

Kevin Burns



Kevin Martin Burns of Eustis Avenue, Newport died on December 20, 2009 at Newport Hospital. He was the husband of Jo-Ann (Palombo) Burns. Born in Newport on July 27, 1943, he was the youngest son of the late Michael Joseph Burns and Mary (Carty) Burns and the son-in-law of the late Rose M. Hinckley of Jamestown.

He is survived by three brothers, Michael Carty Burns of Niantic, CT, Terrence Carney Burns of Newport, Brian Brennan Burns of Portsmouth, and a sister, Ellen (Burns) Norton of Addison, ME. Also surviving him are his brother-in-law, Paul J. Palombo of Jamestown, his god son, Brian D. Swistak of Arlington, VA and many nieces and nephews. Kevin graduated from the former De La Salle Academy in Newport.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and History from Rhode Island College. After graduating from RIC in 1965, he was drafted into the US Army. He served two years in the 24th Military Police Company stationed in Munich, Germany. After an honorable discharge, Kevin began teaching Social Studies in the Newport Public Schools, first at the former Mumford School and then Thompson Junior High School. He became Dean of Boys in the late 1970's at Thompson. In 1980, he transferred to Rogers High School teaching Government Seminar and Political History. He had an illustrious tenure at the high school as a prominent and influential teacher. Admired greatly by his students, he was known for his quick wit, wisdom and fairness. He taught at Rogers until his retirement in 1996.

Kevin was a popular figure on the Newport waterfront working as dock master at area marinas, most recently the Newport Yachting Center. He was a member of Wanumetonomy Golf and Country Club, Hazards Beach, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and a devoted frequenter of Cappy's Hillside Cafe.

Family and friends were invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday, December 22, at St. Mary's Church, Spring St, Newport. Burial at St. Columba Cemetery, Brown's Ln, Middletown. Visiting hours were respectfully omitted.

Donations in his name may be made to the Rhode Island College Annual Fund
(Class of 1965), 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908