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Sadness as Derry Civil Rights activist Eamon Melaugh passes away

written by cassoscoop

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There is sadness at the news that Derry Civil Rights veteran Eamon Melaugh has died peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family.

He was 92 years of age.

Mr Melaugh was the beloved husband of Mary, late of Alexander House, loving father of Martin, Terance, Colm, Bernie, Kieran, Irene, Dermott, Deirdre, Aidan, Seamus and Ursula.

He was a cherished father-in-law, grandfather, great-grandfather and dear brother of Irene and the late Harry, Marie and Goretti.

Mr Melaugh's wake is taking place in his daughter's home, 3, Sandringham Drive, Prehen, on Tuesday from 1.00pm to 9.00pm.

His funeral will take place from there on Wednesday at 9.30am

1 of 2

for Requiem Mass in St Columba's Church, Long Tower with interment afterwards in Derry City Cemetery.

Mr Melaugh was a founder member of the Derry Housing Action Committee, which campaigned for better housing conditions and provision in the city, in 1968.

He was also active in the Derry Unemployed Action Committee, which called for employment and housing for Catholics here.

An active member of the Workers Party, Mr Melaugh and stood as a candidate for it and its predecessor, Republican Clubs / Official Sinn Fein, in the Foyle Constituency.

A prolific photographer, Mr Melaugh also founded the charity Action With Effect which, for 19 years, worked with people in the poorest regions of India.

The charity was officially wound up in December 2024.

He also became well known as the voice behind the microphone of the pirate station Radio Free Derry which broadcast during the Battle of the Bogside in August 1969.

Tags:

2 of 2 15/12/2025, 13:03