



Wendell W. Duncan

May 4, 2025

FARMINGTON, CT — Wendell W. Duncan of Farmington, Connecticut passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 4, 2025. He is survived by his devoted wife of 56 years, Patricia (O'Connor) Duncan.

Born and raised on a farm in Jacksonville, Illinois, Wendell's early life was marked by modest means but extraordinary determination. He distinguished himself as a standout basketball player in high school, earning a scholarship to Illinois College, where he played until sidelined by a knee injury.

Wendell's passion for education led him to Teachers College at Columbia University, where he began a lifelong journey of service. He dedicated his early career to educating and advocating for the hearing impaired, consulting for the State of Illinois and pioneering the first adult education classes and summer camp for this population. In 1970, he moved his family to West Hartford and assumed the position of Assistant Superintendent at the American School for the Deaf, where he worked with dedication and compassion for over a decade.

His second career as a Real Estate Broker allowed Wendell to further engage with his community. As owner of The Faulkner Company and later with William Raveis, he became a familiar and beloved figure throughout West Hartford. Whether greeting people at his favorite bagel spot or engaging in conversation

around town, Wendell connected with everyone he met. He took particular joy in sharing the accomplishments of his children and always brightened at the sight of his grandchildren or any baby. His generous spirit led him to never pass someone in need without offering help, whether buying a sandwich or sharing what he could.

An avid golfer, Wendell enthusiastically participated in tournaments and friendly rounds with colleagues and friends whenever possible. He could also often be found at the card table, engaged in games of gin or poker. His love for animals was evident in his lifelong companionship with dogs—sometimes treating them to shared Big Macs at McDonald's—and later cats, including Coalie, who expected a nightly brush and cuddle.

There will be a Mass offered on Thursday, May 8th at 11AM at St. Peter Claver Church in West Hartford, CT with a luncheon reception following at the Parish Hall. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of Wendell Duncan to the House of Bread at www.hobread.org or sent to The House of Bread, 27 Chestnut Street, Hartford, CT 06120.

Wendell leaves behind his son James "Jed" Duncan (Tracy Morrison), daughter Amy Tremblay (Jim Tremblay), four granddaughters: Eloise Duncan, Alexa Tremblay, Esther Duncan, and Astrid Duncan, grandson Jackson Tremblay, and niece Beth FitzPatrick.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

MAY 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of St. Peter Claver
47 Pleasant St.
West Hartford, CT

Tribute Wall

LW

“ Dear Pat, Jed and Amy,

I just heard about Wendall's passing yesterday. I am so sorry as I would have been at the services.

I owe my entire career to him. He encouraged me and provided me with the vehicle to steer me into a profession as a Music and Movement instructor at The American School for the Deaf, that I never would have pursued without his faith in me.

I am so very sorry for your loss.

As the years passed, I remembered him fondly and often. Pat is one of the women I have always enjoyed. As a widow for 14 years now, I know something about grieving the loss of a spouse that was in it for the 'long haul'. Your wonderful family will lighten the loss as it gets lighter with time. I hope that we can connect soon.

Love and Prayers, Leslie Warren

Leslie Warren - May 10, 2025 at 10:46 AM

DP

“ *Sincerest condolences to Pat, Jed, Amy, and family. It's been a very long time since I'd seen Wendell, but I will forever remember the warm and kind man that hired me to teach in Cogswell back in the early 1970's. I loved every minute there until leaving to be a full time Mom at home. I still came back to teach CCD with Sister Maura until the birth of my second child. Wendell was a wonderful man and will be warmly remembered by many.*

Denise Patridge - May 08, 2025 at 12:17 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Wendell W. Duncan.*



May 07, 2025 at 11:09 AM



“ *Aquinas Team - Kelly, Becca, & Zierra purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Wendell W. Duncan.*



Aquinas Team - Kelly, Becca, & Zierra - May 07, 2025 at 10:29 AM



“ *I always enjoyed Wendell-he was an amazing asset to the Castlewood community-always smiling- and so welcoming- the community was a much better place with him in it and at the helm. I also enjoyed seeing him at wamp over the years- please accept my sincere condolences rip. My friend and thank you for all you did for everyone you met. Ellen Mckone Stafford*

ellen stafford - May 06, 2025 at 12:39 PM



“ *What wonderful memories I have of Wendell! He was full of fun, a great condo president, and a good friend. Greta L. Rich*

Greta Rich - May 06, 2025 at 09:14 AM