



## Dr. Edward J. Diestelkamp Jr.

October 25, 1933 - January 19, 2018

Dateline: Alton

Edward Diestelkamp, 84, died Friday January 19, 2018 at his home with his family at his side.

He was born October 25, 1933, the son of Edward Diestelkamp Sr. and Kathryn (Scully) Diestelkamp and grew up on Christian Hill in Alton.

He graduated from Marquette High School in 1951 and St. Louis University School of Dentistry in 1958.

Dr. Diestelkamp practiced dentistry for 57 years at his office in Rosewood Heights. He was a member of the American Dental Association and the Osteopathic Cranial Academy.

He married Joan Reilley on July 7, 1956 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Alton. She survives.

He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton.

Along with his wife he is survived by his sister Patricia (Diestelkamp) Wallace, daughter Ann Diestelkamp, Godfrey, son Edward "Ned" Diestelkamp, daughter-in-law Sue, grandchildren, Andrew and his wife Amanda and Audrey Diestelkamp, all of St. Louis, MO.

A Rosary service will be held at 3:30 followed by visitation from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Monday, January 22, 2018 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Burial will be at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Godfrey, IL.

Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Church, Marquette Catholic High School, the Glioblastoma Foundation or the Siteman Cancer Center. Online guestbook and information may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## St. Patrick's Cemetery

2801 Greenwood Lane  
Godfrey, IL 62035

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 22. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
2409 State Street  
Alton, IL 62002  
(618) 466-5544  
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 23. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
4th and Henry Street  
Alton, IL 62002

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Edward J. Diestelkamp Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Dr. Edward J. Diestelkamp Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Dr. D. was our dentist for 45 years. We always considered him a true professional with outstanding technical abilities in dentistry. No one could match his talent. He was also a true gentleman, kind, with a great sense of humor. My husband Bill and I loved him. So sad and so sorry to hear of his passing and our most sincere sympathy to the Diestelkamp family.*

**Christine Kelley** - July 09, 2018 at 04:19 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Edward J. Diestelkamp Jr..*



January 27, 2018 at 06:24 PM

PR

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I thought very highly of Dr. D. He was the consummate professional. Everyone of his patients would express how much they loved Dr. D. A hard act to follow. It made me a better practitioner. I always looked forward to working with him. I missed him when he retired. I know that Heaven has welcomed him home with open arms.

*Pat*

Pat Roach - January 23, 2018 at 10:34 AM

KP

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Not only was Dr. D my dentist he and his family were great neighbors. My thoughts, prayers and love are with you today Joan, Ann and Ned. May Gods peace flood your hearts along with happy and fun memories! Kati (Vaughn) Perez

kati perez - January 23, 2018 at 08:45 AM

SK

“ sorry for your precious loss, I went to Marquette with Ann and have remained friends every since.both our fathers practiced together for 50 years.prayers and hugs too all your family.love Susie klockenkemper

Susie klockenkemper - January 22, 2018 at 06:39 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dr. Edward J. Diestelkamp Jr..



January 22, 2018 at 01:18 PM



“ *My mother was an assistant of Dr. D's back in the 1960s. He is the only dentist I've had in my life. What a kind and gentle man, and such a great family man. I was blessed by him both as a dentist and a fellow Christian. We shall not see his like again. I like to think he's catching up with my Mom in heaven. Godspeed, Dr. D, and my thoughts and prayers to all of the family, friends and those who held him close to their hearts.*

---

**David Kibler** - January 22, 2018 at 11:49 AM

MH

“ *Dr. D was not only an amazing Dentist but also family man and Christian. He loved his family, faith and friends. He was always so pleasant and interested in how everyone was doing in the family. I had many good chats with him about how our kids were doing. He will be greatly missed by all who were blessed to know him. My thoughts and prayers go out to Joan and the family at this painful time. May God Bless you and keep you strong.*

*Mary Ann Hentrich*

---

**Mary Ann Hentrich** - January 22, 2018 at 11:01 AM

DM

“ *Wonderful man and dentist.*

---

**Diane Miller** - January 22, 2018 at 10:14 AM

DZ

“ I, too, was fortunate enough to have Dr. Diestelkamp as the only dentist I had from age 5 until his retirement. My last appointment with him was to do a root canal. It was also Dr. Diestelkamp's last day working. That was only a few years ago, but that is how much I loved and trusted him as a dentist. There aren't many people I would trust to come at me with a needle & drill, yet he always had a way of making it an easy experience. I, too, have not found a dentist comparable, but that says more about the kind of man he was. They would be difficult shoes to fill. He was also a great family dentist as he was the only dentist our large family of 10 children used. My dad used to joke & say: "We owned one room in his office!" While that may be true, Dr. Diestelkamp was kind enough to allow our family to make monthly payments on the remainder of our bill not covered by insurance. That's unimaginable in this day and age.

*He was truly one of a kind and will be greatly missed.  
Our loss is heavens gain. My prayers and condolences go out to his immediately family and friends. dz*

---

**Debbie Zacha** - January 22, 2018 at 10:13 AM

MF

“ Dr. Diestelkamp was my dentist since my 5 yr old check up. He was also all of my kids first dentist. I have never met someone as kind as him. He had the ability to make a dentist visit pleasant and pain free. He will be missed. Prayers for him and the family.

---

**Maryjo Flaherty** - January 22, 2018 at 09:56 AM

AD

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

---

**Ann (Lorsbach) Duckworth** - January 22, 2018 at 09:21 AM

SW

“ *Dr. Diestelkamp was my dentist from my first school check up until he retired. I never met a kinder man. I've haven't found a dentist since that I've liked as much or trusted as much. My deepest sympathy to his family. Susan W*

---

**Susan Wright** - January 21, 2018 at 10:17 AM