



Terrance Crimmins

January 27, 1957 - May 7, 2023

On May 7, 2023 Terrence (Terry) Crimmins passed away after a two-year fight against cancer. Terry was born January 27, 1957, the youngest of nine children of Catherine Lucile O'Malley Crimmins and John Michael Crimmins, Sr.

Terry was a man of three cities: Pittsburgh, Boston, and Baltimore. He grew up in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood attending St. Bede School and Central Catholic High School. With eight older siblings, his home on Darlington Road was a beehive of activity. He roamed nearby Schenley Park, played Little League in grammar school, and acted in school plays in high school.

He left Pittsburgh for Boston to attend Boston College, where he received his B. A. degree in history. After graduation, he remained in Boston where he began his long career as a writer, supporting himself in a variety of jobs in the food and transportation industries. During this time, he joined Alcohol Anonymous, which provided for him a community in which he received and provided support and assistance for the rest of his life.

Looking for a career change, he returned to Boston College, where he earned a M. A. T. degree in preparation for a teaching career. He found employment in the Baltimore City Public Schools, causing his relocation from Boston.

During this ten-year term in several schools, he taught social studies to students at both the middle and high school levels. Terry continued his writing on weekends and in the summers.

As he succeeded in the digital publication of several novels and short stories, he decided to return to Pittsburgh where he could spend more time writing. He wrote an historical novel on the life of Joseph Pulitzer and an account of his teaching experience in Baltimore. Unfortunately, cancer interrupted his plans for additional works.

Terry is predeceased by his parents and his brothers Sean (Susan) San Antonio, Martin (Melissa) Pittsburgh, Thomas (Kathleen) Sarasota and Kevin (Gemma) Owensboro, KY. He is survived by his brothers Patrick (Sydney) Philadelphia, Mike (Sandy) Pittsburgh, and Tim (Jill) Atlanta, and sister Connie Kelly Saline, MI.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Alcoholics Anonymous or a charity of your choice.

Professional services trusted to D'ALESSANDRO FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY LTD., Lawrenceville. www.dalessandroltd.com.

Tribute Wall

JR

“ I cannot let this year end without writing a tribute to an old and faithful friend, Terry Crimmins. I am very sad that he left us so early. However, I am grateful for his friendship, and was glad that we reconnected for a short time when he was in Baltimore and I was in MD. The kids he taught were lucky to have him.

Terry and I became friends at St. Bede. I remember sleepovers at his house, getting into a bit of trouble here and there, softball in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood, looking up topics in the encyclopedia with his parents, football memories, political conversations, AP History at Central... We walked many of the same paths for quite some time in our youth, and he was a great and colorful companion!

I did not see him for decades...but am very saddened by his passing. God bless you, old friend!

My condolences to the Crimmins family on your loss.

John Reiling - December 28, 2023 at 10:06 AM



“ I had known Terry for nearly 20 years when he was living in Boston. He was one of the most kind and generous men that I had ever known. He was so intelligent and had varied interests. An avid reader, author, lover of sports (especially fly fishing) nature and the arts. He overcame alcoholism in his youth with the help of AA which is admirable.

His dream was to return to Boston to live and he loved New England – his favorite destinations were Wellfleet and the Berkshires where he especially enjoyed camping and fishing. I’m so glad that we were able to take a trip to France years ago – that was Terry’s only time in Europe and it was a memorable experience!

I was fortunate to see Terry a few times during his last couple of years.

My sincere condolences to the Crimmins family. They have lost several loved ones these past few years and there’s something especially tragic in losing a baby brother.

Rest in peace, Terry. I will never forget you!



Sabrina Ellis - May 25, 2023 at 01:04 PM

TS

“ Condolences to the Crimmins family. Friends of Terry from his time at Boston College remember him as a deep thinker and friendly soul. He worked hard in college and he was a conscientious friend. He attended many parties and events with a fairly large crowd of fun loving students, and he certainly held his own absorbing the enjoyment. He had many close friends who knew of his intense nature, and he was dedicated to maintaining those relationships throughout college. Those who kept in touch were aware of his fine writing style and the books he published. He was dedicated and brave in his joining of AA. That is a lifelong dedication, beyond difficult for the most excessively diligent, and he persevered throughout his life with great success. He was proud of his achievement, and rightly so, as were many of his friends. It made his life better. God bless that young man, lost too early to a most unusual development. Fair thee well my friend. We all wish you everlasting happiness.

tshea - May 11, 2023 at 03:04 PM

MU

“ I worked the Central Catholic Stage with Terry and saw him at a couple of Class of 75 reunions, he was a good man and very deep thinker, Rest in Peace my friend your lifes journey complete. To his loving Family, my most Heartfelt Condolences.

Marty Palmiere, Pittsburgh

Marty Palmiere CPO; USN(ret.) - May 11, 2023 at 01:12 AM

JD

I went to Central and was in plays with Terry. When I was 18 and he was 16 we both got jobs in Cape May New Jersey on a whim. He loved an adventure. We made contact again many years later and I realized that part of our conversation had become one of his book titles. Even though our email contact was sporadic he always got right back to me. Last year I reached out to offer my sympathies for Kevin's passing and never heard from him. On a hunch I googled him and found this obit. So sad. We laughed a lot in our youth. Rest In Peace Terry.

Joe Dawson, Bloomsburg, Pa

Joe Dawson - May 22, 2023 at 08:37 AM

DP

My heartfelt condolences to Terry's family. My prayers and love are with you all.

I was saddened to hear of Terry's illness and his passing, but so grateful that I had an opportunity to visit with him this past Christmas. He seemed invincible, so hopeful then. It was just like him to be so strong in spirit.

He was such a great guy. I have memories of him playing the piano while several of us gathered around laughing and belting out Christmas carols, his telling stories of fly fishing and his experiences as a teacher in Baltimore. I'll always remember how he brought intelligence and humor to every conversation, his deep, melodious voice to song, generosity, courage and compassion to life. He is terribly missed by those of us fortunate to be a friend, a student, a witness to his life. Godspeed Terry.

Deborah Plunkett - May 28, 2023 at 02:21 PM