James "Jim" Martin Doran

August 24, 2025

James Martin Doran (Jim), 92, of West Hartford, passed away peacefully at home with his daughters by his side on August 24, 2025. He was born on April 21, 1933, the son of the late Hugh and Mary (Murray) Doran. He grew up in Toronto, OH and lived in West Hartford, CT for almost 60 years. Jim was a kind, fair, and generous man who lived each chapter of his life to the fullest, centering family above all else. He had a quick wit and an uncanny talent for “back-of-the-envelope” math. He was easygoing and just about everyone who knew him adored him.

Jim was proud of his Irish roots, of growing up in a small steel mill town during the Depression, of his older brothers who served in World War II, and of his Victory Garden back home. The first member of his family to attend college (John Carroll University in Cleveland, OH), Jim never forgot the scholarships, internships and people that made attending college possible. Once able, he honored them by paying it forward, supporting others in their educational pursuits.

Jim met the love of his life, Peggotty Namm Doran, in 1965. They married, made West Hartford their home, welcomed daughters Beth and Wendy, and were very happy. In 1978, the family faced a tremendous hardship when their beloved Peggotty passed away from ovarian cancer. Jim met this profound challenge with unwavering grace, strength and devotion. He was forever

grateful to all the people, especially Anne Satriano Tucker, who helped him raise his daughters.

Jim started his career as a CPA and enjoyed jobs in Pittsburgh, PA, Rome, NY, and New Haven, CT before settling into a fulfilling career in finance at Heublein, Inc., known for its spirits, wine and consumer products. To honor Jim, just order “Smirnoff” instead of “vodka” and put A1 Steak Sauce on your steak.

Jim thrived in his retirement. He devoted more time to the stock market and wrote “Your Mom and Me,” a book preserving cherished family stories and history. He established investment clubs at his favorite schools and was instrumental in resurrecting West Hartford’s Seniors Job Bank where he remained active until his death. Jim loved reading his newspapers over a cup of instant decaf coffee; traveling with family; singing showtunes; playing group Jeopardy!; cheering for Notre Dame and Cleveland Browns football; playing tennis, paddle and golf with friends at the Hartford Golf Club; participating in the Old Guard; attending St. Peter Claver Church; and spending summers hosting loved ones on Groton Long Point.

A loving family member and friend, Jim was predeceased by his parents, wife Peggotty, and siblings Hugh, Jack, Tom and Mary Kay. He is survived by his daughter Beth Doran Putnam and son-in-law Dean, daughter Wendy Doran-Paley and daughter-in-law Joanna, grandchildren Kelly, Ben and Maggie, and dozens of extended family members. The family is especially grateful for its close ties with the Namm family, Jim’s longtime devoted neighbors, and his many loving caregivers, especially Mhel and Rafael with Astor Health.

Jim's family and friends are invited to gather for a Celebration of Life at 11:00am on Sunday November 9, 2025 at the Hartford Golf Club (134 Norwood Road in West Hartford, CT). In lieu of flowers, donations can be

made to the Seniors Job Bank (www.seniorsjobbankct.org) in Jim’s memory.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV **9**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hartford Golf Club
134 Norwood Rd.
West Hartford, CT
http://www.hartfordgolfclub.org

Lunch begins at 11:30AM Prepared speeches begin at 12:15PM

Tribute Wall

JF

Some of my favorite memories of Uncle Jim harken back to the mid/late 90s, when he so graciously welcomed me into his home over several Thanksgiving holidays, giving me a home-away-from home as I adjusted to a new chapter of life on the East Coast. I will always remember him for his gentle manner, his good humor, and his humbleness. Jim was the kind of person you wanted to see more of in this topsy-turvy world. He will be missed, and my heart goes out to those closest to him.

Jack Finnegan - September 01, 2025 at 11:24 AM