
Paul Thomas O'Leary

Born

February 1, 1933
Boston, Massachusetts

Died

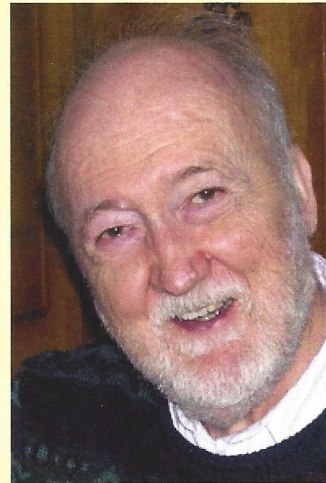
March 30, 2017
London, Ontario

Funeral

Saturday, April 8, 2017
St John the Divine Church
Base Line Road, London, Ontario

Interment

St Peter's Cemetery
London, Ontario



Paul O'Leary
1933 - 2017

Punster *par excellence*, Paul is remembered for his quick wit and warm personality. Born in Boston, the nuns at his school could never have predicted his academic success. After all, he had refused to jump over a candlestick in Kindergarten and failed Grade three. Years later, he also left Northeastern U. when told that the world would be a safer place if he did not become an Engineer!

No longer in school, he was drafted and served in the US Navy. It was in the well-stocked library of the USS Everglades that he discovered Philosophy. While posted in the Mediterranean, he experienced the culture and food of the French Riviera and visited many ancient Greek and Roman sites.

In August 1957, he had \$500 in his pocket and admittance to Boston College. This time he fared much better, graduating *magna cum laudae* in 1961. He then attended U. of Toronto where he completed his MA and PhD in Philosophy.

At a going-away party, a neighbour had told him to "watch out for those French Canadian girls". He listened to the advice and within days he met Pia as she led a group in the singing of *Alouette*.

He came to UWO in 1965 when Althouse College of Education opened and spent 30 years as professor of philosophy. He was an active member of CPES and co-founder and first editor of their journal *Paideusis*. In his final student evaluation, the only negative comment he received was: "Grow a little taller, we cannot see you behind the podium."

Paul was a warm and caring husband, an attentive father to Stephen, David, John and Susan and a playful Papi to Christina, Abby, Myles, Geneviève and Juliette. Whenever anything went wrong, he would put a positive spin on it by saying: "This will be great for the Christmas letter." Avid reader, movie-goer, chef extraordinaire, and world traveller, he had many wonderful adventures with Pia and the Gang of Four.