

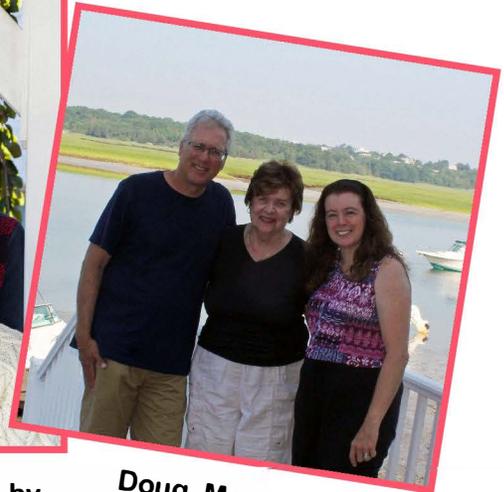
# 2018 Desimone Newsletter



Good Harbor Beach  
in Gloucester, MA (July 2018)



October 2018 family picture taken by  
Tom Pepe



Doug, Mom, and Jodi  
in Gloucester, MA (July 2018)

**The year went fast! It's hard to believe that Michael will turn 16 in January 2019, Alissa turned 12 in October, and Matthew and Ryan turned 14 in October. How did that happen? Joe and I were both blessed with new jobs. Joe is working as a Global Engineering Services Project Auditor at Merck and I am working as a Behavioral Specialist at Holcomb Behavioral Health Systems - Chimes. Michael's big news is that his High School Marching Band won 3rd place in a national competition. Amazing! Michael, Matt, and Ryan are all Life Scouts now and Matt and Ryan had their church confirmation.**

**Alissa graduated from fifth grade and received her Bronze award in Girl Scouts. She also got her ears pierced just before Christmas. Many more happy memories were made this year. However, 2018 started with one of the hardest periods of my life. Saying goodbye to my father.**

Matt and Ryan's Confirmation Day  
(October 25, 2018)



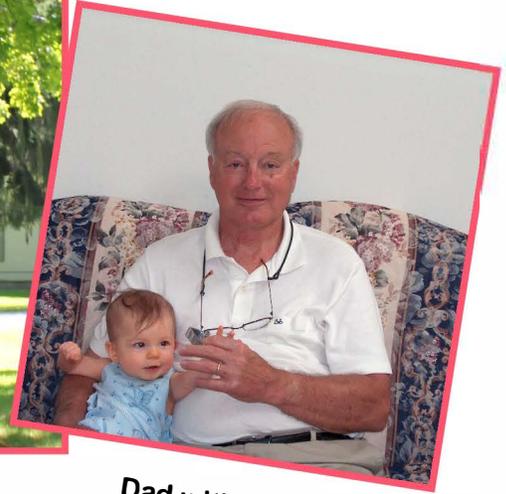
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Mom and Dad with Michael, Matthew, Ryan, and Alissa (Easter, April 2017)



Dad and Jodi August 2015 during Newport, VT visit



Dad with Alissa (July 2007)

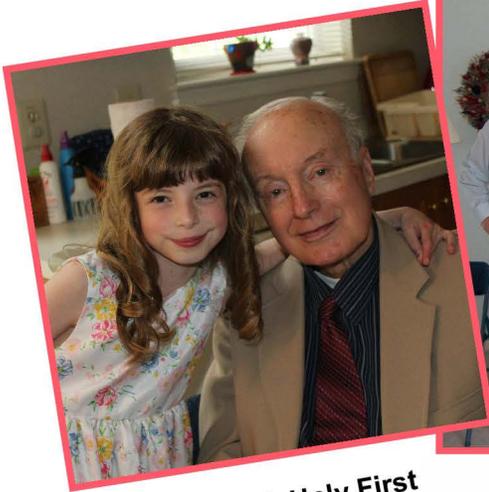
**For those of you who didn't know, my father was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2017. Dad was so brave through it all. Mom said he hardly complained and he handled death the same way he handled life. With amazing strength and faith. I have thought of him often over the past year and even though I feel sad, I also feel honored that I was given so much time to know him and have my children know him. For the newsletter this year, I chose pictures that reflected that look of admiration and love that I received as a gift**

**from him on so many occasions. So, for this year my newsletter is dedicated to the memory of my Dad. On page three of this newsletter I will share with you the Facebook post I wrote on the day he passed away.**

Mom and Dad at church with the family (Easter, April 2017)



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Alissa and Dad: Holy First Communion for Alissa



Matt and Ryan's Christening Mom/Dad & Nana/Pop



Mom and Dad with Jodi and Michael

**January 27, 2018**

**My Dad went home to be with the Lord today at around 11:15am this morning. I will miss him so much. God gave me the gift of a few more days to see him this week. We really thought he was going to pass away last weekend, but he fought back and was even released from the hospital for a short period of time. I am just so thankful God allowed me a little extra time to make the long trip up to northern Vermont to see him. We all got the opportunity to be together as a family one last time. Doug and I took Dad**

**on a short car ride around Newport and we talked about all of the things that Dad wanted us to remember about his growing up years. I was able to make him his favorite meal, "spaghetti and meatballs", and Dad was just so happy to be home and we were happy to be reunited as a family again. We all didn't know it would be the last time.**

Dad dancing with Jodi on her wedding day (August 16, 1997)



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**The next day Dad had a lot of breathing difficulties and he was taken to the hospital. He was taken care of by a former student he had in school. Dad was a wonderful teacher and the "Best Dad" a girl could have. My last moment with him was on Thursday night (2 days before he died). As I got up to say goodbye to him I rubbed his head. He told me how soft my hands were. I told him he was the "Best Dad Ever" and with all of his strength he said back to me, "Best Daughter Ever."**



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**Mom was next to me and we both cried. Dad said, "Don't cry." I leaned over and kissed him as my tears flowed and said, "I Love You Dad" and he said, "I Love You Jodi." What a legacy Dad has left of being humble and kind, yet so amazing. I am comforted to know he is at peace. I will love you Dad forever. Thank you for "everything." Love, your daughter forever.**

**Live each day to the fullest!**

**-LOVE EACH OTHER**

**-LAUGH AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE**

**-FORGIVE EVERYONE**

**The Desimone Family sends their love your way this holiday season!!!**

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!**

**Love,**

**Jodi, Joe, Michael, Matthew, Ryan, and Alissa**

