



## Charles 'Swabbie' Heffernan

February 3, 1938 - April 7, 2017

Charles J "Swabbie" Heffernan, passed away unexpectedly at home, on April 7, 2017, National Beer Day. He was born to Francis and Muriel (Ryan) Heffernan on February 3, 1938, in Pittsburgh, PA.

Swabbie was a Navy veteran, serving at Glenview Naval Station. He later retired from Illinois Bell (Ameritech) after 36 years. He then delivered flowers for 22 years at Locker's Flowers in McHenry, IL. On December 3, 1998, he married Virginia (Lundblad), who believes he was truly her better half.

He was extremely proud of his Irish heritage. He spent a beautiful, sunny, last day of life in the company of his beloved brother, Bill, aka Murray Burns, of Los Angeles. They revisited their boyhood hometown of Glenview, and he enjoyed his final beer at Hackney's on Lake. Life was very good.

Swabbie was best known for his sense of humor, sincere kindness, and his desire to "impart his wisdom" on anyone he could find to listen. He will be very dearly missed by so many. Swabbie wanted his loved ones to know he did the best he believed he could do, and that he loved them all unconditionally.

Those surviving are his wife, Virginia; children Cindy (John) Nolan, Denise (Dennis) Morrison, twin sons Thomas Heffernan, and Timothy (Judy) Heffernan, step-children, Bob (Julie Waechter) Weber Jr., Stephanie (Darren Lyon) Weber, and Brett (Jamie) McCollum, grandchildren, Jennifer (Sarah) Dye, James Nolan, Collin Heffernan, Tony (Rachael) Koza, Kelli Koza, Trevor (Jenny) Glauser, Austin Weber, Alivia, Landon and Adalyn Lyon, Drew (Lisa) Tyler, Jacklyn Morrison, and Maddox Ackert. Great-grandchildren Kyla and Khloe, Anthony and Allanah, Sophia and Joey, and Jaxson. Siblings Bill aka Murray Burns (Planaria Price), Thomas Heffernan, Nell (Frank) Mayfield, and Martha (Thomas) Daly.

He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter Tamara (Matt) Propst and by siblings Patrick Heffernan and Sheila Axon.

Date to be decided for the sharing of pictures, memories and laughter in celebration of the life of Swabbie.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Charles 'Swabbie' Heffernan*

October 04, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Charles 'Swabbie' Heffernan*

December 31, 2022 at 11:36 AM

VH

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Virginia Heffernan - April 14, 2017 at 08:14 AM

PP

“ *Swabbie! What a guy! Like many others, I never knew how much I loved him. But all of us know how much we'll miss him. My peculiar mystery is why me? Why was I the guy who got so much of his last lap? I'll always be his Bro. Murray/Bill*

Planaria Price - April 13, 2017 at 02:24 PM

PP

“ *Cannot believe that Swabbie is gone. It's easier for me because, being in Los Angeles, he just seems a phone call away. Some of his calls to us were so funny and loving that we have them saved on our answering machine. And there they will always stay. He would call to tell us he was wondering how we were, hoping we were well, and always letting us know the weather and what time it was in Chicago. The once a year family reunions at Virge and Swabbie's house were a particularly wonderful time for me; besides Virge's great and generous food, the best part for me was to sit next to Swabbie and learn marvelous family lore while we would laugh and laugh. What a great brother-in-law. I was truly blessed.  
Planaria (Murray/Bill's wife)*

Planaria Price - April 13, 2017 at 09:50 AM

PP

“ from Swabbie's former sister-in-law, Murray's first wife, Kathy, from Melbourne, Australia

*Hello Dear Murray and Planaria,*

*So sad to hear of the death of Chuck. He has always come into my thoughts over time even though there was no contact for a long time & the thoughts always made me "Chuckle"!! I have never been able to forget the "harassment" by the Purple Monkey!! Chuck seemed to love chasing me in my young & embarrassed naivete with the monkey's tail in a "strange" position!! A lovely man has quickly departed and I wish all of the family lots of love as you say au revoir in sadness. I think of you.*

*Much Love,*

*Kathy*

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**Planaria Price** - April 13, 2017 at 09:40 AM

PP

“ from nephew Joe Heffernan, from Melbourne Australia to his father--Chuck's brother

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*.I am saddened greatly by Swabbie's passing and wanted to send my condolences to Murray and you. I'm glad to have known him and always enjoyed his company. I hope that only good memories will help make this time of his passing a little easier for you.*

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**Planaria Price** - April 13, 2017 at 09:37 AM

RC

“ I’ve known Murray for over 30 years, and we are close, personal friends (and neighbors)! You think you know somebody, and then you meet their family! Swabbie is without question, the best of the bunch (sorry Tom).

Sometime around the year 2000, my wife Aleta and I began sponsoring a St. Patrick’s Day party here in LA, which (because of Tom, primarily) became known as the “Heffernan Precision Projectile Vomiting Party.” It was at that time I came to know “Swabbie” as the “AUTHENTIC IRISHMAN FOR HIRE – STORYTELLING & SINGING – EXPERIENCED DRINKING COMPANION – AVAILABLE ALL HOURS”

For a consecutive 10-years or so, the Heffernans descended upon us every St. Paddies Day. One of the most memorable parties was the one (and only) time we were blessed with the company of Virginia and her lovely, young, and vulnerable daughter, Stephanie. Swabbie was always on his best behavior, and no more so than under spousal supervision that year. Storytelling & Singing indeed, especially when teamed up with my then tenant/roommate, Sean – the two of them leading us all in singing “The Rover” as well as other traditional weepy Irish and rebel songs.

In the year 2010, Swabbie stopped coming, and the event moved to Planaria’s house. That year I made life-size facial images of Swabbie mounted on paint sticks – I knew the party would never be the same without him! Some of those face-sticks are still in use, and on display just a month ago.

The Irish flag with a black ribbon flies from the Collins Residence this week. Lord, he will be missed!



Richard Collins - April 12, 2017 at 05:57 PM

JP

“ Jane Pytko lit a candle in memory of Charles 'Swabbie' Heffernan



Jane Pytko - April 12, 2017 at 12:35 PM

JP

*I will always remember you and you will always be in my heart. We had many fun times at the Tuesday night bar club. I remember the time you came in to see me with a note from Virginia saying that you had her permission to be here! You were something else and always will be. Love you!*

Jane Pytko - April 12, 2017 at 12:40 PM

FD

“ Charlie came to the LECC Preschool to drop off his grandchildren for 5 years (3 different children). I would stand at the door to greet the kids. I can honestly say that Charlie was one of my favorite people in my 25 years at LECC. He would come to the door with one of the kids and always have a funny quip... "when I look in the mirror it still hasn't broken", "another day, another dollar I won't have" and "when's the escalator getting installed", a few of my favorites. He always had a smile and a positive attitude. He truly loved his family. Charlie was the real article. His kind eye's in his picture say it all.

*You'll be missed, but, it's better to have made it 79 years as a Mench and go out on your own terms. You wouldn't have had it any other way!*

Frank Davis  
LECC

Frank Davis - April 11, 2017 at 12:31 PM

FD

“ Frank Davis lit a candle in memory of Charles 'Swabbie' Heffernan



Frank Davis - April 11, 2017 at 12:02 PM

MH

“ Very well said.. uncle Chuck will be missed. The few times I did talk to him the past few years he told me to watch out for my dad after his Surgery .. and always had something funny to say.. You will be missed uncle Chuck I know your watching down on everyone with your family up above... RIP

Mark Heffernan - April 10, 2017 at 06:50 PM

JG

“ What a perfect tribute to Swabbie. He will be missed. Our sympathy to all who loved him and his special sense of humor.  
Jim and Janet Groll

Janet Groll - April 10, 2017 at 04:29 PM

DW

*I'm so sorry for your loss Mom I know he made your life complete may our Lord hold you all tight in the days ahead I know there will be rough ones I luv u very much 🙏❤️*

**Dolly Weber** - April 10, 2017 at 06:45 PM



*Dearest Virginia and family, Swabbie was truly "one of a kind"....great big heart and a very special sense of humor. And that smile! It was Tom's and my good pleasure to know him. Words cannot express the sadness I feel at his leaving us and pray the good Lord will shine His face upon him and grant him His peace.*

**Julie Harrison** - April 10, 2017 at 07:22 PM

BC

*Dear Virg, and Family, My heart is full of pain over the lose of Swabbie. Our friendship over these years have so many memories, I will keep them within my heart forever. My prayers are sent and God will take good care of Swabbie. Angels will watch over you and guide you through these painful times. Rest in peace my friend, Till we meet again ! Love Betty*

**Betty Cavanaugh** - April 11, 2017 at 02:22 AM