

2015 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE MARSHALS

GRAND MARSHAL

Mayor Ed Murray



Mayor Ed Murray has strong ties to Seattle's Irish community and to Ireland. He is a member of several Irish organizations and just last September led a Seattle Sister City delegation to Galway. As a State Senator for 18 years in Olympia before becoming Mayor, he opened doors in the state capitol for Irish government officials and for dignitaries from Galway, made arrangements on numerous occasions for meetings with the Governor, the Attorney General and others. He himself has visited Ireland about 15 times and even lived in Ireland for a year in 1974. He has participated in Business Missions from the Seattle area to Dublin, Belfast, Derry and Galway, and with his four grandparents all born in Ireland, is probably Seattle's most Irish Mayor since John Collins, a native of Co. Cavan, served as Mayor in 1873. We're honored that Mayor Ed Murray has agreed to serve as Grand Marshal of Seattle's 2015 St. Patrick's Day Parade.

HONORARY GRAND MARSHALS

Danny & Cathryn Quinn

Despite growing up in Co. Down about 20 miles from each other, Danny Quinn and Cathryn McPolin didn't meet until 1968 at an Irish party in Toronto, Canada. A year later they were married in New York and in 1975 moved to the Seattle area and settled in Edmonds. Since arriving in Seattle 30 years ago, Danny and Cathryn have been heavily involved in Seattle's Irish community. In the late 1970s, early 1980s, Cathryn served as Secretary of the Irish Festivities Committee which organized the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Irish Week Proclamation Luncheon in the years before the Irish Heritage Club was formed. Danny was one of the original founders of the Seattle Gaels in 1979, and he also played Gaelic Football on the team for about 10 years. He is still involved in the Irish community as an officer and Past President of the Friends of St. Patrick in Seattle. Over the years, they have been faithful members and supporters of anything Irish and their three children grew up enjoying parades, picnics and other Irish community events and activities, including Irish Dancing and Gaelic Football. Now their grandchildren are also learning pride in their heritage. Congratulations to Danny & Cathryn on a well-deserved honor.

