

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL MICHAEL MCMAHON

MICHAEL MCMAHON WAS BORN IN CO. MEATH ON MARCH 6TH 1962 TO PATRICK "PADDY JOE" MCMAHON (RIP) OF KILVINE, IRISHTOWN CO. MAYO AND NORA MCMAHON (NEE MCGUINNESS) OF BRICKENS, CLAREMORRIS CO. MAYO. MICHAEL, THE ELDEST OF EIGHT WAS SOON FOLLOWED BY DELIA, ANGELA, KATHLEEN, MARTIN "JIMMY", EILEEN, MARY AND THOMAS.

GROWING UP ON A DAIRY FARM THEY KNEW THE VALUE OF HARD WORK. THEIR FATHER PADDY JOE WAS A MASTER BRICK LAYER WHILE NORA RAISED THE FAMILY AND HELPED RUN THE FARM. MICHAEL ALONG WITH HIS SIBLINGS WOULD WORK THE FARM IN THE MORNINGS BEFORE ATTENDING THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS SCHOOL IN KILCOCK AND AGAIN IN THE AFTERNOONS WHEN THEY RETURNED FROM SCHOOL. AT THE AGE OF TWELVE, MICHAEL GOT A PART TIME JOB AFTER SCHOOL IN "THE ROOST" PUB, MAYNOOTH. HE WORKED IN THAT PUB TIL THE DAY HE LEFT FOR AMERICA. AT THE AGE OF SIXTEEN MICHAEL LEFT THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS SCHOOL AND BEGAN WORKING AS A PRINTING APPRENTICE AND CONSTRUCTION ALONGSIDE HIS FATHER. AT THE AGE OF TWENTY MICHAEL HAD HIS OWN PRINTING BUSINESS AND WAS IN THE PROCESS OF BUILDING HIS FIRST OF MANY HOUSES. ALTHOUGH HE WAS PROSPEROUS, IN 1985 AT THE AGE OF TWENTY-THREE HE DECIDED TO SELL EVERYTHING AND GO TO AMERICA. MICHAEL ARRIVED AT JFK ON APRIL 1ST, 1985 WITH ONLY ONE CONTACT IN AMERICA, HIS FATHER'S SECOND COUSIN GERARD "JERRY" FITZGERALD (RIP). JERRY A RETIRED NYPD DETECTIVE OWNED THE "ASHFORD ARM'S" PUB ON FLATBUSH AVENUE IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK. HE SOON PUT MICHAEL TO WORK BEHIND THE STICK.

MICHAEL STARTED WORKING CONSTRUCTION FOR PHILIPS CONSTRUCTION IN NEW YORK AND WITH HARD WORK AND DEDICATION HE QUICKLY MOVED UP THE RANKS TO BECOME FOREMAN. FORTUNATELY, HE WAS DOING WELL ENOUGH THAT IN 1986 HIS BROTHER JIMMY CAME TO JOIN HIM

IN THE STATES. HE JOINED MICHAEL ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE, BUT EVEN AT HIS YOUNG AGE JIMMY WAS BLESSED WITH HIS FATHER'S HANDS AND QUICKLY MOVED UP TO MAKE HIS OWN WAY AND MARK IN LIFE. AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF WORKING FOR PHILIPS CONSTRUCTION, MICHAEL ALONG WITH HIS PARTNER KEVIN MCCANN TOOK OVER THE COMPANY; EXPANDED IT TO REAL ESTATE AND DEVELOPMENT AND RENAMED IT "KILVINE CONSTRUCTION" AFTER HIS FATHER'S BIRTHPLACE IN CO. MAYO.

IN OCTOBER OF 1991 IN BAY RIDGE, BROOKLYN MICHAEL MET WITH WHAT WOULD BECOME THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE. KAREN, A FIRST-GENERATION IRISH AMERICAN WAS NO MATCH FOR MICHAEL'S WIT AND CHARM AND HE SOON WON HER HEART. ENGAGED AT CHRISTMAS OF 1995 THEY DECIDED THEY WOULD BE WED AT "HOME". ON AUGUST 9, 1997 IN ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH IN LAHARDANE, CO. MAYO THEY BECAME ONE. THEY HAVE SINCE BEEN BLESSED WITH THREE BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN, TWIN BOYS RYAN AND KEVIN WHO ARE ATTENDING ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY IN PHILADELPHIA AND THEIR BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER KAYLEIGH WHO WILL BE STARTING HIGH SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER. THEY RAISED THEIR FAMILY IN MARINE PARK, BROOKLYN BEFORE MOVING TO BELLE HARBOR, ROCKAWAY IN 2010.

IN 2005, NOT FAR FROM MICHAEL'S FIRST BARTENDING JOB IN AMERICA THEY OPENED THEIR FIRST PUB "MCMAHON'S IRISH PUB" SOON TO BE FOLLOWED BY THEIR SECOND "KEVIN RYAN'S" NAMED AFTER THEIR SONS. THESE PAVED THE WAY FOR "MCMAHON'S PUBLIC HOUSE" IN PARK SLOPE, BROOKLYN AND "ROGER'S" IN ROCKAWAY PARK, NEW YORK.

MICHAEL IS HUMBLED AND HONORED TO BE RECOGNIZED AS THE HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL.