



## Patrick John Doherty

August 26, 1940 - April 8, 2024

Patrick J. Doherty lost his battle with vascular dementia on April 8, 2024, just before the solar eclipse he would have been thrilled to watch at the age of 83.

He was born in Elizabeth, NJ; and lived his life in Rahway, NJ and Edison NJ. He retired with his wife to Ocean City, MD and Ocean Pines, MD; and then to Myrtle Beach, SC. He had a wonderful life and his family is saddened but know that his pain and suffering are no more. He never wanted to be a burden and never was.

His sustenance and his passion were his family. He met his wife when he was 17 and she was 15. He held his wife's hand every day even after 60 years of marriage. He also insisted on opening the car door for her every time, even when he had trouble standing on his own. They danced together recently at their 60th anniversary party and even though he was already losing cognition he was sweet and there was not a dry eye in the room.

He was happiest spending time with her and with his children and his grandchildren whether it was traveling, boating, golfing, or just visiting. He loved video games nearly to the end. He built each of us a clock which we all cherish. He was never afraid to be silly, to play on the playground with his grandchildren; to get on stage at Disney doing the hula and playing the role of Capt'n Duck on Steamboat Willie.

He never hesitated to travel any distance to support his children and his grandchildren.

His sense of humor also lasted nearly to the end and we remember his sly wit and ability to laugh. He had a smile that was always there and he had a constant twinkle in his eye. Even the nurses in the nursing home commented on his smile.

He loved deeply and cared always. His last words to all of us individually were "I love you". He was never afraid to say those words and he meant it from the heart.

He was a veteran of the US Army and a former Commander in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. He worked as a research microbiologist at Merck for more than 25 years and holds two US patents for veterinary treatment of heartworm.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Nancy; his children Patrick (Lauren), Debra (Jeff), and Donna (Ken); and his grandchildren Daniel, Jocelyn, Kyle, Keren and Meira. He taught us all the value of education and was thrilled to know our life paths. We are grateful that he led us. He is also survived by his brother David and his sister Eileen, and many nieces and nephews.

We are eternally grateful for those who helped us care for him as he waned. Thank you does not seem sufficient enough to express how you impacted our lives and his.

No funeral is planned but a celebration of life will be announced later in the year. Donations in his memory may be made to Coast Guard Foundation ([www.coastguardfoundation.org](http://www.coastguardfoundation.org)), Lower Cape Fear LifeCare ([www.LifeCare.org](http://www.LifeCare.org)),

and Donate Life Maryland ([www.donatelifemaryland.org](http://www.donatelifemaryland.org)).

He is already missed and is forever loved.

Goldfinch Funeral Home of Carolina Forest is honored to serve the family.

# Tribute Wall

SF

“ *Deb and Jeff,  
With deepest sympathies for you and your family. I always enjoyed  
talking with him at your family events and he was quite the  
interesting guy.  
Love Sharon and Steve*

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**Sharon A Fuschetti** - April 15, 2024 at 04:51 PM

SC

“ *Donna and Ken,  
  
So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Our deepest condolences to  
you and your family.  
  
Susan & Joe Closic*

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**Susan Closic** - April 14, 2024 at 08:37 PM

LC

“ So very sorry for your loss, Nancy and family.  
Just a few of our many memories of our dear neighbor and friend.  
We will miss you, Pat. A life well lived with his dearest wife, family  
and friends. We shared stories together, Shorebirds games and  
fireworks, dinners or lunch out and Larry and Pat golfing. Our visit  
during Myrtle Beach trips. So glad we got to take him to Pawley's  
Island Beach in 2022.  
Love and hugs, Linda and Larry Conley



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**Linda Conley** - April 13, 2024 at 08:49 AM

SS

“ Our thoughts and prayers Nancy are with you and your family Love  
Sharon and Charles Stern

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**Sharon and Charles Stern** - April 13, 2024 at 07:30 AM

LD

“ My heart and prayers to Aunt Nancy,Patrick,Debbie and Donna. He was my Uncle and godfather dearly loved. All our family picnics and gatherings on holidays as growing up remain in my heart. I will cherish the memories in Maryland and being there for my daughter’s wedding in Disney. You will always be loved and never forgotten.

Love Linda

Speaking for my Dad it’s hard for him to find the words to express the loss of his dear brother. There is always the cherish memories of family gatherings, golf trips and boating he is a peace watching over us from heaven.

Love Sonny (David)

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Linda Doherty - April 12, 2024 at 11:12 AM

PF

“ Donna,  
Please know that you are in my thoughts at this difficult time. May his memory be a blessing for all who knew him.  
Phyllis Franklin

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Phyllis Franklin - April 12, 2024 at 10:08 AM

LA

“ Donna, our deepest condolences to you and your family. Laura & Charles

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laura - April 12, 2024 at 09:43 AM

DE

“ Donna and family, we are so sorry for your loss. Please know we are thinking about you.

*Debbie and Richard Edlow*

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**debbie edlow** - April 12, 2024 at 06:54 AM

SH

“ Nancy, Patrick, Donna and Debbie- I'm very sorry for your loss. I enjoyed looking through all the pictures that you posted. My thoughts are with all of you.

*Sharon Dowling Hensen (Arlene's oldest daughter)*

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**Sharon Hensen** - April 11, 2024 at 06:08 PM

TH

“ You will be greatly missed ❤️ may you rest in peace Uncle Pat



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**Tyler Habib** - April 11, 2024 at 10:39 AM

DP

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



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Donna Pierce - April 11, 2024 at 09:15 AM

DP

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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Donna Pierce - April 11, 2024 at 09:07 AM

DP

“ 19 files added to the tribute wall



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Donna Pierce - April 11, 2024 at 08:56 AM