

Great Summer Sale

STARTS TODAY – Thursday 1st July

**Mens Suits from €129; Mens Sports Jackets €79;
Mens Slacks from €39; Mens Shirts from €20
SPECIAL OFFER: Suit, Shirt and Tie only €169**



Dermot Earley was laid to rest in St Conleth's Cemetery, Newbridge after Mass at 11 am last Saturday.

FITTING FAREWELL TO THE GREAT DERMOT EARLEY

■ Paul Healy

Thousands of mourners paid their final respects to Roscommon GAA legend and former Defence Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Dermot Earley on Friday and Saturday last.

Dermot Earley, who had been ill since late last year, died peacefully on Wednesday, June 23rd last. Hundreds of Roscommon people were amongst those who attended the funeral services. The mourners included Roscommon County Board officials, Dermot's team-mates from the Roscommon team which reached the 1980 All-Ireland final, other former and current players as well as many grieving fans, all of them deeply saddened by the loss of the county's most distinguished figure.

A native of Gortaganny, Dermot was a son of Kitty and the late Peadar Earley. He was widely recognised as having been one of the greatest gaelic footballers of all time and amongst the finest never to have won a senior All-Ireland medal.

The much-decorated former GAA star was widely regarded as the county's greatest 'ambassador' in recent decades, a gentleman who was celebrated as a sporting legend and a popular leader of the Irish Defence Forces who was renowned for his leadership qualities and his ability to inspire others.

Tributes continued to pour in this week for Mr. Earley (62). In last week's Roscommon People we reported how President Mary McAleese and An Taoiseach Brian Cowen had led a national outpouring of sadness at news of Mr. Earley's untimely death. Both President McAleese and Mr. Cowen attended the funeral.

Mr. Earley was afforded a full military funeral. He is survived by his mother Kitty, wife Mary, sons David, Dermot and Conor and daughters Paula, Ann-Marie and Noelle and mourned by his heart-broken wider family circle and legion of friends and colleagues.

Massive crowds attended the funeral services in Newbridge on Friday and Saturday. Leading figures from the sporting, political and army circles joined with locals from Kildare, hundreds of people from Co. Roscommon and fans and admirers of Dermot Earley's from different parts of the country.

During a remarkable twenty-year career with the Roscommon senior football team, Dermot Earley won a host of honours, including two All-Stars. A minute's silence in his memory was observed at all major GAA matches at the weekend.

The GAA great was laid to rest in St Conleth's Cemetery, Newbridge after Mass at 11 am on Saturday. May this beloved and legendary 'son of Roscommon' rest in peace.

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FRIDAY 9th JULY