

Richard Cushing Donovan, former Clerk of Court for the U. S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland, died peacefully at home on January 31, 2014, with his family and friends at his side.

He served as our Clerk of Court from 1996 to 2001. He was born in Boston, MA on January 12, 1952. A second-generation Irish-American, Richard spent his youth immersed in school, family, and all the richness that Boston had to offer. After four years in the Navy he settled in San Diego to pursue higher education and during that time met his future wife, Aine. They were married in 1977 and were deeply devoted to one another throughout their entire marriage.

Richard Donovan's career ambitions were inspired by John F. Kennedy's call to public service. He was a dedicated civil servant and committed to excellence in government. Richard began his federal civilian career with the Internal Revenue Service in California. After receiving his Masters in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco, he worked in the corporate headquarters of a retail conglomerate. Mr. Donovan again joined the ranks of public service in the Sacramento Superior Court, 1990-1996, managing the Traffic & Small Claims Court and Juvenile Court. In Maryland, Mr. Donovan was instrumental in building a structure and culture of developing staff and other court managers and served on numerous national committees whose focus was to improve the leadership and management of the federal courts. His leadership and motivating vision positioned the court well for the transition to electronic filing. He was pleased to return to Boston as Clerk of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in 2001, and enjoyed his time there until his recent move to the New Hampshire U. S. Attorney's Office.

Richard was a devoted father to Matthew, and a loving father-in-law to Emily. His joy was unbounded when his granddaughter, Meara Flannery Donovan, was born in 2012.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Aine, his son Matthew Francis Donovan and his wife Emily of Cambridge, MA, and his granddaughter, Meara Flannery Donovan of Cambridge. He was predeceased by his daughter Katherine Jude Donovan. He will be buried on Nantucket Island.