



Patrick Sean OLeary

March 13, 1945 - September 5, 2026

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Patrick Sean OLeary died in Chattanooga on September 5, 2026. He was 81. Born in Chattanooga on March 13, 1945, raised among Irish-American manners that never needed a speech. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He fitted pipe in heat that taught humility. Wrenches hung by length; leaks were personal insults. Colleagues still mention a pipe wrench hung by length.

He married Margaret in 1972. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a daughter through public schools and ordinary weather. After Margaret died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a wave from the driveway that meant you were seen. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Chattanooga, among streets he never needed to explain. The key is still under the same brick.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. His life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

A memorial gathering in Chattanooga with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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