



Edward Patrick Gavigan

AUG 1, 1946 - MAR 3, 2017



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HAWAIIAN
MEMORIAL PARK MORTUARY
AT VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES

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Edward Patrick Gavigan

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Edward Patrick Gavigan was born on August 1, 1946, in Brookline, Massachusetts to William John Gavigan and Margaret Katherine Hickey Gavigan. He was their youngest child and he had 2 older sisters: Anne Gavigan and Kathleen Gavigan (William Dixon). When he was five years old, the Gavigan family moved to Pennsylvania and eventually settled in Media, Pennsylvania.

Eddie graduated from Devon Preparatory High School in 1964 and went on to St Joseph's University, where he was an English major and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1968. In July, after his graduation, Eddie enlisted in the Navy. During his 4-year tour of duty, Ed sailed around the Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas as well as visited various countries, including Morocco, Italy, and Cuba. In 1981, Ed received his Masters of Education in counseling from the University of Maryland.

On December 19th, 1971, while out getting pizza in Alexandria, Virginia, with his roommate, he sat next to Marie Manuele and one of her friends. Impressed by her charm (i.e., ability to chug beer), they eventually started dating. Five years later, they married on September 4th, 1976.

In October, 1972, two months after Ed had left the Navy, he started working at the Veterans Administration as a benefits counselor. It was during this first job at the VA that Ed met many of his co-workers who became his life-long friends. After several years as a benefits counselor, Ed moved on to vocational rehabilitation and counseling working with many disabled veterans. This is where Ed's true talents and his love of others became so readily apparent. Many times he would take that extra step, far and beyond what his job required, to help a disabled veteran. This included spending time with some of these veterans after working hours and on weekends.

Eddie loved counseling veterans and working at the VA. At one point, his job took him all over the USA to survey other departments. One survey, in 1988, brought him to Honolulu, which he loved and in 1994, he moved to Hawaii with his family to live and work. In the Honolulu VA office, Ed took on the position as the Vocational Rehabilitation & Counseling Division Manager, where he



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continued his work with disabled veterans. Eddie retired in December 2010 and was able to spend his time golfing, watching the Eagles, Phillies, 76ers and more golf, walking with Bella, enjoying the craic with friends, walking as St Patrick in the Honolulu parade, and traveling.

Eddie and Marie had 2 children: Margaret "Meggie" and William Brian Gavigan. Five years ago, Ed got a third "child," Brian's dog, Bella.

In 2008, Ed was diagnosed with MDS, a rare blood disorder, and in 2012, underwent several rounds of chemotherapy to mitigate this life-threatening condition. While the chemotherapy was successful for Ed, the only cure was a bone marrow transplant. Luckily, Ed was able to find a match for a bone marrow transplant, which he received at City of Hope outside of Los Angeles in December 2012. The transplant was a success; Eddie recovered well and came home three months after the transplant.

Eddie enjoyed talking sports and watching sports on TV with his son, and in March, 2016, he proudly emceed his daughter's wedding to Louis "Kainoa" Castro, Jr. Sadly, later in the year, the same transplant that had given Eddie new life began to attack him causing his liver to become damaged. In October, Ed made a trip to the East Coast to visit with his sisters and his DC and Philadelphia friends. However, by November, 2016, his damaged liver began to fail causing Ed to become sicker by the week and requiring several hospitalizations. On February 2, 2017, he underwent a procedure intended to provide a temporary "fix" for his liver and to give him a few more months, hopefully to be able to see his first grandchild who will enter this world around April 30, 2017. However, due to complications from the procedure, Ed not only did not get the temporary "fix" and more time, but rather his life was cut short. Eddie fought hard to live, and although his will to live was incredibly strong, his diseased body was simply too sick to allow his will to prevail. Eddie passed away in his home and in the arms of his loved ones on March 3rd, 2017.

Ed was a kind, caring, and compassionate person who spend his life dedicated to helping others, and was generous in so many ways. Ed was never one to talk badly of others, and when confronted with those situations, rather than join in, he would simply say "We are all God's little children." At the same time, he was a master trouble-maker and prided himself on his abilities to cause trouble. He had a great sense of humor and was always able to make people laugh. His personality, wit and endless humor are irreplaceable. We will miss him terribly.



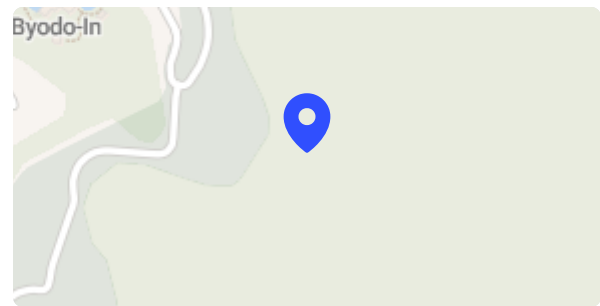
Visitation

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM HST

Hawaiian Memorial Park Mortuary at Valley of the Temples

47-200 Kahekili Highway, Kaneohe HI 96744



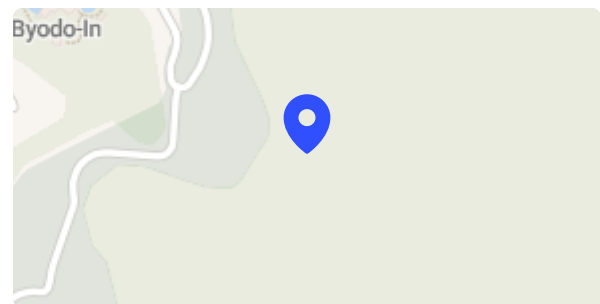
Wake Service

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM HST

Hawaiian Memorial Park Mortuary at Valley of the Temples

47-200 Kahekili Highway, Kaneohe HI 96744



Additional Visitation

Thursday, April 6, 2017

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM HT

St. Ann's Catholic Church, 46-129 Haiku Rd, 96744

Eulogy

Thursday, April 6, 2017

9:30 AM - 9:45 AM HT

St. Ann's Catholic Church, 46-129 Haiku Rd, 96744



Events

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Mass

Thursday, April 6, 2017

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM HT

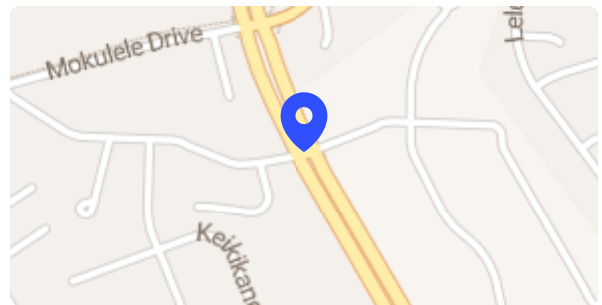
St. Ann's Catholic Church, 46-129 Haiku Rd, 96744

Burial

Thursday, April 6, 2017

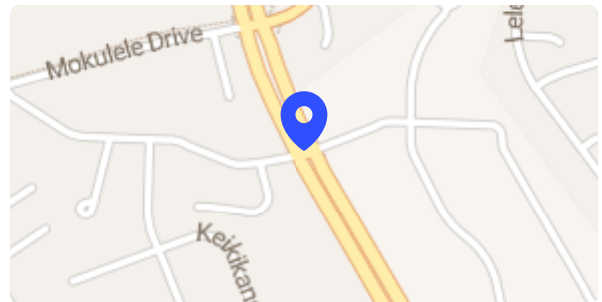
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM HST

Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery
45-349 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe HI
96744



Cemetery Details

Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery
45-349 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe HI
96744





Tribute Wall

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Franklin Chung posted:

For you, Ed. Your favorite lounge lizard.<https://youtu.be/ykKjoWogAml>

April 5 at 11:16 AM



Greg Bittle posted:

Marie, Meggie, Brian, Kainoa- Am so very sorry for your loss. It is hard to believe my good friend is gone so I can not imagine what you must be going through. When I moved to DC in 1991 Ed was assigned as my VA mentor. He not only taught me the regular tasks of Central Office but also the more challenging aspects of the job. Marie and Ed facilitated in the transition of my young family to the DC area and I will be forever grateful. Ed was the quintessential great friend over the years and there are so many wonderful memories. Pro-veteran, basketball, life, no one did it better than Ed. Save me a spot on your golf and b-ball teams Eddie. We got "next".

March 28 at 5:14 AM



Bill Glover posted:

Working for the VA in the Vocational Rehabilitation Division San Diego, CA, Ed on several occasions would come from Washington, DC to conduct an Inspection of the Division. It was those lunch breaks where you really enjoyed having Ed in your Company. Moreover, when I went to Washington on a special detail, daily meets with Ed showed you a kind, loving and humorous person. Our friendship developed, even to the point that Ed suggested I join him in Hawaii. We were all blessed to have Ed as a worker for the disabled veteran. My condolences to the family. Bill Glover San Diego, CA

March 15 at 8:05 AM



Bob Burton posted:

So very sorry for your loss, Ed was a great VR&E Officer and Counselor. We always enjoyed talking NCAA Basketball. His St. Joe's and Villanova versus my UNC Tarheels. I will always remember him as a good friend. Bob Burton Delaware

March 14 at 11:05 PM



Al Gagliardi posted:

We will all miss you...and we will all meet again.....Al Gagliardi, Devon Prep '64

March 14 at 11:49 AM



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JM

John Myers posted:

I was lucky enough to have Ed as a friend as well as a cohort with the VA. Ed was one of those Voc Rehab Officers who put the needs of veterans ahead of any other consideration. The cadre of Voc Rehab Officers who shared that philosophy would always "hang out" together at the annual Voc Rehab Officers' conferences. Ed was (as were pretty much all of us who had the "veterans come first" viewpoint) occasionally in hot water with the VA establishment. He (we) would not have had it any other way.

March 13 at 11:48 PM

EK

Eamonn Kinsella posted:

A true Irishman! A kind man who never had a bad word to say about anyone.....any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee."John Donne

March 13 at 9:43 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Edward by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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