



## Anthony J. O'Connell

October 10, 1957 - February 25, 2026

Anthony Jude “Tony” O’Connell of North Aurora, IL passed away on February 26, 2026

at Avantara Aurora. He was born on October 10, 1957, in Dublin, Ireland to Anthony and Philomena “Phyllis” O’Connell.

He took evening classes at Loyola University, Chicago for 10 years to earn his Bachelor’s degree in computer science. Over the years, he was employed at Rush-

Presbyterian Medical Center, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and Northwestern Mutual

Insurance until his retirement in March 2025.

Tony was a dog lover, an avid fan of Premier League soccer, an enthusiastic traveler,

and a musician. His specialty was Irish traditional music, and he enjoyed playing both

keyboards and button accordion. He was always happiest when he was playing music

with his friends.

Tony is survived by his wife of 43 years, Jo Gengler; his sister-in-law Kris Keef of

Montgomery, IL; his brother-in-law Tom Gengler of Chicago, IL; his dog Roxy, and his

many friends both here and in Ireland. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law Jerry Keef.

Thanks to Avantara Aurora and Suncrest Hospice for their kindness and care.

Special

thanks to Joe Martin, Patrice Macken, Cathy Grafton, and the entire Irish music

community for their love, help and support over the past several weeks.

A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date.

Arrangements entrusted to THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY, 220 North Lake Street, Aurora, Illinois 60506. 630-631-5500

Please visit our interactive website at [www.daleidenmortuary.com](http://www.daleidenmortuary.com) to leave condolences for Tony's family or sign the guest book

# Tribute Wall

BB

“ *When I think of Tony I will smile.*

*A good friend and a solid friendship that endured despite time and distance.*

*Together with Tony we enjoyed and celebrated his return visits to Ireland with beers conversation and, of course, music.*

*The memories, be it spending time with himself and Jo in Chicago or showing up unexpectedly in a bar in Amsterdam to surprise them will remain special. The best of times were had.*

*Cheers Tony* 🍻

*Brian and Jane Burgess*



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**Brian Burgess** - March 05 at 05:12 PM

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*We extend our condolences. Your friends from O'Donohues bar Dublin.*

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**O'Donohues** - March 09 at 11:22 AM