET

“ Mr. McKavitt was always so nice to spend time with. I know he is missed terribly by Mrs. McKavitt - the love of his life - and his wonderful children and extended family. Thanks for all you did in this life, Mr. McKavitt! Ellen Thornhill

Ellen Thornhill - September 03, 2018 at 12:09 PM

TS

“ Many, many years ago there was a Tommy McKavett who lived on Monroe Street in Sacred Heart parish in Northwest DC. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Matt McKavett. If this is the same Tommy please contact me as I have some nice memories of his/our childhood.

Tim Slevin

timothyslevin46@gmail.com

Tim Slevin - August 31, 2018 at 08:15 PM