



# Robert J. "R.J." Doody

MAY 25, 2019



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## **Robert J. "R.J." Doody**

MAY 25, 2019

**R**obert Joseph "R.J." Doody, 76, of St. Petersburg, died May 25. He was an educator, counselor, human services professional, and volunteer. R.J.'s goal was to live a meaningful life, and he sought to enrich his community wherever he lived. R.J. was born in Pittsburgh, where he attended Duquesne University and received his bachelor's and master's degrees. He went on to the University of Pittsburgh for his PhD in Counselor Education and then began a long career in teaching and counseling. For several years, he was a family therapist for U.S. military personnel and their families stationed in Germany. He then moved to Florida to become Director of Training for the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board, a position he held for 25 years. He also taught at Eckerd College in the Program for Experienced Learners. After his retirement, he dedicated many hours as a volunteer, mentor, and educator. He was especially proud of his association with Southeastern Guide Dogs, and his service on several resident committees at Westminster Shores, where he was named 2017 Volunteer of the Year. Survivors include his wife, Jane; brother, Bill Doody; daughter, Jennifer Doody; stepdaughter Ann Maddox; and daughter-in-law Jill Maddox; as well as many other loving family members and friends. A memorial service will be held at the Westminster Shores Chapel at a later date. The family requests memorial donations be made to Southeastern Guide Dogs, 4210 77th Street East, Palmetto, FL. Online condolences may be shared on R.J.'s tribute page at [www.memorialparkfuneralhome.com](http://www.memorialparkfuneralhome.com)



**Cemetery Details**

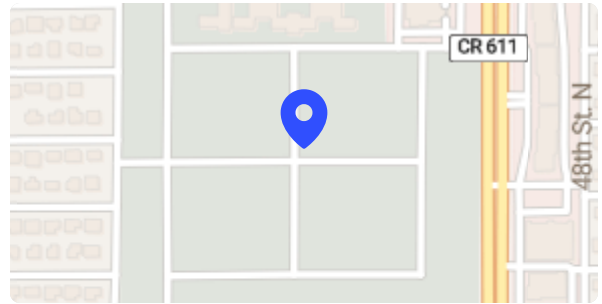


**Memorial Park Cemetery**

5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709



**(727) 369-8228**





## Tribute Wall

**Robert J. "R.J." Doody**

DS

**Denise Schreiber** posted:

He will always be Mr. Doody to me. He was my English teacher at St. Anselm's High School here in Pittsburgh. He shared a love of literature and opened up a world of adult literature for us including Thomas Wolfe. I am glad to say that because of him I always wanted to be a writer and I am now.

February 8 at 3:14 PM

ES

**Elithia V Stanfield** posted:

Dear Jane and Jennifer, Please accept my deepest sympathies on your loss. Terry and I were away on a month-long road trip when we were shocked by the notice of his death. Unfortunately, we were away again on the date of his service. When Jamal (our son) died, RJ was so kind and patient with us offering his advice on dealing with our loss. At the same time, I saw the pain and sadness in his eyes. He always wanted to do the right thing – to never offend and always saw more in you than you saw in yourself. His value of continuous learning rubbed off on me and I have continued it during my retirement. Enjoyed working with him during my time at JWB; he was such a gentleman. Elithia V. Stanfield

July 8 at 3:26 AM

PG

**Patricia Gehant** posted:

Jane and Jennifer, I am so sad to hear of RJ's passing. I had the pleasure of working with him at JWB for 20 years on conferences and strategic initiatives. My favorite was trying to get him to not use the password 12345 or password123. It never really worked and we gave up trying, because he really didn't like to use the computer anyway. He mentored me through my early days at the "Cabinet" meetings and through the many changes over the years. But RJ was one thing - always trying to be supportive and kind. He had a great smile that would make other smile back. RJ will be remembered and his name will be repeated for years to come. Pat Gehant

June 20 at 9:00 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Robert J. "R.J." Doody**



**Mary Ann Goodrich** lit a candle in honor of Robert.

RJ was an exceptional human being who spent every day improving the lives of all who crossed his path. He always had an encouraging thought or inspiring message to share that was just right for the occasion. He saw the infinite potential in each person and it was his mission to help you see it too. I was lucky enough to be one of those individuals who had the privilege of working with and for RJ at JWB. He was a great mentor and friend. RJ freely shared his knowledge, compassion and wisdom. I am a better person for knowing him. He was an angel on earth and now is one in heaven. Rest in peace my dear friend. Sending hugs to his family and friends. Mary Ann Goodrich



June 2 at 7:36 AM



**Chris Sterner** posted:

Dear Jane and Jennifer, Our deepest sympathies are with you on this very sad occasion. We certainly have the fondest memories of RJ, from having been a PEL student of his to traveling in Europe and in this country with the two of you. RJ has been in inspiration to us in many ways. He will long be remembered...and missed. Chris and Karen Sterner

June 2 at 7:14 AM



**Debra Bremer** posted:

Dear Jane and family My deepest sympathy to you all. I had the pleasure of working with R.J. for over 20 years at the Juvenile Welfare Board. He was such an inspiration to all who knew him. I always loved hearing about all your trips to Germany, Switzerland, etc. which he loved doing so much. Each time he returned from a trip, he would tell us you were planning the next one. He will be missed very much by all who had the great pleasure of knowing him. Debbie Bremer

June 2 at 5:39 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Robert J. "R.J." Doody**



**Mike Stone** posted:

Dear Jane and family, Please accept our deepest sympathies for RJ's passing. I had the privilege of working with him at JWB for over 20 years. He helped to establish the premier training and library system, in Pinellas County and surrounding communities, geared towards professionals in social services. RJ was highly respected and was the consummate role model for lifelong learning and teaching. I always enjoyed talking with and learning from RJ. He touched so many especially his teaching days at Eckerd College. Over the years I came across so many people that he had encouraged to get additional education and training to enhance their lives. He was one of a kind and he will be missed! Mike and Sue Stone

June 1 at 10:06 AM



**Jennie Greeley** posted:

Dear Jane and family, I was blessed to have worked with R.J. at JWB in the Library/Training Department from 2002 until his retirement. He was one of the kindest men I have ever met and a wonderful mentor and encourager. I so enjoyed when he would come back to JWB to visit and pick up materials for his Eckerd classes. On one such visit he asked if I had enrolled back in college yet and when I told him I hadn't he wrote an encouraging note on the last day of my desk calendar. I saw that note months later and it was one of the catalysts for me to start night classes at SPC. Life intervened once again and delayed my educational goals, but I never gave up, and finally graduated Summa Cum Laude with an Associate of Arts degree in 2017 with plans for further education. R J. meant so much to me and the many others whose lives he touched. You are in my prayers and have my deepest sympathies. Jennie Edwards Greeley

June 1 at 6:10 AM



## Tribute Wall

Robert J. "R.J." Doody



**Eddie Burch** posted:

R. J. was a wonderful person who cared greatly for his community and gave generously to make it stronger. He was helpful to colleagues and co-workers and uplifted those around him.

May 30 at 11:06 AM



**Will Michaels** June 4 at 10:10 AM

Dear Jane and Jennifer, Please accept our sympathy on RJ's passing. I counted RJ as both a colleague and friend over our many years together at JWB. Through his work as Director of Training he enhanced the skills of thousands throughout the county and thereby enriched the lives of innumerable children and families. He was the consummate professional and an outstanding role model for all. RJ will be greatly missed and fondly remembered. Will & Kathy Michaels



**Terry Murphy** June 3 at 2:12 PM

Dear Jane and Jennifer, I am so sorry for your loss. I always enjoyed the conversations I had with Bob when he visited in Pittsburgh. He was very interesting and gave me good advice pertaining to my daughter, Joanne, on agencies and help for her needs. He will be missed. Terry Murphy



**Joyce Sparrow** May 31 at 4:39 AM

Dear Jane and Jennifer, I am so sorry. RJ was so wise and kind. I loved when RJ came into the library and said "This morning on NPR I heard . . ." and asked me to find more information for him. I also enjoyed our discussions when he wanted vacation reading recommendations. We also had our Pittsburgh connection. When RJ interviewed me for my job, we mostly talked about his college student Fuller Brush salesman days in McKees Rocks. RJ remains a role model for me. Please take care. Joyce Sparrow



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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