## Phil Coulter, Donegal Danny

I remember the night that he came in From the wintry cold and damp A giant of a man in an oilskin coat And the bundle that told he was a tramp He stood at the bar and he called a pint Then turned and gazed at the fire On a night like this to be safe and dry Is my one and only desire

So here's to those that are dead and gone The friends that I loved dear And here's to you then I'll bid you adieu Saying Donegal Danny's been here me boys Donegal Danny's been here

Then in a voice that was hushed and low
He said: Listen I'll tell you a tale
How a man of the sea became a man of the roads
And never more will set sail
I've fished out of Howth and Killybegs
Ardglass and Baltimore
But the cruel sea has beaten me
And I'll end my days on the shore

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One fateful night in the wind and the rain We set sail from Killybegs town There were five of us from sweet Donegal And one from County Down We were fishermen who worked the sea And never counted the cost But I never thought ere that night was done That my fine friends would all be lost

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Then the storm it broke and drove the boat To the rocks about ten miles from shore As we fought the tide we hoped inside To see our homes once more Then we struck a rock and holed the bow And all of us knew that she'd go down So we jumped right into the icy sea And prayed to God we wouldn't drown

But the raging sea was rising still
As we struck out for the land
And she fought with all her cruelty
To claim that gallant band
By St John's Point in the early dawn
I dragged myself on the shore
And I cursed the sea for what she'd done
And vowed to sail her never more

So here's to those that are dead and gone The friends that I loved dear And here's to you then I'll bid you adieu Saying Donegal Danny's been here me boys Donegal Danny's been here

Ever since that night I've been on the road Travelling and trying to forget
That awful night I lost all my friends
I see their faces yet
And often at night when the sea is high
And the rain is tearing at my skin
I hear the cries of drowning men
Floating over on the wind

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