

# SO LONG, ARCHIE



## CHEERS & TEARS AS H'WOOD LEGEND IS LAID TO REST

**A** HORDE of grieving stars and family turned out to pay their respects and honor All in the Family legend Carroll O'Connor at his final curtain call.

And while tears rolled down mourners' cheeks, there were also cheers at the funeral service in L.A.'s St. Paul the Apostle Church on June 26.

The touching tribute ended with showbiz heavyweights like West Wing's Martin Sheen, Dallas villain Larry Hagman and producer-actor Rob Reiner bursting into spontaneous applause for three minutes.

"Carroll was my mentor," Hagman tells GLOBE. "I'll miss him."

Rev. Harold J. Powers notes that while "Carroll always got behind the little guy," the success of All in the Family put him in an awkward position - it turned him into a wealthy man.

"Carroll told me, 'I fought the battle against materialism - and lost,'" Powers reveals.

But the star, who died at age 76 of a heart attack June 21, made up for it with huge donations to charity, Powers notes.

O'Connor's All in the Family wife Jean Stapleton was unable to attend the service because she was starring in a play in Houston, but Sally Struthers and Reiner, his daughter and son-in-law on the show, were there.



Doves hover over Carroll O'Connor's casket (top). Dallas star Larry Hagman was one of the mourners

"My father died three years before I started All in the Family and Carroll became my real father," a teary Struthers confides.

Seinfeld star Jerry Stiller and his comic-wife Anne Meara comforted O'Connor's widow Nancy, his wife of 39 years as well as his daughter-in-law Angela and grandson Sean.

O'Connor's former personal secretary Lorraine DeVille

tells GLOBE the star "was never the same" after the 1995 suicide of his drug-plagued adopted son Hugh.

"But Carroll," she adds, "was the nicest celebrity I've ever worked for."

- ROBIN MIZRAHI

