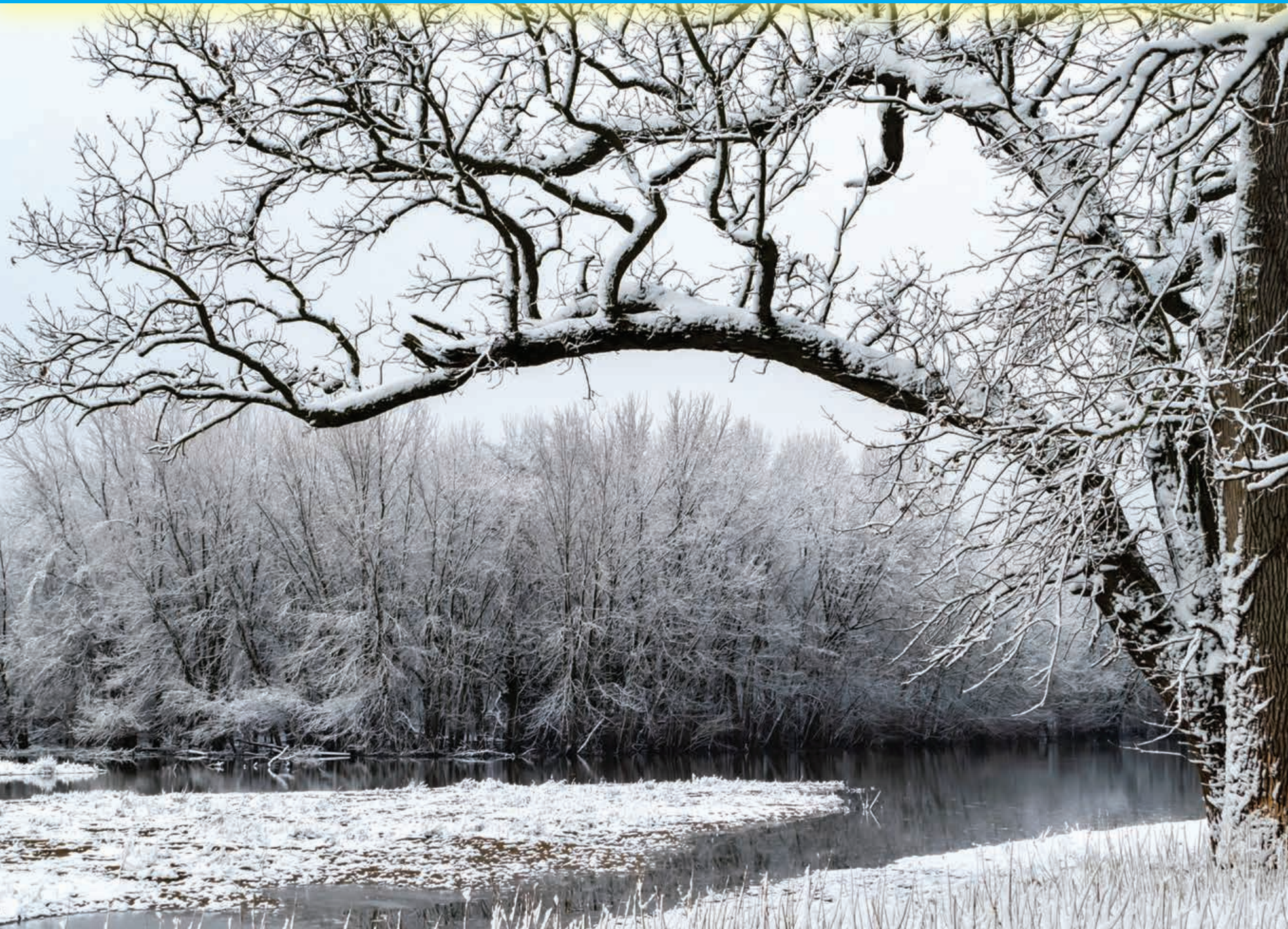


with Love & *Remembrance*

Sept. 26, 2023 - Oct. 26, 2023



A Special Publication of the PRESS-REPUBLICAN

B

Jean Marie Babbie

April 21, 1934 - December 31, 2025



ESSEX JCT — Jean Babbie (nee Quinnan), born on April 21, 1934, in Scranton, Pa., passed away peacefully on Dec. 31, 2025, in Essex Junction, Vt. With a heart full of love and gratitude, her family announces the passing of a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great-grandmother, and faithful servant of God.

Jean's life was defined by compassion, devotion, and an unwavering love for others. She had a special place in her heart for babies and children—their laughter brought her joy and their innocence inspired her. To many, she was a source of comfort and encouragement, always ready with a kind word or a gentle smile. Her compassion extended far beyond her own home. She lovingly cared for Catholic charity babies, welcoming newborns directly from the hospital and nurturing them until a permanent home could be found. During those tender early days, she gave each child safety, warmth, and unconditional love, offering a gentle beginning at a time when it was needed the most. This quiet, selfless service reflected the depth of her faith and the generosity of her heart.

A proud mother of four children, Jean was preceded in death by her beloved son Edward Babbie. She is lovingly remembered by her three daughters: Jean Barella, LouCinda Lafountain, and Theresa Benisek. Her love extended across generations; she leaves behind 11 grandchildren as well as many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, each one bringing her immense joy and happiness.

By her side through countless moments was her beloved dog, Mickey B, who was far more than a pet. Mickey B was her faithful companion and best friend, accompanying her wherever she went. Their bond was unmistakable and deeply special.

Jean's faith in God was the cornerstone of her existence. She trusted deeply, prayed faithfully, and lived out her blessings through acts of love and service to others. Her spiritual strength was evident in every aspect of her life. She served as a leader in the Women's ministry at the Assembly of God's Church in Plattsburgh, N.Y., where she offered encouragement and spiritual support to countless women. Through her leadership, compassion and example, she helped build a community rooted in faith, service and love.

For many years, Jean carried a deep longing to be reunited with her beloved husband, Edward D. Babbie. She shared an extraordinary love story with her husband, to whom she was married for 64 years. They were married while he was serving in the military, beginning a lifetime partnership and unwavering commitment. Through every chapter of life, they stood side by side, building a family and a legacy of love that will endure. Now reunited in God's eternal care, we take comfort in knowing that they are once again together.

She leaves behind family and friends who will forever cherish her memory—her beautiful smile and the legacy of love, faith, and kindness she embodied each day. Though she will be deeply missed, Jean's spirit lives on in the lives she touched and the love she gave so freely. She will be remembered for her warmth, her resilience and the way she loved without condition. Her memory lives in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know her as well as in the paw prints Mickey B leaves behind in her honor.

Her life was a blessing, her memory a treasure, and her love a gift that will remain forever. A funeral service will be held on Jan. 16, 2026, at 2 p.m. at First Assembly of God, 164 Prospect

Ave., Plattsburgh, N.Y., with a small reception after the services and a Celebration of Life on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, at Whitcomb Woods, 128 West St., Essex Jct., Vt., at 2 p.m.

MARY BEAUHARNOIS, 78, of Plattsburgh, N.Y., passed away Jan. 1, 2026. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Jan. 6, 2026, at 11 a.m. at St. Alexander's Church in Morrisonville. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Ann Blaisdell Tracy

January 02, 1941 - December 28, 2025



BANGOR — Ann Blaisdell Tracy, died on Dec. 28, 2025, in Bangor, Maine, just a few days short of her 85th birthday. During the five years prior to her death, Ann suffered from dementia, which gradually robbed her - and the rest of the world - of the insight, wit, and humor for which Ann was known.

The daughter of William and Brenna Tracy of Charleston, Maine, Ann was educated in Maine at Higgins Classical Institute, where her father was headmaster, and at Colby College. She did graduate work at Brown University and was awarded a doctorate in English Literature by the University of Toronto.

Until her retirement in 2001, Ann was professor at the State University of New York, Plattsburgh. Many students who attended her classes still refer to "Dr. Tracy" as their "best teacher ever." The university soon recognized Ann's extraordinary teaching abilities and named her Distinguished Teaching Professor, the first woman to be so recognized.

In addition to teaching, Ann loved to write. She authored novels, works of nonfiction, and a play.

As an Episcopalian, Ann served her parish as Senior Warden and lay preacher but was quite unconventional in her compassion for people and animals of all stripes - convicts and skunks as well as poets and bunnies. She housed homeless students who overstayed their welcome, fed skunks in her yard even after being arrested for doing so, and continued to employ a handyman even after he was convicted of burglarizing her home.

Ann leaves behind her brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Michelle Tracy of Sherwood Park, Alberta; her son, Nicholas Amani of Buffalo, N.Y.; her grandson, Nicholas Hicks II; two step-grandchildren (Alexis and Jordan Parker), three honorary grandchildren (River, Carson, and Earl Hoffmann), nine godchildren, and a circle of loving friends.

A memorial service in Plattsburgh, N.Y., and interment of Ann's ashes in the Baptist Cemetery, Charleston, Maine, will take place in Spring 2026 on dates to be determined.

Condolences to the family may be expressed at BrookingsSmith.com.

Norman Joseph Bonneau

July 09, 1944 - December 16, 2025



CHAMPLAIN — Norman Bonneau, 81, of Champlain, N.Y., passed away on Dec. 16, 2025.

Norm was born on July 9, 1944, in Troy, Vt., to Jean Paul and Germaine Bonneau. After growing up on the family farm, Norm went to Saint Michael's College. From there he was recruited by the Sisters of St. Mary's Academy in Champlain to join the staff as a teacher and coach. He went on to teach nearly four decades at Northeastern

Clinton Central School and coached hundreds of athletes in sports ranging from basketball to bowling.

Norm loved sports and being active outdoors. He was an avid

with a huge smile mowing lawns on his tractor. More than anything, he loved his family, friends, and community, and would be the first person to step up to help anyone in need. His spirit of kindness and generosity will always be remembered.

Norm is survived by his children, Kara and Adam (Melina Montes); his partner Mary Williams and her daughter Brittany Williams Hunt (Jonathan); Amanda Carter (Adam, Sylvia, Avalee); sisters Suzanne Dunn (Bob), Helen Before, and Irene Dagesse (Dan); brothers Rene (Mary Lou) and Alan (Aaron Benson); brother-in-law and best friend Michael Abair (Rena); and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Pauline Abair, and David Clark.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Andre Bessette Church (Sacred Heart) in Troy, Vt., at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 30th, with burial following at St. Ignatius Cemetery in Lowell, Vt. A celebration of life will be held at his home in Champlain on Sunday, May 31st, at 1 p.m.

James W. Boyea

January 08, 1951 - January 18, 2026



MORIAH — James (Jim) William Boyea, 75, of Moriah, N.Y., passed away peacefully on Jan. 18th, 2026, after a long health battle with his family by his side. He graduated from Moriah Central School in 1969. He served in the U.S. Army as a Artillery Survey Specialist; receiving the National Service Medal and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. He married the love of his life, Sherlene M. Perry on April 24th, 1971. He was employed by International Paper Company for over 33 years. Dad enjoyed

his trips to the casino, spending time with family and friends, throwing horseshoes, cook outs, holidays and camping, but most of all he enjoyed helping others.

He is survived by his three children, James Jr. and his wife Patty Boyea of Moriah, N.Y., Jennifer Cook and husband Ralph of Ballston Spa, N.Y., and John and his wife Brianna Boyea of Moriah, N.Y. His granddaughter, Kendra Boyea of Moriah, N.Y.; his brother John (Jack) and Joan Boyea of Schroon Lake, N.Y.; his sister Janet and the late Dick Harding of Queensbury, N.Y., his sister-in-law, Francis Boyea of Farmington, Conn. Also many nieces, nephews, and friends.

He was predeceased by his parents, Arthur and Leona Boyea, his wife Sherlene on July 19th, 2003; sisters Rose and Robert O'Dell and Shirley and Robert Miller and brother Arthur J. Boyea.

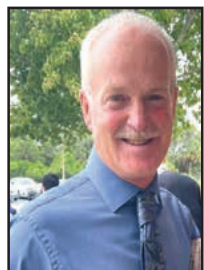
Calling hours will be Friday, January 23rd, 4 to 7 p.m. at Harland Funeral Home; a funeral will be Saturday, January 24th, at 10 a.m. at St. Patrick's Church, Port Henry, N.Y. A gathering will take place at the Old Miner Tavern following the service. All are welcome to come.

Harland Funeral Home
PO Box 242, Port Henry, NY 12974 • 518-546-7033



LeRoy Eugene Brown

February 11, 1959 - January 07, 2026



WOODRUFF — LeRoy "Lee" Eugene Brown Jr. died Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026, in Greenville, S.C., from complications of Alzheimer's disease. He was the second child of LeRoy Brown Sr. and Dawn (Vassar), born Feb. 11, 1959, in Plattsburgh, N.Y., the town he would spend almost all 66 years of his life.

From an early age, Lee loved sports. Like his father, he was a lifelong New York Giants fan, never faltering in his loyalty to the team. Similarly, he always rooted for the New York Mets. The only other teams he would ever cheer for were those his children played on. He never missed any of their games. In his 30s, Lee coached his sons' traveling little league baseball teams. As the kids got older, he coached their high school and Clinton County Mariners teams, and even installed a batting cage at the house for additional practice. He taught countless young "athletes" the fundamentals of baseball - many of whom went on to successfully compete at college.

The one thing outside of sports that caught Lee's eye was Debbie. The two met in grade school as family friends and both graduated from Beekmantown Central. They married in September 1978 and raised their four children in the North Country. No matter how far they traveled, Lee always said upstate New York was the most beautiful place he had been.

Lee took great pride in his family's home, one he helped to build. He never missed an opportunity to tell visitors to the Agnew Rd that he built every stonewall bordering the property and that his machinery and tools were always in "mint condition." No matter the season, Lee could be found outside tinkering and staying active: mowing in the summer, hunting in the fall, ice fishing in the winter, and maintaining trails in the back woods in the spring. After a day outside, Lee would joke that he worked more than anyone he knew.

Lee spent his career working for NYS DOCCS, retiring from Clinton Correctional Facility in 2014 after 33 years. While his career was one of significant responsibility and seriousness, Lee was known for his (often inappropriate) sense of humor. He kept his family and friends laughing, and will continue to for years to come.

Lee is survived by his wife, Deborah (Christiana) and children, Nathan and Julissa of Greer, S.C., and their children Nicholas, Sebastian, and Lucas; Adam and Amy of Newbury, England and their children Madeleine and Tristan; Owen and Emily of Old Fort, N.C., and their children, Shiloh and Chester; and Marlee and Wes of Vancouver, Wash. He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Shirley (Matott) Brothers of Plattsburgh, N.Y., sisters Debra (Brown) and Randy Russell of Plattsburgh, N.Y., Lisa (Brown) Carter-White of Rockledge, Fla., brother Michael Brown, brother-in-law Mark Christiana and Connie Cross of LeCanto, Fla., and sister-in-law Tracey (Brothers) and Scott Frechette of Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Lee was predeceased by his parents, LeRoy and Dawn, his fathers-in-law, Robert Christiana and Orville Brothers, his brother, Mark Brown, and brother-in-law, Michael Brothers.

While Lee is no longer physically present, his reputation will always remain "the baddest man in the whole damned town." You will be missed, Dad.

At the discretion of the immediate family, there will be no funeral services. A celebration of life will be scheduled for a later date in 2026 in Plattsburgh.

Charles M. Bryant

March 08, 1926 - December 25, 2025



PORT HENRY — Charles M. Bryant, 99, of Port Henry, N.Y., was reunited with his love Colleen on Christmas Day in his home, surrounded by his loving family.

Dad was born March 8, 1926, in Port Henry, N.Y., the son of William (Pa) and Anna Joy Bryant.

A lifelong resident of Port Henry, dad often told stories of Pa having him and his brother Bill work loading Pa's truck, to the point that the school had to make a deal with Pa to leave the kids in school until after

attendance, so the school didn't lose school aid. Dad learned an incredible work ethic from Pa that he maintained throughout his life. Dad always said, "you gotta keep going, don't stop."

After graduating from Port Henry High School, dad joined the Army during World War II and trained as a radio mechanic. After the war, dad went to the University of Denver in Colorado on the GI Bill. While attending U of D, he met mom while attending a dance. Dad was quite the romancer and went to her boarding house and asked for Carleen Hannigan, when one of the residents said there is no Carleen that lived there, but there was a Colleen Brannigan, dad responded, "well, go get her, so I can see what she looks like." We would tell mom she should have run when dad would tell that story.

Colleen and Charlie were married at St. Ann's Cathedral in Great Falls, Mont., on Sept. 27, 1952. A blessed union of 70 years.

In 1950 Dad and his brother Bill bought the Garvey Diamond Drilling Company, a coal and dynamite company. They delivered coal to the local community and delivered dynamite to Republic Steel for use in the local mines.

In 1963, dad sold his interest in the coal company to his brother and purchased Phinney's Sawmill and started Bryant's Mill, which eventually became Bryant's Lumber and Building Supplies. Dad and mom and some siblings worked together building the family business for the next several decades, running the store and building dozens of homes and camps. Dad was proud that he was able to help so many achieve their dream of having a house. Dad never truly retired from "The Mill" and would continue to look at door, window and other sales opportunities from the Do It Best website, make pricing signs and always started his day up until the very end, looking at the checks that had come in from customers always put a smile on his face.

Dad served on the board of the Essex County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) for 30 years and was instrumental in the development of the Town of Moriah Business Park and bringing Pre-Tech Precision Machining to town. He was very humbled when the IDA dedicated a building in honor of his service.

Dad loved spending time at his hunting camp in Schroom Lake. He loved hunting deer with his sons, grandkids, brother, nephews and good friends: Chris and Peter Bedell, Bob Leveille, Tom Scozzafava, Bill Potowski, Don Tesar, Mark Garrand, Billy Callahan and Tom Baker. He also loved to mow, cut trees and brush, tend to his apple trees and of course one of his favorite activities, managing multiple burn piles. Nothing lit dad's eyes up like a fire. The Adirondacks are a little safer now.

Dad loved to go on drives with mom around the Adirondacks to look at the leaves changing colors and watch the deer in the fields. Spending Friday nights at the King's Inn for their date night, sitting with mom enjoying a drink and their view of Lake Champlain and most of all, family gatherings at the house. Dad's eyes always lit up, and his smile got a little bigger when the house was full and chaos ensued. There was no such thing as too many... it was always more the merrier. When he was 93, dad bought his first brand new truck; all the vehicles he owned prior had been used. He was very proud of that. In his later years, he enjoyed watching Judge Judy and Gunsmoke while sipping on a Manhattan or two.

Dad was predeceased by his wife Colleen Brannigan Bryant, his parents William and Anna Joy, brother Bill (Elizabeth), sisters Louise (Clayton), Mary (Francis), his son-in-law David Laing, his beloved grandson Daniel "Digger" Laing, his in-laws Alice and Morris Lindsey, sister and brother-in-law Betty (Joe) Killham.

Dad is survived by his 11 children: Ann (Charlie) Cotey; Dan Bryant (Brenda Baker); Chuck (Marie) Bryant; Ruth Laing (Chris Bedell); Edward (Sue) Bryant; Alice (John) Sadallah; Kevin Bryant; Tim (Irina) Bryant; Colleen Bryant (Paul Haschtyz); Mary Bryant (Eric DeRoehn); Joe Bryant and Michael (Noami) Petersen along with 21 grandchildren: David Cotey, Bryant (Brian) Cotey, Colleen (Alex) Boak; Joy (Damiano) Coassin, Blaise (Erin) Bryant, Dyani Mae Bryant; Chuckie (Caleigh) Bryant; Fred (Marissa) Laing and Stephanie Popp; Ed (Laura) Bryant, Brannigan (Brittany) Bryant, Alicia (Brian) Slattery; Jennifer Sadallah (Justin Worboys), Rosalie Sadallah (Jamie Ireland) and John (Kristyn) Sadallah; Timur (Jennie) Dzhambinov, Ray and Sophie Bryant; Lindsey Sullivan, Clayton and Rosalie Petersen, along with 19 great-grandchildren: Charlie, Oliver, Bennett, Hazel, Collin, Davey, Emiline, Digger, Marshall, Emmitt, Taylor, Bode, Isibael "Izzy," Maddox, Harper, Milo, Sadie, Sanji, and Lily, along with several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to recognize the amazing care and companionship that Josette Celotti, Caleigh Bryant and Mary Streible provided to dad. Their assistance to keep dad in his home was invaluable.

The family would also like to thank Jean McClellan Forcier, dad's friend of over 90 years, calling to check in with him and make sure he was being taken care of properly. Dad always looked forward to visiting Jean when he could and her calls to the end.

The family also appreciates Chris Gibbs and John Neggia visiting dad regularly. Dad always enjoyed the visits and thought the world of Johnny and his incredible World War II service.

A funeral service will take place at 10 a.m., Jan. 3, 2026, at St. Patrick's Church, 12 St. Patrick's Place, Port Henry, N.Y. The Celebration of Life will follow at the VFW, 9 Veterans Way, Mineville, N.Y.

Donations in his memory can be made to The Sherman Free Library, 20 Church Street, Port Henry, NY 12974, The Town of Moriah Food Pantry, 38 Park Place, Port Henry, NY 12974, The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), 9 Veterans Way, Mineville, NY 12956 or one of the local fire departments.

Harland Funeral Home

PO Box 242, Port Henry, NY 12974 • 518-546-7033

Joan T. Burke

April 01, 1933 - December 27, 2025



ALBANY — Joan T. Burke, 92, passed away peacefully at home in Albany, N.Y., on Dec. 27, 2025, surrounded by family. Joan lived in Plattsburgh from 1973 to 1986 with her family. She built a successful marriage and family counseling practice, and gracefully (and joyfully) hosted more than a decade of dinner parties and social events with her husband, Dr. Joseph C. Burke, at "the President's House" at the State University of New York (SUNY) Plattsburgh, in Plattsburgh.

The family moved to Albany in 1986 when her husband was appointed Provost of the State University of New York system. Joan became involved with the Albany Institute of History & Art, enjoyed the "Friday Morning Club," and worked passionately and skillfully to restore their 19th-century townhome on Washington Park. She and her husband enjoyed active lives together in Albany and at the Miner Institute until Joe's passing in 2018.

Born April 1, 1933, in Louisville, Ky., Joan was the daughter of Earl and Imelda (Mattingly) Thompson. She grew up in Louisville's West End, where she graduated from Loretto High School and Catherine Spalding College.

Joan and Joe were married nearly 62 years. Joe proposed to her in a letter written from Alaska while serving in the U.S. Army writing, "when I dream of the future, I dream of you." They married in September 1956 and welcomed two daughters, Maura and Colleen.

The Burkes moved to Pittsburgh in 1963 when Joe received a professorship at Duquesne University. Joan stayed busy with their young daughters and her work with the League of Women Voters. She earned a master's degree in social work in 1967 from the University of Pittsburgh, while also helping manage her husband's campaign for City Council. Joan established a successful family counseling practice at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, where the family moved in 1970 when Joe was appointed Provost at Loyola College.

During their "truly wonderful years" in the North Country, the Burkes became involved with the William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute in Chazy, N.Y. Joan's love of art and antiques led to her fascination with The Alice T. Miner Museum, a Colonial Revival museum, where she served as Board Chair for many years. She also served on Clinton County's Community Service Board and the Board of Directors of the County's ARC, which protects and promotes the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Numerous organizations recognized the Burkes' commitment and service to the North Country. The Burke Gallery at the Plattsburgh State Art Gallery was dedicated in their honor in 1995, and the couple jointly received SUNY Plattsburgh's Distinguished Service Award in 2015.

Joan will be remembered by family and friends as a role model for the graceful and loving way that she balanced her commitment to family, her steadfast support of Joe's career, and her passion for helping others in her professional life as a family counselor — even at a time when spouses of successful men were discouraged from working outside the home.

Joe said it best: "Joanie really has it all—beauty and brains. And she can make it look like I really do know how to dance."

Joan adored her granddaughters and delighted in being reminded she was a great-grandmother to twin girls, a fact that brought a twinkle to her eyes even at the end of her life.

Joan is survived by her daughters, Maura Burke Weiner (Edward) of Fairfax, Va., and Colleen Elizabeth Rein (Gary) of Northport, N.Y.; sisters, Jenny Ellen Wilcox (William) of Naples, Fla., and Elizabeth Jean "Betty" Hamilton (Fred) of Bremen, Maine; sister-in-law, Louise Strupeck Burke of Kittery, Maine; grandchildren, Maurissa Burke Sosa (Kai), Brianna Burke Weiner (Tevin), and Morgan Mattingly Rein (Dylan); great-grandchildren, Charlotte and Mackenzie Steger; and many very beloved nieces and nephews. Joan's sister, Elizabeth Jean "Betty" Hamilton (Fred) of Bremen, Maine, passed away in 2017. Joan's family wishes to thank "Team Joan" and everyone who helped make Joan's final years happy and comfortable.

Donations in Joan's memory can be made to The Alice T. Miner Museum, 9618 US-9 Chazy, NY 12921.

To share a memory of Joan or leave a special message for her family, please visit NewComerAlbany.com

Christopher K. Butz

November 22, 1975 - January 10, 2026



BEEKMANTOWN — Christopher K. Butz, 50, of Beekmantown, passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 10, 2026. His life was dedicated to caring for others and enjoying the beauty of the Adirondacks. Chris was born on Nov. 22, 1975, in Troy, N.Y., to Karl and Harriet (Charbonneau) Butz.

A proud graduate of La Salle Institute in Troy, Class of 1995, he went on to further his passion for helping others by earning an LPN degree from BOCES in 1997. His career as a nurse in the Capital District and

the Adirondacks spanned many years, marked by service and compassion in local nursing homes.

Outside of work, he cherished time spent fishing, snowmobiling, and boating on Fern Lake, especially with his son. These moments of peace and adventure brought him much joy and lasting memories with family and friends.

He is survived by his loving son Jasyn Butz; his devoted parents; his brother Jeffrey Butz; and his former wife Corrinne Corrado, whom he maintained a remarkable bond with.

A memorial service will be held at Fern Lake in the summer, where friends and family will gather to honor and celebrate a life well lived.

Donations may be made in his son Jasyn's name to Seton Catholic School, 206 New York Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12903, for Jasyn's education, a cause close to his heart.

Services were entrusted to Heidrick-Zaumetzer Funeral Home, 3 College St., PO Box 127, Au Sable Forks, NY 12912.



MATTHEW A. CAMPBELL, 50, of Athens, La., passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, Dec. 20, 2025. Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are with the Chateaugay Funeral Home.

Michael Joseph Casey

July 04, 1956 - January 07, 2026



ROUSES POINT — Michael Joseph Casey passed away on Jan. 7, 2026. He was 69 years old. Michael loved his family, The United States of America, the Boston Red Sox, the Bruins, an irreverent joke, history, and old country music. At times, he would sheepishly admit to following the Miami Dolphins.

Michael grew up in Rouses Point, N.Y., and adored the little village, frequently saying it was the best place for a boy in

which to grow up. During his years there, he served on the Senior Housing Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Sons of the American Legion Board. He also coached youth hockey, soccer, and baseball.

Michael's proudest career move was joining the U.S. Border Patrol. He began his service in 1984 as a probationary agent in Yuma, Ariz., and ended it in 2013 by serving as the Patrol Agent in Charge in Burke, N.Y. During his years with the BP, Michael was presented with several awards, commendations, and "AT-TA Boys." He bled Patrol Green and if you asked him to tell you stories about his years as an agent, and he'd be off and running, while his wife rolled her eyes.

Left to remember Michael's stories are his wife of 44 years, Julie (Hanfield), his sons, Mike and Sean, his daughters-in-law, Maia and Jillian, and his grandchildren, Danny, Maggie, Lucas, and Henry. Michael had a great time telling Dad jokes with Danny and Maggie, and relished watching Lucas and Henry grow into admirable little boys. In addition, Michael leaves behind five siblings and their spouses, Meg and Art Spiegel, Kerry and John Meydam, Rob and Lisa Casey, Katie and Craig Stiles, and Joe and Heather Casey. Also surviving are his brothers and sisters-in-law; George Hanfield, Mary (Kiki) Sorensen, and Mark and Carol Hanfield. Several nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews mourn the loss of Michael.

Michael's legacy is evident in his two boys. As they grew into responsible young men, he followed their careers closely and was so very proud of them both. He often commented on how blessed he and Julie were to have them as family.

Michael always told Julie "When I pass, throw a party; nothing formal," and so that is what we will do sometime during the up-

coming summer in Rouses Point. Details to be shared at a later date.

The family would like to thank the caring and compassionate staff at Tucson Medical Center.

Donations in Michael's memory may be made to The Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 912, P.O. Box 63, Rouses Point, NY 12979, North Country Youth Hockey, P.O. Box 162, Rouses Point, NY 12979, or The Border Patrol Foundation, which provides assistance to families of fallen, injured, or ill agents. Their information can be found at www.borderpatroloffoundation.org.

What is a life if it is not filled with love and laughter.

Carol A. Cole

August 20, 1946 - January 16, 2026



CHAMPLAIN — With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Carol Ann Cole on Jan. 16, 2026. Carol's infectious laughter, extreme quick wit and humor during a conversation along with the kindness and empathy she showed to those she loved will be sadly missed.

Carol lived in Dannemora, N.Y., all her young life, graduating from Dannemora High School in 1964. She then left Dannemora and went to Albany, N.Y., to go to

beautician school, coming home and working in Plattsburgh, N.Y.

She didn't just marry her husband in 1970, she also married her business partner, and they ran the Bowl Mart in Champlain for 30 years.

Carol was a hard worker and became well known for her fabulous cooking. She cooked and put together banquets, weddings and showers. She wore many hats and she wore them well.

Due to her love of health and fitness, in 2003, she started teaching aerobics classes at the local fitness center. Her classes were always full, and people admired her fashion sense even while working out.

Anyone that knew Carol well, knew her love of shoes and having to match her outfits. She was old school and always made herself presentable even going to the grocery store.

For many, many years, Carol was an avid golfer and had the matching golf attire to prove it. She proudly displayed in her living room a picture of herself with Arnold Palmer and another with Nancy Marie Lopez and would tell the story of how she obtained those pictures.

Carol also spent many years working at the St. Mary's Church Memorial Day Bazaar in Champlain.

The last few years of her life, she received a lot of joy from her dog, Jack; he was a constant for her and gave her purpose daily.

Those left behind to feel her absence are her husband, Richard; son, Scott (Debbie and Eli); sister, Jeannie Waldron; nephews, Mark, Michael, Patrick and Dale; granddaughter, Miranda Baker (Laura Baker); god-daughter, Nathalie Jubert (Tommy, Joy and Anna); as well as many friends she made through her business, her community and her church at St. Mary's.

Carol was predeceased by her parents, Jack and Helen McCorry; her in-laws, Florence and Morton Cole; as well as several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Per Carol's request, there will be no public calling hours or services.

To remember Carol, you can make a donation in her name to: The Alzheimer's Foundation of America - PO Box 96011, Washington DC 20090-6011,

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital - 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105, The Elmore SPCA - PO Box 686, Peru NY 12972.

Arrangements are in the care of the Ross Funeral Home in Mooers. To leave an online condolence, please visit: www.rossfuneralhomes.com



D

Doris B. (Brault) Drollette**February 08, 1934 - January 19, 2026**

CADYVILLE — Doris B. (Brault) Drollette, 91, of Rabideau Street, Cadyville, passed away on Jan. 19, 2026, at the UVM Health Network, CVPH, just shy of her 92nd birthday, with her loving daughters and daughter-in-law, by her side.

She was born on Feb. 8, 1934, in Cadyville, to the late Wallace and Delia (Rabideau) Brault.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her late husband, Francis A. Drollette, whom she married on Aug. 11, 1955, at St. Alexander's Church in Morrisonville by the Father Claude Gobet.

Also preceding her in death are a brother Richard; sisters, Rita (Philmore) Goddeau, Theresa (Henry) Sears; and three nephews, Jeff, Danny and Brian Sears.

Doris is survived by her children and their spouses, Bruce (Lynn) Drollette, Sheilah (Michael) Boyea, and Jennifer (Ron) Drollette-Hall; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Doris loved to play bingo and go to the casinos even going to Atlantic City and Las Vegas.

She was a former member of the Court Mother Admirable 592 in Dannemora, a member of the Senior Citizens Council in Plattsburgh as well as a lifelong member of St. James Minor Church in Cadyville.

For many years, Doris took care of several kids in the area. The family would like to thank Darlene Medeiros for her dedication and service for the past six years as her caregiver and friend.

Doris's family will receive guests on Friday, Jan. 23, 2026, from noon to 1 p.m. at St. James Minor Church in Cadyville. A Mass of Christian burial will follow at 1 p.m. with Rev. Carter Pierce celebrating. Committal prayers and burial will be in the spring at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Dannemora.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Alexander's Catholic Church in Morrisonville or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Arrangements are in the care of the Hamilton Funeral Home, 294 Mannix Road, Peru, 518-643-9055. To make a floral purchase, offer an online condolence, share a symbolic gesture, or share a photo in memory of Doris Drollette please visit www.hamiltonfuneralhome.com

HAMILTON FUNERAL HOME INC.
 WWW.HAMILTONFUNERALHOME.COM
 Peru 518-643-9055
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Judy M. Duffina**September 23, 1945 - January 19, 2026**

WEST CHAZY — It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Judy M. Duffina, 80, on Jan. 19, 2026. Born in Plattsburgh, N.Y., on Sept. 23, 1945, Judy was a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend, whose warm spirit touched the lives of many in the community.

A proud graduate of Mooers Central School, class of 1965, Judy was an active member of the Mooers Alumni Association. She served as a Behavioral Health Services Para-Professional within the Northeastern Clinton Central School system, dedicating her career to supporting students and contributing positively to their educational journey.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents, Earl Stone, Catherine Stone, and Clara "Mable" Stone; daughter, Jill Duffina; brother, Earl Stone Jr.; sisters, Marjorie Rushford and Joanne Stone; and her grandson, Nicholas Harrigan.



Judy was a devoted matriarch, cherished by her daughter and son-in-law, MaryJo and Randy LaCount; son, Jay Duffina; daughter, Julie Anttil; and her sisters, Kathleen Leahy, Nancy Quinn, and Donna Brassard. The joy she found in family was evident in every moment shared with her grandchildren: Nicole Castine (Christopher), Ryan LaCount (Sarah), Adam LaCount (Brittney), Alexandria May (DJ), Megan King, and Allison Anttil (Azam). Judy was also a proud great-grandmother to Brayden St. John, Mason LaCount, Ellie King, Kinsley LaCount, Chloe Castine, Emma Odle, Tatum Castine, ElizaJo LaCount, Zaya Mohammed, Greyson May, and Zain Mohammed. She also valued her long-time companionship with William Vincent.

Judy was a person of deep faith whose life was guided by devotion to their religion. Her faith was not only a source of comfort, but a foundation upon which she lived each day.

Judy will be fondly remembered for the love she had for her family. She found much joy traveling with her children. She also enjoyed working on crosswords and puzzles. Her friendships from Senior Housing brought her much delight as she shared laughter and camaraderie with those around her. In honoring her life, family and friends are invited to gather on Jan. 25, 2026, at Ross Funeral Home, in Mooers, N.Y., from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. A funeral service will take place at St. Ann's Church in Mooers Forks, N.Y., on Jan. 26, 2026, at 11 a.m.

Judy's radiant spirit, infectious laughter, and unwavering love for her family will be deeply missed. May she rest in peace, forever in our hearts.



rossfuneralhomes.com
 Mooers, NY • T: 518.236.2222
 Ellenburg Depot, NY • T: 518.594.3030
 Willsboro, NY • T: 518.963.4278

F

Adalbert Ferenz**1930 - November 28, 2025**

NAPLES — Adalbert "Bert" Ferenz passed away peacefully on Nov. 28, 2025, at the age of 95.

Bert lived a long, remarkable, and beautifully full life—one shaped by courage, resilience, adventure, and love. He was born in Romania in 1930 to Martin and Julianna Ferenz and endured the hardships of the Russian occupation as a young man. With the support of his mother, he escaped the Soviet occupied territories, a journey that

forever shaped his belief that a guardian angel was watching over him - a belief he carried with conviction throughout his life.

America became the place where Bert truly built his future. He settled in Colorado Springs, where he met and married the love of his life, Sally. Together, they were an unforgettable pair - Bert, an avid skier, and Sally, a graceful ice skater - bound by shared joy, curiosity, and love of the outdoors. Bert went on to serve his country in several government roles, including a period working as a CIA agent. His work took Bert and Sally from Colorado to Maryland and back again, but no matter where life led them, they embraced the adventure. Along the way, they fell in love with Marco Island, making Southwest Florida their home beginning in the 1960s.

Bert and Sally also cherished their home in Westport, N.Y., where summers were spent on the front porch, sharing happy hours, laughter, and lasting friendships. These moments - simple, warm, and full of connection - were among the joys that defined their life together.

They had one son, Leonard Ferenz. In 2007, Leonard married Shawna, and together they have two sons, Benjamin and Christian. Bert loved being an Opa.

After Sally's passing, Bert spent his time divided between Naples and Westport, devoted to being close to his family. He embraced every moment with Ben - patiently playing the imaginative games he invented, later teaching him classic pastimes like chess and fishing. With Bert's coaching, Benjamin caught his first fish in the backyard. Both Christian and Benjamin proudly know the "perfect" way to pick blueberries, a skill passed down with love and care from their Opa.

Bert's life was rich with stories that spanned continents and decades, filled with extraordinary experiences and quiet acts of bravery. Yet, what he cherished most were the simplest pleasures: a good meal paired with red wine and fresh bread, the sharing of stories, and peaceful mornings spent with a cup of coffee in hand.

Bert's impact on his family is immeasurable. He leaves behind a legacy of strength, humility, and love—a presence that will forever be felt in the lives he touched. He will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered.







G

Harold R. Gohlke

June 22, 1943 - January 13, 2026



PLATTSBURGH — Harold R. Gohlke
June 22, 1943 - January 13, 2026

With very heavy hearts, we share that Harold Robert "Sonny" Gohlke, of Plattsburgh, died peacefully at age 82 on Jan. 13, 2026. He was born in Watertown, June 22, 1943, to Ida Belle Dubuque Vidock and Harold E.E. Gohlke.

Harold grew up in the Monty Street home of his maternal grandmother, Annabelle Sharland Dubuque, whom he adored and credited for teaching him to be kind. He attended Our Lady of Victory Academy, where he excelled in sports; served in the U.S. Army in Alaska, and worked at Wyeth-Ayerst for 35 years.

He married Nancy Durocher at Our Lady of Victory Church in 1967. For many years, Harold was the original "girl dad." The Gohlkes raised eight children and fostered dozens of others in their home on Grant Street.

Never idle, Harold was skilled in many self-taught hobbies, especially woodworking. People knew they could call on him to fix or build just about anything, and his work was meticulous. He enjoyed music, sang in the OLVA church choir as a young man, and loved taking his kids to midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. He always volunteered to drive for school field trips to Vermont and Canada. He loved to be outdoors and enjoyed playing on The Pizzeria softball team, hunting and fishing in the Adirondacks, and spending time in Willsboro on Lake Champlain with friends and family.

Harold was predeceased by his parents and his grandmother; his wife of 50 years; his favorite aunt, Margaret; his brother, Edward Vidock; sisters Helen, Sandy, Pat, and Marion; his lifelong best friend, Don Yetman, and his golden retriever, Gabby.

Surviving are his children: Kimberly, Kristina, Keri, Karla, Matt, Korissa, Kody, and Herrik, as well as many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Kind and stoic, our Dad was known for his quiet strength; he could control a room full of kids with just a look. He was a polite man who took kindness seriously, and was especially sweet with his daughters. There's really nothing better than being one of Harold's daughters and hearing him call you 'babe.' We're pretty sure he hung the moon, and may have secretly been the real Santa. His cheerful disposition, supportive words, and kind soul are deeply missed.

We leave you with our Dad's best advice: "Be careful, and stay out of trouble. But if you do get into trouble, make sure you have fun."

There will be no public calling hours. A private burial with Military Honors will take place at the convenience of the family.



BROWN FUNERAL HOME

Plattsburgh (518) 561-3980
Cadyville (518) 293-8574
Altona (518) 236-5986

WWW.BROWNFUNERALHOMEINC.COM



BETTY A. GREGORY passed away on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026, at CVPH in Plattsburgh. Arrangements are in the care of the Ross Funeral Home.

H

Joseph Patrick Hackett

March 28, 1956 - January 11, 2026



RAY BROOK — Joseph Patrick Hackett passed away peacefully on Jan. 11, 2026, surrounded by family due to Lewy Body Dementia.

Joe Hackett's story began in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., in 1956, as the middle child of five. Raised by his father, Paul "Butch" Hackett, a World War II veteran and educator, and mother, Mary Hackett, a homemaker, avid reader, and gardener. Mary's love of literature and gardening and Paul's influence as an educator, in particular,

helped shape Joe's own appreciation for both nature and intellect and his desire to guide and teach others. Early on, the outdoors became Joe's constant companion as he moved from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., to Glens Falls, N.Y., and other locations in between. Joe met the woods and rivers of Elizabethtown, N.Y., in early adolescence which shaped his spirit and ambitions. Mentored by local outdoorsmen, Joe's formative years were filled with insatiable curiosity and hands-on adventure where you could often find him outside sleeping in a lean-to. His adolescence in Elizabethtown was filled with fierce friendship, fishing the Boquet, pond hockey, baseball games, and a healthy dose of mischief.

In 1978, Joe launched his own licensed Adirondack Guide Service, Tahawus Ltd. named for Mount Marcy's Native American name, "Mountain in the Clouds." Joe built a tradition of offering inclusive, educational outdoor experiences for individuals of all ages and backgrounds.

For more than four decades as a professional guide, Joe led clients and friends through the waterways and trails of the Adirondacks. He took people from quiet streams brimming with native trout to the region's grandest hotels and private retreats. Joe introduced countless families, children, and well-known personalities to the magic of outdoor recreation. Whether it was prominent politicians, CEOs, billionaires, celebrities, and veterans, or teenagers with developmental disabilities, which he felt especially connected to as he saw himself as a perpetual teenager, he guided them with unmatched skill and a gift for storytelling. Among grateful clients and friends, he was affectionately known as the "Trout Whisperer" for his uncanny ability to find brook trout in the most remote waters, though his closest companions loved to tease him with the nickname "Fishless Joe." He was a gifted angler and sportsman, carrying the record for the largest Brook Trout caught in New York State for years, all the more impressive for catching on a fly-line. Over the years, Tahawus, Ltd. was featured across newspapers, television, and radio, including the Boston Globe and New York Times, with headlines, such as Mountain Guide Makes Comeback in New Style which credited Joe for "helping to rekindle guiding ... which was nearly extinguished as the automobile allowed tourists to probe the backcountry on their own" noting "Mr. Hackett has a saucy glint in his eye and a knack for banter that links him to his predecessors." In another article, he was revered as "the outdoor guide, the skilled woodsman who can track game, lead anglers to remote ponds, and cook a satisfying trail stew."

Joe's passion for fostering community among his peers was most visible when he played a pivotal role in restarting the New York State Outdoor Guides Association in 1982. Recognizing a need for greater collaboration, professionalism, and shared purpose among guides, he championed the organization into a vibrant, supportive network. His efforts brought together ex-

perts and newcomers alike, shaped the guiding profession, and ensured that knowledge, camaraderie, and stewardship of the outdoors would be passed on for generations. Through this work, Joe not only elevated the guiding profession, but also created a lasting sense of belonging for countless colleagues across the Adirondacks and beyond that continues today.

A true "gadabout" in spirit and practice, Joe modeled his adventurous path after icons like Roscoe V. "Gadabout" Gaddis. In his first ever weekly article for the Lake Placid News, he noted: "This column is dedicated to the memory of Roscoe V. "Gadabout" Gaddis. He earned the name Gadabout because every time we're looking for him he's gaddin' about the country some where. I hope to continue his model and provide information to permit others to undertake current day adventures in the outdoors." Joe succeeded in this endeavor as his weekly column, "The Adirondack Gadabout" was published for nearly 20 years across the North Country in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise and Lake Placid News, including the later added syndicated column, "Notes from the North Woods," for Denton publications which inspired readers across the Adirondack Park and beyond to explore and appreciate the outdoors no matter the season. Many would regularly call or write notes on a weekly basis to share how Joe's observations of the outdoor world encouraged them to explore. Joe's sharp mind, humor, and dedication to lifelong learning were evident in every facet of his work. He was a regular member and contributor to the New York State Outdoor Writers Association; Joe's articles appeared in regional and national publications where he shared his wisdom, wit, and respect for the outdoors with an ever-growing audience.

Education remains at the heart of Joe's legacy. Building on his Master of Science in Education from SUNY Plattsburgh, he became one of the earliest to champion the role of outdoor education in personal and team development with his thesis activated across multiple universities and serving as a framework for outdoor recreation education. His research focused on personal growth and team development through outdoor recreation and programming which set the blueprint for what later became the Expeditionary Studies program at his alma mater. Joe defined the gold standard for staff development, corporate and executive retreats, and adventure-based team training. He was a sought after guest lecturer at SUNY schools, Paul Smiths College, and other organizations across New York State. His team building work even attracted the attention of the U.S. and British Armed Forces where in his early years of guiding, he led a team of soldiers in canoes down the Hudson River from the Adirondacks to the base of the Statue of Liberty (note: they did not receive the assumed warm welcome upon their arrival in New York City as they were surrounded for trespassing). Among Joe's other accolades and tall tales, Joe coordinated a successful world record for the longest non-motorized water skiing attempt, paddling his war canoes with friends and family trailed by a water skiing local 5th grader around Lower St. Regis Lake for 22 minutes and 10 seconds. No matter the setting, Joe was an effective and natural team-builder, able to transform a group of strangers into a cohesive, spirited team; he was frequently hired to lead corporate retreats and programs where employees could shed workplace stress and forge genuine connection.

Joe's work extended far beyond the trail. As a consultant, location scout, and authenticity expert for films and commercials, Joe helped introduce the Adirondacks and its traditions to a wider audience. Most notably, he served as the location scout for the Sports Illustrated 40th Anniversary Swimsuit Edition, the most widely circulated publication in history at the time. This achievement further proved his expertise and his ability to bridge the world of wilderness with global culture. His work was also featured for notable brands and magazines, including:

J. Crew, L.L. Bean, Rolling Stone, and Glamour magazine, just to name a few. He also served as a Recreation Counselor at Camp Gabriels, where he was known as "Coach." In this role, he led activities for inmates and continually introduced creative recreational programs to make their time outside meaningful and restorative.

For more than 41 years, Joe was anchored by the love and partnership of his wife, Maria Hackett. Together, they raised two daughters in Ray Brook, Willow Hackett and children, Rose and Xavier of New York, N.Y., and Meadow Rutenbar (Evan) of Hershey, Pa., both of whom inherited many of Joe's best qualities and love of the natural world. Grandchildren Rose and Xavier brought new joy and adventure into Joe's world for someone who never stopped being a kid, they were a welcome addition to the family. He is also survived by siblings Eileen Hackett of Pendleton, Ind.; Beth Hackett of Willsboro, N.Y.; and Paul Hackett (Lisa) of Lincoln, N.H., and multiple nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Mary Hackett and his brother and best friend, Malachy Hackett. He instilled his love of the outdoors in his family and enjoyed it with his friends no matter the season. In winter, you would often find him gliding across the ice on hockey skates, curling on a frozen pond, or relishing his favorite pastime, cross-country skiing; come summer, you were most likely to spot him on the trail with a guideboat hoisted overhead, eagerly searching for the next hidden fly-fishing hole.

Those who knew Joe best describe him as authentic, charismatic, funny, imaginative, and a forever child at heart. He was equally at home entertaining children and teaching elders, comfortable with both billionaires and neighborhood friends. His legacy lives on not just in print or professional accolades, but in the laughter of a family around a campfire, the excitement of a first trout reeled in, and lifelong memories shaped by days spent in nature's playground.

Reflecting on his life, Joe once said, "I'm one of the luckiest guys I know: I have a great family, a great wife but I've also led a life where I played for a living, hopefully not hurting anyone or anything in the process. People came to me for their few days of vacation, those few moments of respite and happy memories, and I got to live that every day ... I hope to be remembered not just as a fishing guy but as someone who was a teacher and a guide."

Joe liked to say he "turned boys into men, men into boys," and gave everyone a place to be at home in the woods. For all who knew him, Joe Hackett will always be the unmatched "Adirondack Gadabout" - guide, teacher, storyteller, friend.

Calling hours in memory of Joe will be held at M.B. Clark Funeral Home in Lake Placid, N.Y., on Saturday, January 17th, from 11 to 1:30 p.m., immediately followed by a procession to a Mass of Christian burial at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid, N.Y. A reception will follow. A private burial will be held with the family. Please visit www.mbclarkfuneralhome.com to share a story, upload a photograph, sign the online guest book or leave condolences for the Hackett family to cherish.

In lieu of gifts or flowers, contributions in Joe Hackett's memory may be made to the Joe Hackett Riverfront Legacy Fund through wildcenter.ticketapp.org/portal/pages/donate, by check payable to The Wild Center, 45 Museum Drive, Tupper Lake, NY 12986, or by calling the Development Office at 518-359-7800, ext. 1-110. Donations will support water-based educational and recreational experiences at The Wild Center's new Riverfront, a place where future generations will learn to paddle, observe wildlife, understand river ecology, and build confidence and joy on the water.

MB Clark Inc. Funeral Home
Lake Placid (518) 523-3337
www.mbclarkfuneralhome.com

SANDRA HACKETT NASON, 60, of Dover, Del., (formerly of Chazy, N.Y.) passed away on Jan. 6, 2026. Born on June 6, 1965, in Plattsburgh, N.Y. Arrangements are being made by the Trader Funeral Home, Delaware.

Michaela Hartnett Armstrong

January 11, 1952 - January 05, 2026



SOLON — Michaela Hartnett Armstrong, 73, of Coralville, Iowa, lived a vivid life and died peacefully with family and friends by her side on Jan. 5, 2026.

Born in Lafayette, Ind., on Jan. 11, 1952, to William Edward and Francesca Campbell Hartnett. Michaela was a first rate welcoming committee for two sisters when the family lived in Lawrence, Kan. They moved to Massachusetts, where three more siblings were born. First in Worcester and then Newton Highlands, the Hartnetts lived in neighborhoods bustling with children. Michaela formed lifelong bonds with friends as they navigated school, snowy winters, and rocking out to 45 rpm records. She was a responsible, creative, and spirited child. In the summer of '68, her family packed up the Dodge van and relocated to Plattsburgh, N.Y. There they lived in an 1880's house that would become the family's headquarters for 50 years, a home always open to visitors who would be treated to laughter, games, and sing-alongs.

She attended Newton South and Plattsburgh high schools (Class of 1970), earning her Bachelor of Science in Education from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh in 1974. She taught school in Culpeper, Va., for a year before marrying her college beau, Marc Armstrong. Their academic life had them moving to Charlotte, N.C., then Champaign-Urbana, Ill., where she completed a Masters in Education and worked in a Montessori school, and finally to Iowa City, where she laid down deep roots. The two divorced in 1992. She visited family regularly and had an epic reputation for letter-writing, gift giving, and phone calling.

Michaela taught kindergarten at Penn Elementary in North Liberty, Iowa, for 26 years. Her thoughtful preparation for each unit in school focused on holistic, creative experiences for children, making her a memorable instructor. Encouraging others to spread their wings, going beyond the traditional curriculum, was one of her many talents as a born teacher. Her career spanned changes in public education; she cherished the days of fewer standardized tests. She developed an extracurricular program, Passports, in which local Iowa residents guided students in exploring world cultures. She had her own intercultural experience teaching first grade in Monterrey, Mexico, from 2002-2003.

Michaela, "Mick" to her family, possessed an eclectic, endearing personal style of dress and interaction, a true original. No one was a stranger to Michaela for long. She made recurrent trips to Monhegan Island, Maine, with sister Marita, and traveled to France and Italy with friends. She took pleasure in life's beauty as well as its unfolding mysteries. She decorated her world with bold colors and loved the art of Frida Kahlo. Mick believed in the cultural significance of children's literature. From museum shows, to author readings at Prairie Lights, to movies at the Film Scene, to concerts at Hancher, her dance card was full. Poetry became an increasing passion in her life: she authored three books of poems and met with a poetry group up to her final days. A loyal, gregarious soul, she was loved by all her communities.

She lived with renal cancer from 2011 on but never let her many treatments or surgeries define her. She kept an optimistic outlook and was eternally grateful to her kidney donor. Her decades-long friendship with Ann Holton provided a steady compass through her medical odyssey.

Michaela was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Tim. Left to carry forward her memory are her siblings: Marita

Hartnett, Seana Remillard (Patrick), Jonathan Hartnett and his daughter Alexandra, Cassandra Hartnett (Marianne Taylor); nephew, Rubin Remillard (Blakeley) and their daughters: Tita-nia and Rin; and nephew, Eli Remillard (Linda Yu) and their daughter, Uma.

The family would like to thank Carolyn Poulakos for invaluable insight and hands-on care; the staff of Iowa Health Care and Stirlingshire of Coralville for years of attention; as well as Solon Retirement Village and Moments Hospice for care in her final days.

In Michaela's memory, please consider donating to the Dragonfly Transplant Fund, the Tim Hartnett Endowed Fund at SUNY Plattsburgh (write "Tim Hartnett Endowment" in Other/Memo) or a charity of your choice.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Lensing Funeral Service in Iowa City with a reception to follow. Pre-service calling hours will begin at 10 a.m.

JOAN HARNISCH, age 93, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026. Arrangements with Brown Funeral Home, Plattsburgh.

K

SCOTT KANALY, 71, Dannemora, passed away Jan. 6, 2026, at home. Visitation will be held Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, from 12 to 2 p.m. at Brown Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

L

Bernice Marie Lapham

November 15, 1926 - January 14, 2026



CHAZY — Bernice Marie Lapham (Reid), age 99, passed away at Baker Road in Chazy, N.Y., in the home of David and Rhonda Daley. She passed away in the company of family on the afternoon of Jan. 14, 2026.

Bernice was born at home on Wallace Hill Road in Plattsburgh on the 15th of November 1926. Bernice was the fifth of 10 children born to Halsey (Richard) and Evelina (Bell) Reid.

Bernice married Lloyd Lapham in January of 1948, after the close of WWII, where Lloyd had been deployed in the U.S. Army under General Patton. Bernice and Lloyd also made their home on Wallace Hill Road, where they raised their four children, Arnold, Evelyn, Danny and Richard.

Lloyd had been a communications officer during the war and carried messages by motorcycle through and around enemy lines. His love of motorcycles followed him home after the war. This was an activity he shared with his new wife, Bernice. At 4 ft 11 inches and all of 96 pounds, one could not help but smile to see the young couple come to visit with Bernice clinging to Lloyd on the back of a Harley.

Bernice was a devout Catholic and a communicant of St. Alexander's Church in Morrisonville.

As a child, Bernice attended a one-room school situated on the corner of Wallace Hill Road and the Military Turnpike. Bernice later attended D'Youville Academy, and briefly before

marriage, worked at the Woolworth's Store in Plattsburgh, N.Y.

All of her life she was a caregiver, a fact which cannot be overstated. She was a bright, perky, little person with a giant personality. Bernice had a huge heart and smile to match. Her willingness to listen and support those around her were the hallmarks of her life. Bernice had the most beautiful formal handwriting, and was always so much aware of the events and issues of the world in spite of her relative small footprint in it.

Bernice is survived by her oldest son, Arnold Lapham of Peru, N.Y., as well as several grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her loving husband Lloyd; her children Evelyn, Danny, and Richard Lapham; and her siblings Edmund, Raymond, Eleanor (Trombly), Orville, Viola, Bernard, Leander, Harold and Robert.

Calling hours will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026, at Brown Funeral Home, Plattsburgh, N.Y., from 11 to 12:30 p.m. A Mass of Christian burial will follow at 1 p.m. at St. Alexander's Church, 1 Church Street, Morrisonville, N.Y.

Heaven rejoices, but we who are left behind will miss her daily.

PATRICK LECLERC, 76, of Seneca Drive, Plattsburgh, N.Y., passed away on Jan. 3, 2026, at UVHN:CVPH Medical Center. At Patrick's request there will be no services; inurnment will be at St. Peter's Cemetery in Plattsburgh. Arrangements by Brown Funeral Home.

O

Thomas V. O'Keefe

July 02, 1961 - January 11, 2026



PLATTSBURGH — Thomas O'Keefe passed away with family by his side on Sunday, Jan. 11, 2026. He was born in Barre, Vt., to Francis Keefe and Dina (Beaudoin) Keefe on July 2, 1961.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 25 years, Barbara Watts O'Keefe, and by his children, Courtney Patenaude, Brittany Turner, Kassidee Keefe, Kelly LaDue, and Sheri Vaughn. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Kelsey Reif, Nicholas LaDue, Haley LaDue, Joseph Bedard, Allison Bedard, Zachary Bedard, Eden Turner, Dahlia Turner, Kingston Griffith, Lorelei Lyon, and great-grandchildren Kolyn Reif, Kalianna Reif. He is survived by his siblings, Michael Keefe, Kathleen Ryan, and Molly Keefe, and by many nieces and nephews.

He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Noella Watts, and his brothers and sisters-in-law and their families: Nancy McAllister, Glenda Watts, Glenn Watts Jr., Thomas Watts, Elaine McDonald, Gaylord Watts, Gale Watts, Daniel Watts, and Nicole Jarvis.

He was predeceased by his parents, and his brothers Kevin Keefe and Gregory Keefe and his nephew Patrick Keefe.

Thomas had a 35-year career with law enforcement. This included careers as a Correction Officer, Police Officer, Immigration Inspector, Customs Inspector and finally Customs and Border Protection Officer.

He spent the last 24 years of his career as President of the National Treasury Employees Union Chapter 138. He was a fierce advocate and chief spokesperson for 500 uniformed and 200 non-uniformed law enforcement officers. Thomas had the privilege of preparing his own testimony and testifying before Congress three times, advocating for better working conditions post Sept. 11, 2001. He was especially effective at conflict resolution and mediation. He was a dynamic speaker with endless

stories and energy.

He loved to travel and to include family and friends on his adventures. He was a great tour guide, and he excelled at making every trip and family event a special occasion. He loved his Montreal Canadiens, his Boston Red Sox, and his Dallas Cowboys.

Thomas loved a good story, so we invite you to share your stories and memories of him with friends and family. Salute him with a shot of Jameson and share Thomas' favorite Irish Blessing: "May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

Arrangements are being handled by Brown Funeral Home. There will be no public calling hours.

P

RICHARD PENDLETON, 89, of Plattsburgh, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, surrounded by his loving family by his side. Arrangements are entrusted to Brown Funeral Home.

R

DONALD "DON" RENNELL, 95, of St. Petersburg, Fla., passed away Jan. 12, 2026. Kirk Funeral Home of Rapid City, S.D., is in charge of arrangements. Don will be interred at Black Hills National Cemetery, Sturgis, S.D., at a later date.

S

Elinor Carole Santor

June 03, 1934 - December 24, 2025



ELLCOTT, Md. — Elinor Carole Santor, 91, passed away peacefully on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025.

She was born in Plattsburgh on June 3rd, 1934, the daughter of Leeward and Janet (Dow) Santor.

Elinor grew up in South Plattsburgh and attended Plattsburgh High School. She continued her education at Plattsburgh State where she graduated as the High Honor student with a degree in Elementary Education. Elinor taught school in Northport, Long Island and subsequently attended the University of Maryland where she received her PHD in Education. She went on to become a professor at Coppin College until her retirement in 2004. Elinor was a lifelong learner, an avid reader, and loved to travel and meet new people.

She was predeceased by her father, Leeward Santor; mother, Janet (Dow) Santor; brother, Robert Santor; nieces, Karen (Santor) Donaghue and Janet (Santor) Shanley; and nephew, Todd Cameron Henry.

Left to cherish her memory are her sister, Marilyn (Santor) Henry; nephew, Mark Henry and his wife Deborah; great-nephews, Kyle Henry, Kurtis Henry, Shayne Donaghue and his father John; and very special friends, Regina Cody and Kris Byrnes; and numerous other family and friends in both upstate New York and Maryland.

Relatives and friends are invited to call on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hamilton Funeral Home, 294 Mannix Road, Peru. A Christian funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. in the Hamilton Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Carter Pierce officiating and Steve Woodruff providing music for vocals by Julie Burdo. Burial will be in the spring in St. Augustine's Cemetery, 3035 Main Street, Peru.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association in Elinor's Memory at www.alz.org.

Arrangements are in the care of the Hamilton Funeral Home, 294 Mannix Road, Peru, 518-643-9055. To make a floral purchase, offer an online condolence, share a symbolic gesture, or share a photo in memory of Elinor Carole Santor please visit www.hamiltonfuneralhome.com

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W

H. Alan Walker, MD

April 19, 1933 - December 25, 2025



PLATTSBURGH — H. Alan Walker, MD, 92, of Nevada Oval, Plattsburgh, passed away peacefully on Christmas morning, at his residence, with his loving family by his side.

Dr. Walker was a highly respected and well-known local internist and cardiologist who was deeply loved by his patients and community.

He was born in Barre, Vt., April 19, 1933, the son of Howard and Olga (Rabaioli) Walker.

Left to cherish the memory of Alan are his loving wife of 50 years, Jackie (Connell) Walker; his children: Christie Walker Stork and her husband, Brian Stork of Jay, N.Y., children: Catherine Jennings Keleher and her husband Brandon, their children, Cullen and Declan Keleher, of Cliff Haven, N.Y., Mathieson Jennings of Burlington, Vt., James Walker and his wife, Jill of Albuquerque, N.M., and his son Jacob Walker of New Orleans, La., Douglas Walker and his wife Susan of Cliff Haven, N.Y., and their children, Nicholas Walker, his partner Kassidy Robare, and his daughter, Alivia Walker of Cliff Haven, N.Y., and Luke Walker and his wife, Brinn of Schuylers Falls, N.Y., Missi Haber of Plattsburgh, her children: Nathan and his wife Brandi Trombley of Winter Park, Fla., Noah Haber of Redding, Mass., and Nash Haber of Wisconsin, Bailey Haber of Syracuse, N.Y., and Jay Haber of Florida, Darci Engle and her husband, John and their children, Abby and William Engle all of Columbia,



Mo.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, April 18, 2026, at 11 a.m. in the Hope Cemetery in Barre, Vt. A reception will follow at the Masonic Temple in Barre, Vt.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Police Pipes and Drums of Plattsburgh and mailed to Rita McDonald, 117 Woodcliff Drive, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Alan was the first Pipe Major with this organization. In retirement, he adored this group of fine people who all brought him much joy.

Arrangements are in the care of the Hamilton Funeral Home, 294 Mannix Road, Peru, 518-643-9055. To make a floral purchase, offer an online condolence, share a symbolic gesture, or share a photo in memory of H. Alan Walker please visit www.hamiltonfuneralhome.com

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Carol Ann Washington

October 23, 1957 - January 15, 2026



PLATTSBURGH—With heartfelt sadness, the family of Carol Ann Washington (Grom) announces her passing after a brief battle with stage 4 cancer. Carol was born on Oct. 23, 1957, in North Adams, Mass., and was adopted as an infant by Veronica May Grom (Beaudin) and Vincent John Grom, who lovingly raised her as their own. She passed peacefully after facing her illness with quiet strength.

Carol was predeceased by her parents, Veronica and Vincent, as well as her brothers Tommy Witt, Kevin Goodell, and Kevin's wife, Millie.

She is survived by her children, Anola Mooney, Shannon Griffiths (Craig), Carlos Saucedo (Kristy), Veronica Garrow (Ray), and Brandon Grom (Cody). Carol also lovingly raised her grandson, Daryn GromDavis, and her granddaughter, Aaliyah Garrow. In total, she leaves behind 16 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Carol is also survived by her siblings: Vincent Grom (Tammy), August Grom (Kathy), Brian Goodell (Nancy), Carolyn Moon (David), and Jolene Goodell.

Carol was a longtime member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Plattsburgh, N.Y., where she found fellowship, support, and a sense of belonging. Her faith provided her with structure, comfort, and community, and she valued the relationships she built within her church.

In her personal life, Carol found peace in the simple joys of the outdoors. She loved camping, spending time in nature, and swimming whenever she had the chance. Point Au Roche State Park held a special place in her heart, and she also cherished her time at Macomb State Park, where she enjoyed the quiet, the water, and the sense of calm those places brought her. She adored her fur baby, Gambit, who remained a loyal and loving companion.

Carol also leaves behind several close friends who stood by her and supported her throughout her life, including April, Kim, Cathy, Laurie, and Bruce. In her later years, she was also supported by Sue, a church companion who became an important presence in her life.

Her family takes comfort in knowing she is now at peace.

Calling hours are on Monday, January 19th, from 3 to 5 p.m. at R.W. Walker Funeral Home in Plattsburgh, N.Y.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to:

Plattsburgh Interfaith Food Shelf, PO Box 1317, Plattsburgh, NY 12901 or Lung Cancer Research Foundation, PO Box 780990, Philadelphia, PA 19178.

Y

JOHN YOPP, 83, passed away on Jan. 1, 2026. Burial will take place at a later date at St. Augustine's Cemetery in Peru. Services were entrusted to Heidrick Funeral Home, 48 Court St., Plattsburgh.

Z

Mary E. Zurlo

April 21, 1943 - January 21, 2026



CHAMPLAIN — With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Mary E. Zurlo, cherished wife, mother, and grandmother, who left this world on Jan. 21, 2026, at the age of 82. Born on April 21, 1943, in Plattsburgh, N.Y., after graduating from Trinity College in Burlington, Vt., Mary spent her life in the embrace of her beloved Champlain, where she shared her passion for education as a dedicated history teacher at NCCS.

Mary is survived by her two devoted sons, John, and Michael (Gretchen); along with her treasured grandchildren, Samantha Scarchilli (Joseph), Alexander (Megan), Jacob, and Ian Zurlo. She is also survived by her loving sister, Virginia Hay; brother-in-law, Eugene Zurlo (Charlotte); niece, Luanne Zurlo; and nephews, Paul Zurlo (Sylvia), Chris Hay (Tobi), and David Hay (Lauren).

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, John Zurlo, her parents, Edward and Stella (LaBarge) Hickey, and her brother-in-law, John Hay.

Mary was an active member of the North Country Golf Club, the Catholic Daughters, and St. Mary's Parish, where she found joy in her community and faith. An avid golfer, she also embraced curling, bridge, bowling, camping and cooking for family and friends. Her love for life was evident as she enjoyed traveling and relished moments spent at the lake. Above all, Mary adored her grandchildren and was a steadfast supporter of all their sporting events. She had a fondness for a glass of red wine and Manhattans, which she savored while sharing stories and laughter with loved ones.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the caregivers who provided exceptional support and compassion: Michelle Menard, Linda Connelly, Tammy Kelsey, Kim McDonough, and Tina Rabideau. As well as a thank you to the Hospice of the North Country nurses Becky Dominy and Ashley Ebersole.

Family and friends will gather to celebrate Mary's remarkable life. Calling hours will be held at Ross Funeral Home in Moers, N.Y., on Jan. 27, 2026, from 4 to 7 p.m., followed by a Mass at St. Mary's Church in Champlain, N.Y., on Jan. 28, 2026, at 11 a.m.

Memorial donations may be made to the Hospice of the North Country, 358 Tom Miller Road, Plattsburgh, N.Y., in honor of Mary's enduring spirit and her love for helping others. She will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who knew her.

Arrangements are in the care of the Ross Funeral Home in Moers. To leave an online condolence, please visit: www.rossfuneralhomes.com



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