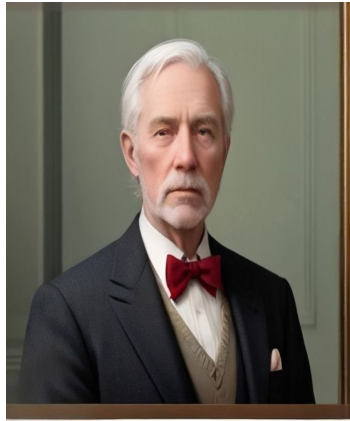




Eamon Patrick Flaherty

November 16, 1953 - August 24, 2026

Albany, New York

Eamon Patrick Flaherty died in Albany on August 24, 2026. He was seventy-two. Born there on November 16, 1953, he grew up knowing the capitol as a neighbor that never slept, and he learned a file stamp before he learned a campus. A docket, he said, is a kind of promise: it has to be right or the whole story is late.

He spent twenty-nine years as a file clerk for a legislative office, first as a helper, later as the man who trained new clerks that a rejected stamp is not a verdict on a life. He kept a drawer of extra clips and a privately updated list of which bills actually satisfied which desk, because the published list was always a week behind the truth. When the office put in a machine that was supposed to replace a person, he learned the machine and then taught it manners.

He married Patricia Flaherty in 1976. They raised a son and a daughter in a row house that needed storm windows. Patricia drove a city truck. Eamon packed lunches and considered a Sunday roast a civic obligation. After she died in 2013 he still sat with neighbors who had to renew something and did not know where to start.

Friends remember a man who would stay seven minutes past closing for a person who had taken two buses, who hated a messy stamp pad, and who said "you're fine" in a way that actually meant the work would get done. He died in Albany, in the brick city he refused to apologize for. The window is someone else's now. The patience he practiced there is harder to replace than a procedure.

Services

A funeral Mass in Albany, then a hall with coffee. A gift to a clerks' fund or a literacy program is welcome.

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