

Deputy

Michael Thomas Foley was born in the Bronx in **1951**. **Father Martin and mother Cecilia** were born and raised in the Bronx in the Parish of St. Jerome on Alexander Avenue, where Michael and his older sister, Donna were students.

It was there that Michael was introduced to the shores of Rockaway, traveling from the Bronx and staying in one of the many bungalows that flourished the shores back then.

That was the early 50's, Grandparents from Donegal, Waterford and Kilkenny kept our families close by telling all of us of the stories of Ireland and its history. Many of us relocated from the Bronx to Woodside and Long Island but it was my parents who introduced us to Rockaway "Irish Town".

We lived in Woodside, and graduated from St. Teresa's School but our summers were spent in the courtyard of Entin's Bungalows on 91st, one block from the ocean. Our parents never had to worry where we were back then as we would be right in front of the house or swimming in the ocean with my father or one of the many aunts and uncles who came down for the summer.

The family moved to the Rockaway's in 1972, and lived on 119th Street before he and his sister went on their own, his sister Donna serving her country for 20 years in the US Army and Michael following a dream instilled by his father to find that "perfect wave" in California, Hawaii and Florida. Its true though, once you have touched the shores of the Rockaway's you always return!

His parents had since moved to the Southern Shores of Florida and Michael settled back into the Rockaways.

It was here that Michael met his lovely wife Barbara, a Pre-Natal Nurse at St. John's Hospital in Elmhurst, who after retirement is still assisting semi-retired Sisters of St Joseph in

Stella Maris. Barbara and Michael raised two wonderful boys, graduates of St. Camillus and St. Edmunds HS in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn. They are very proud of their sons. John and Ryan who are both working for the NYC Sanitation Department. Ryan, followed in his brothers footsteps after serving his country as a US Marine in Afghanistan.

Michael is happily retired after 33 dedicated years with the NYCPD, Communications Section, he is a proud member of The Ancient Order of Hibernians and is currently the AOH Chairman of the Standing Committee, Queens County. Michael is an active member at "The Hibernian" the home of AOH Division 21, located in Roxbury and a Third Degree Member of Division 21.

Michael has been on the Committee for the Rockaway Irish Festival held each year at St. Camillus Church and volunteers as needed for the Community following The Ancient Order of Hibernians motto: Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.