

# Thomas J. McDonough

December 15, 1939 - October 22, 2019



Tom McDonough

Amesbury, MA - Dr. Thomas J. McDonough, resident of Amesbury, Massachusetts, passed away on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at the age of 79, at the Merrimack Valley Health Center, following a prolonged illness. Tom was a beloved psychologist with a long career throughout Eastern Massachusetts, including work in psychiatric emergency centers, as well as multiple facilities working with children, families, individuals, and couples. He began his career in New York, New York, working at Manhattan State Hospital, and half-way houses. He was also a teacher and college instructor. Following receipt of his bachelor's degree at Dartmouth College, he earned his master's degree at New York University, and doctorate at Boston University.

Along with his extensive career, Tom was a veteran Naval officer. An activist for peace and justice, an advocate of the disenfranchised and an enthusiast of history and discussions around the dining table. A successful athlete throughout his life, he began playing soccer at age 43 to play along with, and coach, his sons. An accomplished artist, his photography was published in magazines and textbooks, and he acted the lead role in many high school plays. Tom was a loyal counselor, confidant, and friend throughout his life and would also be described as a storyteller, warm-hearted jokester, music lover, and the best dad ever. He founded the Massachusetts Association of Children of Alcoholics, and always sought to help anyone in need of advice or help with substance abuse issues.

He is predeceased by his parents, John Kenneth and Laura Grace Hill McDonough; his brother John K. McDonough III and his wife Jesse McDonough; and his brother Patrick McDonough.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Nancy Hocking-McDonough; his son Max and wife Alison McDonough; his son Connor, wife Kate McDonough and grandson Owen Thomas McDonough. Also, his sister-in-law Marion McDonough; and many nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and -nephews.

The family asks that you please consider a donation that will be used to support Certified Nursing Assistants at Merrimack Valley Health Care that will support their goals in furthering their education. Contributions may be made directly to Dr. Nan Hocking McDonough, 134 Main St., Amesbury, MA 01913, to be distributed upon application.

A celebration of life will be held, Saturday, November 2, 2019, 2 to 4 p.m., at The Polish Club, 14 Mill Street, Amesbury, MA 01913.

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