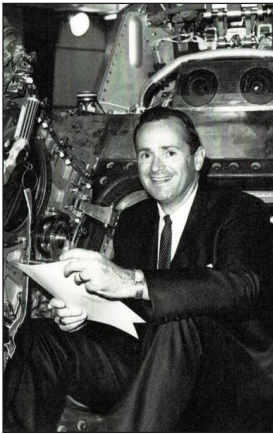


Patrick Joseph Hanifin

January 1, 1929 - April 21, 2023

Patrick Joseph Hanifin passed away on April 21, 2023, in Anaheim, California. He was 94 years old.

Pat was born in Stockton, California of Irish immigrant parents, Timothy Hanifin and Ellen O'Shea, on New Year's Day in 1929. He was the eldest of four siblings, the Honorable Timothy J. Hanifin, Ellen Mary Hanifin, and Kathleen Ann Pesco, all of whom preceded him in death. The young family's movements mirrored those of the rapidly developing Standard Oil pipeline being constructed throughout California's Central Valley, relocating often to small towns and rural communities as his father's job dictated. They ultimately settled in Gustine where Pat attended high school, graduating as Student Body President and captain of the football team. It was during this time in Pat's life that his lifelong interest in aviation was born, and he took flying lessons in pursuit of his pilot's license.



At the tender age of 17, he enrolled at the University of Notre Dame and his heart never left. Pulling double shifts at the town's Borden dairy and with some financial assistance from a local Rotary Club member, Pat was able to afford his first semester. Thereafter, once in South Bend, Pat took several on-campus jobs including serving the training table in the dining hall where two Heisman trophy winners took their meals and working in the post office during semester breaks. Four years later, he graduated with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering and a lifelong allegiance to the Fighting Irish.

Upon graduation, Pat was hired by North American Aviation and thus began a 43-year career with the company. Pat debuted as a draftsman and took his final bow in 1993 as a director in their Space Program. Pat was a respected voice among his counterparts at NASA in the Apollo and Space Shuttle programs, often receiving personal notes from astronauts upon the completion of their missions. Pat would often cite the safe return of imperiled Apollo 13 astronauts as the most challenging and rewarding trial of his career.

Pat met the love of his life, nursing student Mary Jane Shea, at a Ligorian Club event in 1951. Like a true son of Ireland, Pat popped the question on St. Patrick's Day, and they married in 1953. Together they raised a family of five children, first in Whittier then Brea. They enjoyed a happy 63-year marriage until Mary Jane's passing in 2016.

Upon Pat's retirement in 1993, the couple relished cruising around the world. Pat continued his daily jogging and reignited his passion for the game of golf. Forever a sport's fan, there was never a time in the home where you wouldn't be greeted with Vin Scully on the radio broadcasting the latest triumph of his beloved Dodgers or the storied notes of the Notre Dame Victory March signaling the most recent Saturday conquest by the Fighting Irish.

Above all else, Pat's Catholic faith was the lodestar of his life. While raising his family in Whittier, Pat ushered the 6:30 a.m. mass at St. Gregory the Great and later in retirement attended Mass daily as a member of St. Angela Merici Church. Pat is preceded in death by his wife, his siblings, his daughter, Kathleen, and his son-in-law, Lewis Roos. He is survived by four children, Sheila Roos, Kevin (Mary Beth) Hanifin, Timothy Hanifin, and Maureen (Tom) LaGrandeur, eleven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Pat's Funeral Mass will be celebrated Thursday, May 4 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Angela Merici Church in Brea followed immediately by interment at Loma Vista Memorial Park in Fullerton. The family would like to thank Pamela Lowe and her colleagues in Summer House at Walnut Village for the exceptional love and care they provided to Pat, as well as the hospice team from VITAS Healthcare.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Notre Dame Club of Orange County Scholarship Fund, 1278 Glenneyre St., Laguna Beach, CA 92651.