



## Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell

July 6, 1980 - March 24, 2017

Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell, age 36, of Bethlehem, passed away Friday, March 24, 2017.

He was born July 6, 1980 in Morgantown, WV.

Eric was a technician and assistant manager at Monroe Muffler, Benwood. He was a member of Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Wheeling. Eric enjoyed spending time with his family and friends and coaching his daughter Abby's little league t-ball team. He also enjoyed playing Tuesday night softball, fishing and golfing. Eric worked for many years helping people with disabilities live in our community. "The folks" had a special place in his heart.

He was preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents and an Uncle, Ray Ketcham.

Survivors include his wife of 8 years, Stephanie Shaffer O'Donnell; daughter: Abigail and son: Carter both at home; mother: Jane Ketcham of Wheeling; father: Edward O'Donnell of St. Clairsville; two sisters: Shannon (Erik) Butler of Mooresville, NC and Caitlin O'Donnell of Wheeling; one brother: Brian (Jessica) O'Donnell of Reston, VA; ten nieces and nephews: Bailey Butler; Tate, Molly and Gabriella Shaffer; Charlie, Grace, Tucker and Nathan Tamburin; Ryleigh and Roddy McQuaid; and a close circle of friends who were dear to his heart.

The family will receive friends on Friday from 2-5 & 7-9pm at the Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 1 Ridgecrest Road, Wheeling/Bethlehem.

Funeral Liturgy with Mass will be celebrated on Saturday at 10:30am at Our

Lady of Peace Catholic Church, 2 Allendale Rd., Mt. Olivet with Rev. Douglas  
Ondeck as celebrant.

Private interment will be held at the convenience of the family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 31. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem  
1 Ridgecrest Road  
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003  
(304) 232-0400  
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

## Visitation

MAR 31. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem  
1 Ridgecrest Road  
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003  
(304) 232-0400  
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

## Funeral Liturgy with Mass

APR 1. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church  
2 Allendale Rd.  
Mt. Olivet, WV

# Tribute Wall



“ *Grisell Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell*



**Grisell Funeral Homes** - March 30, 2017 at 12:18 PM

DO

*This tribute is just amazing. I've never seen anything done like this before. Grisell does the most fantastic job. Thanks for the memories. God bless Eric & family.*

*Deepest sympathy & love from Uncle Dave & Aunt Connie 💕🙏*

**Dave & Connie O'Donnell** - April 02, 2017 at 06:32 PM

PP

“ *Paula Phillips purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



**Paula Phillips** - March 31, 2017 at 02:12 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



March 31, 2017 at 11:44 AM

MG

“ *Thinking of you and your family at this time. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Mrs. Margaret Greco*

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**Margaret Greco** - March 31, 2017 at 07:38 AM

MM

“ Worked with Eric at Young's Cafeteria, was always able to make me laugh and had a very kind spirit.

*Prayers that God will provide Peace to his family,*

*A passage I have read from an elderly man*

*I'm old. What that means is that I've survived (so far) and a lot of people I've known and loved did not.*

*I've lost friends, best friends, acquaintances, co-workers, grandparents, mom, relatives, teachers, mentors, students, neighbors, and a host of other folks. I have no children, and I can't imagine the pain it must be to lose a child. But here's my two cents...*

*I wish I could say you get used to people dying. But I never did. I don't want to. It tears a hole through me whenever somebody I love dies, no matter the circumstances. But I don't want it to "not matter". I don't want it to be something that just passes. My scars are a testament to the love and the relationship that I had for and with that person. And if the scar is deep, so was the love. So be it.*

*Scars are a testament to life. Scars are a testament that I can love deeply and live deeply and be cut, or even gouged, and that I can heal and continue to live and continue to love. And the scar tissue is stronger than the original flesh ever was. Scars are a testament to life. Scars are only ugly to people who can't see.*

*As for grief, you'll find it comes in waves. When the ship is first wrecked, you're drowning, with wreckage all around you. Everything floating around you reminds you of the beauty and the magnificence of the ship that was, and is no more. And all you can do is float. You find some piece of the wreckage and you hang on for a while. Maybe it's some physical thing. Maybe it's a happy memory or a photograph. Maybe it's a person who is also floating. For a while, all*

*you can do is float. Stay alive.*

*In the beginning, the waves are 100 feet tall and crash over you without mercy. They come 10 seconds apart and don't even give you time to catch your breath. All you can do is hang on and float. After a while, maybe weeks, maybe months, you'll find the waves are still 100 feet tall, but they come further apart. When they come, they still crash all over you and wipe you out. But in between, you can breathe, you can function. You never know what's going to trigger the grief. It might be a song, a picture, a street intersection, the smell of a cup of coffee. It can be just about anything...and the wave comes crashing. But in between waves, there is life.*

*Somewhere down the line, and it's different for everybody, you find that the waves are only 80 feet tall. Or 50 feet tall. And while they still come, they come further apart. You can see them coming. An anniversary, a birthday, or Christmas, or landing at O'Hare. You can see it coming, for the most part, and prepare yourself. And when it washes over you, you know that somehow you will, again, come out the other side. Soaking wet, sputtering, still hanging on to some tiny piece of the wreckage, but you'll come out.*

*Take it from an old guy. The waves never stop coming, and somehow you don't really want them to. But you learn that you'll survive them. And other waves will come. And you'll survive them too.*

*If you're lucky, you'll have lots of scars from lots of loves. And lots of shipwrecks.*

*Im so sorry for your loss,*

*Dr. Michael D Myers*

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**michael myers** - March 31, 2017 at 12:09 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



March 30, 2017 at 08:42 PM



“ I am so sorry, Stephanie and family, for your loss and for your pain and suffering. Thinking of you often,  
Dr. Bala and staff

Dr. Peter Bala - March 30, 2017 at 06:56 PM



“ Jane, Ed and family. I have no words that would express my sadness for all of you just know you are in my thoughts and prayers.

terry mcgilton - March 30, 2017 at 06:22 PM



“ Jess Farb and all your friends at GAO purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



Jess Farb and all your friends at GAO - March 30, 2017 at 06:20 PM



“ Your Primanti Bros Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



Your Primanti Bros Family - March 30, 2017 at 03:47 PM



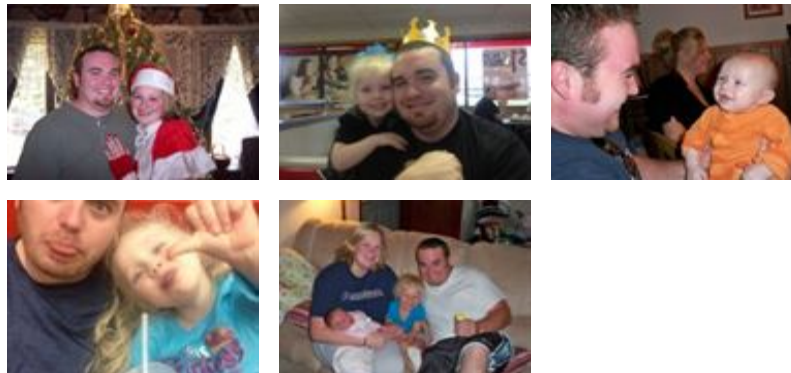
“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



March 30, 2017 at 11:51 AM



“ 594 files added to the album LifeTributes



Grisell Funeral Homes - March 30, 2017 at 11:37 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



March 29, 2017 at 10:53 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



March 29, 2017 at 09:50 AM



“ Dave & Connie O'Donnell and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



**Dave & Connie O'Donnell and Family** - March 28, 2017 at 10:29 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.



March 28, 2017 at 08:51 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



March 28, 2017 at 06:30 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



March 28, 2017 at 05:39 PM



“ *Betty Duffy lit a candle in memory of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell*



**Betty Duffy** - March 28, 2017 at 12:53 PM



*My thoughts and prayers to all of Eric's family ... Eric was always a kind, caring soul who would go out of his way to help anyone. Wrap yourselves in the warmth and love you shared ... May God give you comfort and peace at this time.*

**Betty Duffy** - March 28, 2017 at 12:57 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



March 28, 2017 at 10:30 AM



“ *There are no words to help with such a loss. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends..*

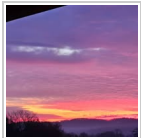
**Sue beyser** - March 27, 2017 at 09:01 PM



“ *Sue Beyser lit a candle in memory of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell*



**Sue Beyser** - March 27, 2017 at 08:58 PM



“ *Prayers for strength & healing. So sorry for your loss. Remembering Eric as a student at Glen Dale Elementary.  
Mr & Mrs David Gill*

**Mae Gill** - March 27, 2017 at 04:51 PM



“ *Prayers to Eric's family. I only knew him through working at REM, very nice man!! Sincere sympathy to his wife and Family.*

**jodi nixon** - March 27, 2017 at 04:37 PM

DC

“ Wow. Shocked. Eric was a good guy who was ALWAYS in a good mood. Praying for his family.

Dan Curran - March 27, 2017 at 04:11 PM

JV

“ My heart goes out to Eric's wife, children and his family. I worked with him a few times when I was at REM. Also knew him from when they lived in Sun Valley. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.



Jennifer Valko - March 27, 2017 at 02:24 PM

AM

“ Prayers to all..Eric worked with my brother..Dave Webster.....Amy Anderson

Amy - March 27, 2017 at 02:12 PM

KB

“ Jane , I am so sorry for your loss, he was such a sweet, kind person ... please know you are all in my prayers and thoughts, he will always be remembered as a very caring man.

Kathy Brookover

Kathy Brookover - March 27, 2017 at 01:00 PM

CI

ODonwas such a caring ,giving person. He will definitely be missed by our family.  
My thoughts and prayers go out to Steph, Abby and Carter and to his parents and in laws. Please watch over the family

Cindy - March 27, 2017 at 04:07 PM

MM

“ Jane, I'm so very sorry for you and your family's loss. Eric was such a kind soul. I never saw him without a smile on his face. He was a huge asset to our folks too. Prayers for you and your family.



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**Maranda Mathews** - March 27, 2017 at 12:49 PM

CR

“ Thoughts and prayers go out to all of the family children mother wife and rest of family may God be with you all

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**Charles Riggs** - March 27, 2017 at 12:33 PM

BH

“ Prayers and hugs to all.... Long ago I use to be a nanny to Eric and his brother and sisters. May all your memories help carry you all through this very sad time❤️

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**Beth Hanket** - March 27, 2017 at 09:40 AM

ME

“ So sorry for your loss - thoughts and prayers for you and your family. Marlene Evans



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**Marlene Evans** - March 27, 2017 at 08:37 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



March 27, 2017 at 08:13 AM



“ *Stacy Rohmann lit a candle in memory of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell*



**Stacy Rohmann** - March 27, 2017 at 08:03 AM



*Sympathy & prayers to Stephanie and family*

**Stacy Rohmann** - March 27, 2017 at 08:04 AM



“ *One of our daily coffee customers at the Bethlehem Marathon Gas Station. He was always extremely nice and polite to all of us. He will be deeply missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends during this most difficult time.*

**jim everly** - March 26, 2017 at 10:41 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



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March 26, 2017 at 09:46 PM



“ *Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



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March 26, 2017 at 09:45 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



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March 26, 2017 at 09:14 PM



“ *Our hearts go out to Eric's family. RIP Eric.*



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**Sally VanDyne** - March 26, 2017 at 07:46 PM

DM

*prayers forr eric and his family*

**doris meigh** - March 26, 2017 at 07:48 PM



Amanda Reckline

“ *So sorry to hear of Eric's passing. He was a wonderful person who worked hard caring for people in our community with disabilities. My deepest sympathy goes out to his family.*

**Amanda Reckline** - March 26, 2017 at 07:05 PM

JB

“ *My sincere condolences to the family. I can't imagine how you are feeling. I considered Odon to be one of my best friends. He was an awesome guy that would do anything for anyone. I will miss him greatly.*

*Jamie Byard*

**Jamie Byatd** - March 26, 2017 at 06:53 PM



“ *Shae Wensyel sent a virtual gift in memory of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell*



**Shae Wensyel** - March 26, 2017 at 06:32 PM

LD

“ *So sorry to hear of Eric's death. Brandon and Eric were childhood friends. In their teen years they formed a close bond with Jeremy, Steve, Justin and others. His loss is heartbreaking. Peace and love to his family and friends.*

**Linda Dougherty** - March 26, 2017 at 06:28 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Eric Thomas "ODON" O'Donnell.*



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March 26, 2017 at 04:35 PM



“ *Many thoughts and prayers to Stephanie & kids... our heart is breaking for you all and please know we will continue to keep you in our prayers for the days to come. Much love from The Conrad's*



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**Adventurous Conrad** - March 26, 2017 at 03:15 PM



*Sorry it logged me in from Elmer's Page and not mine.*

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**Adventurous Conrad** - March 26, 2017 at 03:15 PM



*Condolences to the entire family. Odon will be terribly missed and will always live in our hearts*

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**Christy Byard** - March 30, 2017 at 05:59 AM



*My prayers are with you all. There are no words to ease the pain of your loss. May God Bless and comfort you.*

*Caroline Taylor*

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**Caroline Taylor** - March 31, 2017 at 11:14 PM