



2022 Walks of Life Honoree

Daniel B. Chambers

Dan Chambers, son of the late Eileen (nee Gallagher) and Daniel B. Chambers Sr., is the third-generation leader of his family's funeral home business. Dan Sr. was only in high school when his father, William F. Chambers, the founder of Chambers Funeral Homes, died suddenly in 1950. William's wife Agnes decided to keep the business running until her two sons were old enough to take over. William F. Chambers, Jr., earned his funeral director's license in 1955 and his younger brother Daniel in 1959.

Dan's grandfather immigrated to Cleveland in the mid-1920s from Shramore, near Newport, in County Mayo. He opened his first funeral home on Madison Avenue at West 85th Street in 1933. Four years later he moved his young family to a new location on Rocky River Drive across from St. Patrick Catholic Church. The family now operates funeral homes in Berea and North Olmsted in addition to the one on Rocky River Drive.

Watching his father help to grow the business, Dan, the oldest of five children, was motivated to learn more about its operation. He paid careful attention to the ways in which his father and uncle helped and assisted families at their most difficult of times. Absorbing their lessons, he now serves as president, funeral director, and embalmer at the family-owned business.

Dan attended St. Edward and Fairview high schools before attending Xavier University. After two years at Xavier, he decided to commit to the family business. He enrolled in the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science, receiving a bachelor's degree in mortuary science in 1991. He obtained his funeral director's and embalmer's license a year later.

Dan, 52, is a longtime member of the West Side Irish American Club, serving 30 years on the club's board and currently as the club's vice president. He also is a member of the Mayo Society of Cleveland.

He currently is a board member and past president of the West Shore Rotary Club and a member of the North Olmsted and the Olmsted Falls Chambers of Commerce. He also served as a member of the City of Fairview Park Planning Commission and was a past managing member of Foresight Family Funeral Homes, representing a group of family-owned funeral homes in Northeastern Ohio.

Dan and his wife Kathleen (nee Campbell) have been married for 26 years and are the proud parents of five children: Daniel III, Fiona, Emmett, Ronan, and Bridget. They live in Olmsted Township.

2022 Walks of Life Award of the Irish American Archives Society, Cleveland OH