



102 N. Sacramento Ave. Atlantic City, New Jersey

EX- W3JSF Opr.

Radio W2AIU

Ur. 10fone Mtr Sigs wkd hr

2047-2124 ED AM, ST

5 JUNE 194 7

Ur Sigs QSA 5 R 7

RCVR. SX-16 - DM36

XMTR. 100W.

ANT: 3 elem. Rotary Beam 45'

Remarks TNY 450

Pse QSL Tnx Vy 73

Joe



WOKXL PRINT

2204

VENTNOR
JUN 7
12 AM
1947
N. J.



C. LEEDS
131 E. ASHLAND
PLEASANTVILLE
NEW JERSEY

Silent Key Joe Duffin W2ORA/EI8GT

It is with deep regret that I was informed by David Joe's son that the Old Radio Amateur passed away peacefully on Sunday 16th June in his 88th year. He had not been well for some time but he fought a brave battle in the loving care of his wife Connie and family.

What started out as a casual contact turned out to be a very close friendship that has lasted for thirty years. During this contact I mentioned that Breda (my XYL) and I were going to the USA on holidays the following week, Joe told me that he and his XYL Connie were coming to Ireland the following month on vacation. When we visited Joe's home QTH which at that time was Haddonfield we were warmly welcomed by both Joe and Connie into their home and treated as family members.

This commenced a long friendship between both our families which has continued to the present time. Joe and Connie visited us in Ireland many times over the years while Breda and I spent many happy times in their home which had then become Mooooooooooooorestown.

Joe was very proud of his Irish roots. His father was born in Ireland in 1862 and was the oldest of nine children. He arrived in Philadelphia in 1886 and got married to a lady from Ireland. That marriage produced eight children. After his first wife passed away Joe's dad re-married. Joe was the only child from that union. Joe was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Margate.

Joe was a life-time member of South Jersey Radio Association (SJRA) and held the office of President in the Association in 1965.

The South Jersey Radio Association was founded in June 1916 at the home of William G. Phillips on Washington Avenue in Collingswood. The club has been meeting continuously since its inception and has been affiliated with the American Radio Relay League since 1920. SJRA is the oldest Radio Club in USA.

On one of his visits to Ireland, Joe enrolled as a member of Limerick Radio Club and obtained his Irish call-sign EI8GT. He was delighted to be able to use his new call-sign on the Aran Islands during the International DX and WPX contests. Arising through my friendship with Joe and the close harmony generated between SJRA and Ireland, it was mutually agreed in March 1989 to twin the Limerick Radio Club and SJRA. The "Twinning Proclamation" already signed by SJRA, was carried to Ireland by Joe and was formally signed by Limerick Radio Club at a special club meeting.

It is hoped in the future that this Twinning Proclamation will encourage other radio clubs to follow the path chartered by these two radio clubs and increase international radio friendship.

What an Ambassador for Amateur Radio. Joe was one of the kindest, friendliest and helpful people you would ever have the luck to be friends with.

He was first licensed around 1940 and was issued with the call-sign W3SWL and later W2ORA.



He was one of the founding members of The Irish Hour which still meets on Sundays at 17.00Z on 21.317 MHz.

He was a contester and was also a member of several DXpeditions most notably Navassa Island KP1 (rare DX now)

He was always helpful to any American coming to Ireland and any Irish person going to USA and was an unofficial ambassador for IRTS in the US, promoting membership of the society, activity in the WEIC award and the Irish Hour with the result that the Irish Radio Transmitters Society made him an honorary member, an honour that has only been awarded to very few people.

With Joe's passing I have lost a very good friend of many years, a friend who will be sadly missed by me, all his friends in Limerick Radio Club, the Irish Radio Transmitters Society, the Irish Hour members and the many friends he made worldwide in Amateur Radio.

On behalf of all the members of Limerick Radio Club and on my own behalf, I would like to extend deepest sympathy to Connie, his 13 children and numerous grand-children on their very sad loss.

We have heard for the last time but will not forget the Old Radio Amateur saying 73 and God Bless from Mooooooooooooorestown.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis

Alan Cronin EI8EM

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
8806 ATLANTIC AVENUE.

W3SWL

RADIO EI8EM UR 21 MC SIGS Q5 R9+

HRD HR 23 Feb 1990 AT 1145 A.M. E.S.T.

PSE QSL TNX VY 73's JOE DUFFIN.