



## Mr. Don R McGillicuddy

March 19, 1967 - March 1, 2024

Don McGillicuddy

“Donnie”

LOWELL—Donald R. “Don” McGillicuddy, 56, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly following a medical event while refereeing a high school basketball game in Watertown on Friday evening, March 1, 2024. He was the fiancé of Nancy Walsh, who was the love of his life.

Don was born in Lowell on March 19, 1967, a son of the late Dolores (Plourde) McGillicuddy, and Paul Pilato, Sr. who survives him. He attended the Lowell Schools, and was a graduate of the Greater Lowell Tech.

Donnie was a Maintenance Supervisor with the Lowell Housing Authority, a job he loved, with people he loved working with.

Don enjoyed being involved with youth sports, especially baseball, basketball and football. He was a volunteer coach for many years in the neighborhood he grew up in, and also in the Acre. He was proud to coach his son Wayne from a young age. He was also one of the founding coaches of the Lowell Junior High Football League. When his son Wayne became a College Football Coach, Don couldn't have been prouder and was there to watch and support his son's endeavors.

Don loved his family and there wasn't anything he wouldn't do for them. He was his daughter's hero, and his son's idol. He was the greatest Grandpa in the world to Alivianna. His family was truly his pride and joy.

A close second was Donnie's love of Golf. Long Meadow was a second home to him and he was a beloved member for many years and a current Board Member.

Basketball officiating was also a passion of Don's as he was involved with the IAABO Board 95 for the past 24 years. He loved the IAABO and had been a two term past president of Board 95.

Lowell ran proud in Don's blood. He was a proud Lowellian and gave back to his city and community in many ways. He volunteered for everything, and could never say no to anyone who asked something of him.

Don and Nancy loved to travel and had taken many vacation trips to Italy, California (Pebble Beach GL), Maine, and the south eastern United States. They made each other so happy since the day they met, and had many plans for the future.

Donnie ran on Dunkin' and started each day with a Dunkin Coffee. He was quick with a joke, and would give you the shirt off his back if he thought he could help you.

While his death was sudden and without warning, his memory will live on in many ways, through his family and all the good work he did for so many throughout his life.

Surviving Don are his children, Erica DeJesus and her husband Miguel of Nashua, NH, and his son, Wayne McGillicuddy and his wife Julia of CT; his only grandchild, Alivianna DeJesus; his fiancé, Nancy Walsh of Saugus, and her children, Julianne Giannetto and John Giannetto; his father, Paul Pilato, Sr.; his siblings, Mary Pilato Silva and her husband Mike, Paul Pilato, Jr., and Albert McGillicuddy and his wife Lisa; also many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Don was the brother of the late Theresa, Joe, and Cindy McGillicuddy. Donnie also leaves his "family" from Long Meadow, The IAABO, and the Lowell Housing Authority.

Family and friends may call at THE FAY McCABE FUNERAL HOME, 105 MOORE STREET IN LOWELL on WEDNESDAY, from 4 until 8 PM. It being

his wish, there will be no formal Funeral Service. As an expression of sympathy, in lieu of flowers, donations in Don's memory may be made to the Long Meadow Golf Club Scholarship Fund, c/o Long Meadow Golf Club, 165 Havilah St. Lowell, MA 01852 or to the IAABO Board 95 Scholarship – Pete Sheehan Fund, c/o 21 Rivercliffe Rd. Lowell, MA 01852.

ARRANGEMENTS BY THE  
FAY McCABE FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
978-459-9222 [www.faymccabe.com](http://www.faymccabe.com)

# Cemetery Details

**No Cemetery Services**

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAR 6. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Fay McCabe Funeral Home  
105 Moore Street  
Lowell, MA 01852  
(978) 459-9222  
sean@faymccabe.com  
<https://www.faymccabe.com>

# Tribute Wall

DE

“ *Debbie Simon Elliott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Don R McGillicuddy*



Debbie Simon Elliott - March 13, 2024 at 08:37 AM

JJ

“ *Growing up across the street from you and playing all sports we could bonded our families.... catching up with you when we were older only made me proud to see what we came from to see what you achieved... love you Don Don.. you will be missed.*

Jay Jackson - March 10, 2024 at 07:26 AM

JM

“ *June McCready lit a candle in memory of Mr. Don R McGillicuddy*



June McCready - March 07, 2024 at 03:21 PM

JM

*Although we never met, I wish we had. I have never heard so many kind words honoring one person! Your family and Nancy were blessed.*

June McCready - March 07, 2024 at 03:23 PM

DD

“ *Bless you Don you are a angel now.*

Dale Dowrey - March 06, 2024 at 11:17 PM

JM

“ Wayne and Erica:

*A man with the courage to put on his uniform and “Enter the arena” as Donnie did hundreds of times each year in his long career as an IAABO official has distinguished himself beyond any question....*

*As a multiple year director and tournament chairman at Long Meadow Golf Club, he accomplished the same feat there.... He was very proud of you both....*

*I am sorry I can not be there for the services, rest assured I am there in spirit....*

*My deepest condolences....*

*Joseph T Miller*

*PGA Assistant Golf Professional*

*Long Meadow Golf Club*

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**Joseph T Miller** - March 06, 2024 at 07:23 PM

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**Erica DeJesus (McGillicuddy)** - March 11, 2024 at 05:40 PM

MR

“ Donnie was one of the first people I met when we both began working at LHA. His

*personality was engaging and he made it a*

*point to find humor in every situation. The*

*memories posted are a testimony of the*

*impact he made upon the lives of those he knew. Donnie, may you*

*rest in peace and know that you will always be remembered.*



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**Michelle Recco-Bomba** - March 06, 2024 at 07:00 PM

CD

“ Cissy Dec lit a candle in memory of Mr. Don R McGillicuddy



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**Cissy Dec** - March 06, 2024 at 05:48 PM

GS

“ Don attended every sporting event in the city.....when he first started out he refed youth basketball...whenever there was an obvious foul he would nod to the parents and let most of them slide. the kids loved him.....Those of us involved in various sports in the Greater Lowell area always counted Don as a loyal supporter and great person to know....He was taken far too young...He will be missed by all.....George & Dennis Scannell.....Go Brunswick Bruins

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**George & Dennis Scannell** - March 06, 2024 at 12:47 PM

LB

“ As a coach you have your share of exchanges with officials. Donnie had a unique way to tell you how to shut your trap and make you laugh at the same time. Such a genuine guy and a true gentleman. Honored and fortunate to have had the privilege to be in the same building as him. God bless you all at this time. Your dad made the world a better place.

*Leo Boucher*

*St Clement and Pope John Basketball*

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**Leo Boucher** - March 05, 2024 at 06:36 PM

TD

“ I am so happy to have worked Don with a few weeks ago. Hos love for the game made him who is was. Engaging, fun and professional. Don you will be missed.

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**Tony Difraia** - March 05, 2024 at 02:20 PM

GM

“ Thanks for the great memories growing up Shaughnessy Terr. It was a joy calling you my friend ☐

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**Geraldo Medina** - March 05, 2024 at 12:14 PM

WC

“ Wayne And Linda Carter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Don R McGillicuddy



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**Wayne and Linda Carter** - March 05, 2024 at 08:22 AM

WC

*Rest in peace Don, I will always have good memories Of years passed. Wayne Carter*

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**Wayne and Linda Carter** - March 05, 2024 at 08:26 AM

MA

“ Erica Wayne Mary Skip Pauly and Big Paul, and to the rest of my family, I am so sorry for your loss.. Don was one of a kind and he will never be forgotten. I will cherish all the good times I had with him. Rest in peace, big cousin. Love Michelle.

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**Michelle ( Cowgill ) Anstiss** - March 05, 2024 at 07:10 AM

GB

“ To Wayne and Erica, My prayers are with you. Donnie we had so much fun coaching baseball together. Some of the best times of my life that I will never forget. Rest in peace my friend.  
George Byron

George Byron - March 05, 2024 at 06:18 AM

CB

“ Cindy Bickford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Don R McGillicuddy



Cindy Bickford - March 05, 2024 at 04:56 AM

MC

“ Wayne and family, sorry for your loss. Always a gentleman RIP Donnie Tyngsboro baseball family



Michael & Charlene - March 05, 2024 at 03:58 AM

MC

“ I had the pleasure of meeting him a few times over dinner and laughing. I recognized right away that he was one of the good guy and he and my friend Nancy were soulmates 💔

Mary Carey - March 04, 2024 at 09:13 PM

CD

“ Sad to hear of your passing ,life is unfair and takes those we are not ready to see go. It's been years since we have seen each other but I keep memories from when I was young and thank you for being a good role model was always nice to see you do what you loved in life you will be missed by many thinking of you Chrystal Dec and family, Aunt Jojo sends her love to you .



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**Chrystal Dec** - March 04, 2024 at 09:00 PM

RC

“ My deepest condolences to the Mc Gillicuddy family. I met Donny through refereeing. We came in at the same time. You could tell that he was going to excel at it by the effort he put forth. He will be missed by all that knew him. Rest in peace Donny.

*Ray Costello*  
*Past President IAABO Board 95*

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**Ray Costello** - March 04, 2024 at 07:32 PM

KH

“ Karen Martin Homen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Don R McGillicuddy



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**Karen Martin Homen** - March 04, 2024 at 06:12 PM

KH

*Don Don you did so much for the kids in Lowell. You were such a great mentor. God Bless your family and you.*

*RIP FRIEND 🥹🙏🏈🏀🏆*

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**Karen Martin Homen** - March 04, 2024 at 06:14 PM

BV

*Don was a guy you become friends with, when his lady introduces you. I only wish I met him years ago. We had a lot in common because we were avid sports fans. I was in the process of arranging dinner with Don and Nancy. After reading the obit, it is a certainty that there is a lot of sadness for many people. God bless the young athletes who are going to love him in Heaven..*

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**bob varney** - March 04, 2024 at 09:27 PM

SR

“ *Sean & Erin Rourke lit a candle in memory of Mr. Don R McGillicuddy*



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**Sean & Erin Rourke** - March 04, 2024 at 03:23 PM