



## Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien

November 24, 1941 - September 1, 2016

Richard "Dick" D. O'Brien

Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien of Grasonville died unexpectedly on September 1, 2016, at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, surrounded by his family.

Mr. O'Brien was born on November 24, 1941, in Baltimore, MD, to the late Walter T. O'Brien and Dorothy Landon O'Brien. He attended Catonsville High School, graduating class of 1960. He later graduated from Towson University in 1964. He married his middle-school sweetheart, Nancy E. Zinser, on September 7, 1963.

Mr. O'Brien began working as a school teacher in Baltimore County in 1964. During this time, he also ran the Children's Home in Catonsville, formerly the General Germany Orphan Home. In 1969, he took a position with Merck & Co. Inc. in Marketing and Sales. During his time with Merck, he was salesman of the year numerous times and responsible for the largest small animal drug launch in history, Heartgard. In 1998, Mr. O'Brien retired from Merck as the Executive Director of Training and Development. The following year, he and his wife moved from New Jersey to retire on Maryland's Eastern Shore, in Grasonville.

After retiring, Mr. O'Brien began consulting. He consulted for many small companies, one of which was Hospice of Queen Anne's County.

A lifelong passionate baseball fan and coach, Mr. O'Brien was also fond of boating, steamed crabs and politics.

Mr. O'Brien is survived by his wife of 52 years, Nancy; three children, Keary L. O'Brien-Smith (husband Michael Smith), Michael P. O'Brien (wife Michele O'Brien) and Steven T. O'Brien (wife Tara O'Brien); a brother Walter Thomas O'Brien and family of Tampa, FL and grandchildren; Samantha Curley, Taylor Smith, Cameron O'Brien, Kyle O'Brien, Lauren Ciccone, Colin Buscarini, Rylan O'Brien and Carly O'Brien.

A memorial service will be held at 1 PM on September 17, 2016, at Fellows, Helfenbein and Newnam Funeral Home, P.A., 106 Shamrock Road, Chester, MD, where relatives and friends will be received from 11 AM to 1 PM. There will be a time of fellowship following the service at Fishermann's Inn the Kent Narrow from 3PM to 5PM.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Compass Regional Hospice, 255 Comet Drive, Centreville, MD 21617 and Kent Island Federation of Art, 405 Main Street, Stevensville, MD 21663.

For on-line condolences please visit [www.fhnfuneralhome.com](http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 17. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
[info@fhfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@fhfuneralhome.com)

## Service

SEP 17. 1:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
[info@fhfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@fhfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - September 16, 2016 at 03:02 PM



“ *Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien.*



September 14, 2016 at 02:14 PM

RO

“ My name is Robert Orta and I joined Merck AgVet in 1983. I am now on my 34th year with Merial.

*From the first time I met Dick he embraced me into the Team. He was a true believer of Merck AgVet. He was very proud of all of us.*

*He always was very respectful and he always show us the way. Dick was one of the pearls that influenced my career. We owe Dick a lot of credit for the success of Merck AgVet and Merial.*

*One day he mailed me a letter congratulating me for an award that I received at a National Sales Meeting. It was the first time I had received a letter like that. I shared the letter with my parents in Puerto Rico and they framed it. It has been on their living room wall since.*

*I am very glad that I got to know him and that I was a member of his Merck AgVet Team.*

*Someday, we will meet again and will have plenty of time to tell stories and to laugh together.*

*Mr. Dick O'Brien will always have a special place in my heart.*

*Robert Orta  
St. Louis, MO.*

---

**Robert Orta** - September 08, 2016 at 01:43 PM

LF

“ Love and friendship from The Gibson Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien.



---

**Love and friendship from The Gibson Family** - September 06, 2016 at 07:57 AM

KB

“ Nancy,

*Jim and I are greatly saddened to hear of Dick's sudden passing. You and Dick were always a delight to talk with at the marina and at all the yacht club events. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.*

*Jim and Kim Biggs  
Former Commodore of Castle Harbor Yacht Club*

---

**Kim Biggs** - September 05, 2016 at 08:43 PM

CW

“ Cindy Kaufman Wills lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien



---

**Cindy Kaufman Wills** - September 05, 2016 at 06:19 PM

DM

“ *My memories of Dick are filled with much laughter and joy from our reunions over these many years. Nancy, my deepest sympathies to you and your family.*

*Denney Edge Magee*

---

**Denney Magee** - September 05, 2016 at 12:51 PM

JH

“ *Julie Tiemeyer Hudson lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien*



---

**Julie Tiemeyer Hudson** - September 05, 2016 at 08:52 AM

KS

*Julie, thank you I'm so sorry we've lost touch over the years, please keep in touch!*

---

**Keary O'Brien Smith** - September 07, 2016 at 07:48 PM

JC

“ *We are so sorry, Nancy, to hear of Dick's passing. Our deepest sympathies go to your entire family. I remember Dick as a true gentleman from our high school days through our many reunions. May your memories comfort you at this difficult time. Fondly, Judy and Tony Cosentino*

---

**judy cosentino** - September 05, 2016 at 07:56 AM

HM

“ Great memories of Dick on the baseball diamond, had a good fastball, fond memories of our high school years, my deepest sympathies to you Nancy

harris mager - September 04, 2016 at 06:34 PM

CP

“ It is with great sadness that I learned of Dick's passing. He was a wonderful man and mentor. The vivid memories of the time he was my boss at Merck , his so warm demeanors and funny wits will remain dear to my heart. My deepest condolences to Nancy and family . Catherine Perrin-Brandt

catherine perrin-brandt - September 03, 2016 at 01:00 PM

IB

“ Iona Bovenzi lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Dudley O'Brien



Iona Bovenzi - September 03, 2016 at 11:27 AM

KS

Thank you so much I for your love and support. Love you.

Keary O'Brien Smith - September 04, 2016 at 10:29 AM

LF

*Nancy, my thoughts are with you and your family. After so many years together I can only imagine how difficult this loss must be for you. I have many fond memories of Dick from high school. Perhaps the most vivid is when we worked together in the CHS production of THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK when Carol Castaldi played Anne, Dick played her father ,Otto Frank ,I played Mrs. Van Damm and Gary Schnappinger played my husband. Dick was a joy to work with and it was always a pleasure to be in his presence.*

*Leah Dawson Ferguson*

---

**leah dawson ferguson** - September 05, 2016 at 12:01 PM

CW

*Such a nice guy! Many fond memories of Dick, and you too Nancy, from school. Such a huge loss for family and friends. My deepest sympathy to you Nancy ,the kids and grandchildren!*

---

**Cindy Kaufman Wills** - September 05, 2016 at 06:12 PM

BR

*Nancy and Dick, names that are always used together, were best friends from before high school days and beyond. We even watched submarine races together as couples. Although separated by many miles over the years, whenever we reunited, the conversation and affection continued as before. Dick was my best man at our wedding in 1964 and now, from that crew, only two remain. Nancy, you and your family are in our prayers.*

---

**Brian Richard** - September 08, 2016 at 10:16 AM