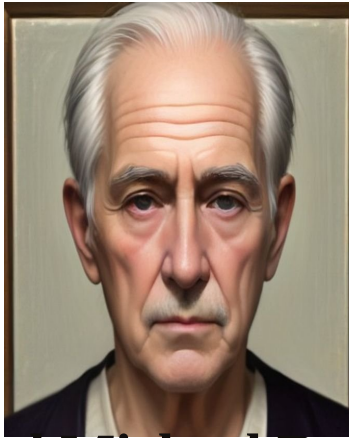




Samuel Michael Donovan

January 19, 1952 - August 12, 2026

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Samuel Michael Donovan died in Hattiesburg on August 12, 2026. He was 74. Born on January 19, 1952, with Irish-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. He learned that neighborhoods remember who helps without being asked.

He sanded until grain became invitation. A sanding block labeled by grit taught apprentices that shortcuts show. Colleagues still mention a sanding block labeled by grit.

He married Patricia in 1974. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised four children through public schools and ordinary weather. After Patricia died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember covered dishes that arrived without a speech. He preferred the hour before a town fully wakes. Hattiesburg was home enough that he never rehearsed an introduction. 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 Hattiesburg with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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